

Revenue (189 *9*) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. *962-962 A*

DATED *8th March 99*

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Requesting the Board of Revenue to submit
with the least practicable delay the report called for
re: the effect of the competition of bounty-fed
sugar imported into India on the local industry
and stating that the letter of the Chairman
Chamber of Commerce Madras on the
subject will in the meantime be commd-
to the Govt of India.*

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Cmd 2166/99							

Revenue Dept

Draft O.M.

O.M. No 46 dt 16-2-99.

The Govt of India having telegraphed the information in regard to the sugar bounties question referred to in G.O. No 681 Rev dt 15. 11. 98 is very urgently required by it, the undersigned is directed to request that the Chamber of Commerce, Madras, will be good enough to ^{forward} ~~forward~~ for ^{to this Govt} its reply to the above G.O. if ready and if not to intimate ^{at once} when the same may be expected

O.M. No. 46

With ref to G.O. No. 681 dt 15. 11. 98

The undersigned is directed to enquire whether ~~the Chamber~~ the Govt may expect a communication on the subject from the Chamber of Commerce

M
11/1/99

For St. Jence
16th February 1899

Secy-17-2-99

To

The Chamber of Commerce Madras

Bmm
16.2.99

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Press	421	Rev	15.11.98

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
C.	2166999		

Code Class. *SS.* INDIAN TELEGRAPHS Monthly Number.

To *Madras* (Office) From *Calcutta* (Office)

Words *2466* Day *15* Hour. *18* Minute. *5* Official Instructions. *Off.*

To *Madras* (Person) From *Revenue* (Person)

When may reply to India Circular 15 Agri dated 31st October last regarding sugar bounties be expected information very urgently required?

64 Word Form.

F.C.2.

When *14-11-98*

To Secy (Civ. under Secy)
It is under reference to the Board. w. to. *601*
15.11.98
16.2.99 *Under reminder*

Recd. from L.V. Sent to
At Hrs. Wts. by At Hrs. Wts. by
Secy Secy
Telegraph Number.

Please see 14
10-2-99
16/11

Revenue (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 1242

From *The Chamber of Commerce
Madras.*

Order

No.

Dated 17th Dec. 99.

Received 18/2

Registered 18/2

Enclosures -

Spare copies. 2.

SUBJECT.

*Sub? report on the subject
of the effect of the Competition
of bounty-fed sugar & hipotes
into India on the local
industry.*

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

The Chamber of Commerce,

MADRAS, 17th February, 1899.

FROM

C. E. P. VANSAGNEW, ESQ.,

VICE-CHAIRMAN, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

MADRAS.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,

FORT SAINT GEORGE.

SIR,

With reference to the G.O. No. 681, Revenue, dated the 15th November, 1898, in which the Chamber is asked to supply the Government with information on the subject of the effect of the competition of bounty-fed sugars imported into India on the local industry, I have the honour to inform you that while the area of cultivation of sugar-cane in this Presidency may not yet have been adversely affected, there can be no doubt that the competition has forced down the prices of refined sugar manufactured in this country to such a point as to seriously endanger the future of the industry.

In support of this opinion, the Chamber would invite attention to the following figures of sale prices for the last six years of sugar locally refined by the firm which is most largely interested in the manufacture of sugar in this Presidency. The prices are gross realised in Calcutta, which is the largest and most representative market in this country, and refer to only two brands, of more or less equal value :—

Year.	Highest Price.	Lowest Price
1893	Rs. 10 1 0 ...	Rs. 9 15 0 per Bengal maund.
1894	" 9 15 0 ...	" 9 8 0 "
1895	" 9 8 0 ...	" 8 12 0 "
1896	" 8 14 0 ...	" 8 11 6 "
1897	" 8 11 6 ...	" 8 1 0 "
1898	" 8 1 0 ...	" 7 10 0 "

In the opinion of the Chamber, the reason for this great falling off in price, notwithstanding a steady improvement in the quality of the article, is undoubtedly the reduction in the price of beet sugar during the above period brought about by the heavy bounties by which that industry is subsidised on a steadily increasing scale. With the falling off in the price of the locally refined article, it would have been impossible to compete with the imported bounty-fed sugar but for the margin which, it is well known, refiners have in past years enjoyed on the price of raw sugars. That margin must now, with the fall in refined sugars, have disappeared, and though it may be that the price of the raw

sugars may admit of some reduction, the Chamber doubts it, in view of the high price of poonac manure and the recent spread of disease among canes.

In any case, there is a limit below which raw sugar cannot be profitably produced, while there is no apparent limit to the bounties, which were again increased in Germany only last year. A further fall in the price of the refined article must adversely influence the market for the raw product and thus react upon cultivation, leading eventually to the curtailment, if not to the complete extinction, of the Indian sugar industry.

The Chamber sees no means of escape from this calamity other than the abolition of the bounties by international agreement, or the imposition in this country of countervailing import duties on bounty-fed sugar.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Asst. Secy. to Govt.
Vice-Chairman.

Rev Sept

Read again

G.O. 681 d 15 Nov 98

" Telegram from the

Govt of India d 15-2-

" Reminders to the Bd of
& Com. No 46 d 16-2-99 to
the Chamber of Commerce Madras

Letter from the

Chamber of Commerce

d 17-2-99

P.W.C. 98
A 6 152

G.O. Misc No 962 d 8th March '99.

The Bd of Revenue

is requested to submit with
the least practicable
~~the least practicable~~ delay

the report called for in

G.O. 681 d 15 Nov 98.

2. The ~~Subordinate~~

letter of the Vice Chairman

Chamber of Commerce

Madras with ^{meantime} the Comms

to the Govt of India.

Encl. No 962 A d 8th March '99.

To the Secy of India Dept Revenue

R

To the Secy of India Dept Revenue
The Secy of Com. Madras } d 10.3.99

Letter

To the Secretary to the

Govt of India Dept 2

Rev & reply 25

The Secy of India, 8.3.99. - Request for his signature
to the Secy of Com. Madras
Approved for signature by the Secy of India

When given for copying _____
When copied _____ } 189
When examined _____
When signed _____

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATED
189 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT: A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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