

Contents.

C.P. & Berar Reports
for 1929-30.

1. Excise, 1930. pp.1-56. X7294.271x G1
2. Co-operative Societies (ending) 30th June 1930.
pp.58-119. X19.271x G1
3. Resolution reviewing the Reports on the Working
of the District Councils, ending 31st March
1930. pp.120-153. V271, 27x G0
4. Education, 1930. pp.154-216. T.271x G0
5. Judicial Administration (Criminal) 1930. pp.217-
228. V271, 7, 5x G1
6. Workmen's Compensation Act (VIII of 1923), 1930.
pp.229-236. X:455.271x G0
7. Resolution reviewing the Reports on the Working
of the Municipal Committees, 1930. pp.237-297.
V271, 6x G0
8. Jails, 1930. pp.298-376. Y:455.42.271x G1
9. Review of the Administration, 1929-30. pp.377-428.
V271, 3x, N G0
10. Police, 1930. pp.429-454.
Z271, 45x G1

Errata to the Report on the Excise Administration of the
Central Provinces and Berar for 1930

No. 1, dated Nagpur, the 6th August 1931

Page 6, paragraph 6, line 3.—Substitute Rs. 11,63,296 for
Rs. 11,63,276.

Page 14, paragraph 25, line 5.—Substitute Rs. 99,859 for
Rs. 99,959.

Page ix, Statement I.—In figures for Grand Total, 1929—

| | Substitute | For |
|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Column 48— | | |
| | Rs. 1,23,22,139 | 1,23,08,634 |
| | *2,54,169 | *2,54,219 |
| Column 51— | | |
| | Rs. 1,12,15,376 | 1,12,01,871 |
| | *1,91,735 | *1,91,785 |

[No. 1, dated the 6th August 1931.]

GPN-980-EC-19-8-31-211.

NAGPUR:
PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRESS
1931



Report on the Excise
Administration of the
Central Provinces and
Berar for the Calendar
Year 1930

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NAGPUR :
PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRESS
1931

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INDIA.

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| <p>AKOLA: The Proprietor, Shri Ramdas Stores, Tajnapeth.</p> <p>ALLAHABAD: Mr. Ram Narain Lal, Publisher, etc., 1, Bank Road The Superintendent, Nazair Kanun Hind Press.</p> <p>AMRAOTI: Thakur & Co., Booksellers.</p> <p>BARODA: Mr. M. C. Kothari, Bookseller and Publisher, Raopura Road.</p> <p>BILASPUR: Mr. M. A. Subhan, Bookseller and Publisher.</p> <p>BOMBAY: D. B. Taraporevala, Sons & Co., 190, Hornby Road, Fort. Radhaba. Atmaram Sagoon. Sunder Pandurang, 25, Kalbadevi Road. Thacker & Co., Ltd.</p> <p>CALCUTTA: The Book Company, 4/4-A, College Street. Butterworth & Co. (India), Ltd., 8-2, Hastings Street. The Indian School Supply Depôt. M. C. Sircar & Sons., 75, Harrison Road. Newman & Co. R. Cambray & Co. S. K. Lahiri & Co. Thacker, Spink & Co.</p> <p>COOCH BEHAR: Babu S. C. Taluqdar, Proprietor, Students & Co.</p> <p>DELHI: The Oxford Book and Stationery Co.</p> | <p>JUBBULPORE: The Manager, General Book Depôt.</p> <p>KARACHI: The Standard Bookstall.</p> <p>KHANDWA: The Proprietor, Shri Ramdas Stores, Khandwa Branch.</p> <p>LAHORE: The Punjab Sanskrit Book Depôt. Rai Sahib M. Gulab Singh & Sons.</p> <p>LUCKNOW: The Proprietor, Newal Kishore Press. The Upper India Publishing House, Ltd., 41, Aminabad Park.</p> <p>MADRAS: Higginbotham & Co. S. Murthy & Co., Post Box No. 152. The Proprietor, The City Book Co., Post Box No. 283.</p> <p>NAGPUR: Aidan Binzani, Proprietors, Karmavir Book Depôt, Mahul Mr. G. G. Khot, Walker Road. Mr. G. A. Shastri, Bookseller and Publisher, Hislop College Road. The Manager, General Book Depôt. The Manager, "The Hitavada". The Proprietor, Bhisey Brothers, Booksellers and Publishers.</p> <p>PATNA: The Patna Law Press Co.</p> <p>POONA: The Proprietors, New Kitabkhana.</p> <p>RANGOON: The Superintendent, American Baptist Mission Press.</p> <p>SIMLA: Thacker, Spink & Co.</p> |
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No 570-438-XI

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GOVERNMENT OF THE CENTRAL PROVINCES
SEPARATE REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Nagpur, the 17th September 1931.

READ—

Report on the Excise Administration of the Central Provinces and Berar for the calendar year 1930.

READ ALSO—

The District Reports.

RESOLUTION

Kharif crops were good except in a portion of the North of the Province; and a normal rabi harvest was reaped. In spite of the low price of cotton, the economic condition of the labouring classes at the beginning of the year was such as to justify the expectation that the year would be a normal one in the administration of Excise. During the first quarter, partly as a result of the impending enforcement of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, consumption of licit excisable articles showed little change. But from then onwards there was a dramatic change. The operations of the civil disobedience campaign with its accompaniments of picketing of liquor shops and warehouses and social boycott of contractors and consumers coincided with the intensification of economic depression. In the result the gross Excise revenue fell from 126 to 103 lakhs or by 18 per cent.

2. The consumption of country spirit fell from 479,020 to 321,677 proof gallons or by 33 per cent, the latter figure being the lowest ever yet recorded. If the figures of consumption of licit liquor were an index of the actual consumption of liquor, Government, though disapproving of some of the methods employed, would recognize the result as a real and gratifying advance towards temperance. Unfortunately the prevalence of illicit distillation which is shown by the figures given in the report to have increased during the year, and according to information received by Government has done so to an even greater extent since its close prevents any such deduction being drawn. When it is remembered that the illicit article is of greater—sometimes very much greater strength than Government liquor, and owing to the crude methods employed in its manufacture is more deleterious to health, Government cannot but regard

with misgiving the substitution of illicit for licit liquor. It is recognized, that the gradual extinction of Excise revenue which is the inevitable outcome of the policy adopted by Government will place a considerable burden on the provincial revenues. If in fact a considerable portion of the revenue is transferred from the Government treasuries to the pockets of the illicit distiller, the tax-payer may well inquire whether he is receiving an adequate return for the sacrifices he has made.

3. The consumption of opium fell from 22,037 to 19,104 seers and averaged 12 seers per 10,000 of the population as against .27 seers 10 years ago. Opium smuggling, though it has not increased *pari passu* with illicit distillation causes considerable anxiety to those in charge of the Excise administration in view of the perfection of the organization of those engaged in this illicit traffic. The figures of consumption, however, may be taken as a complete justification of the policy adopted by Government. The introduction of the Opium Smoking Act has, Government is pleased to observe, resulted in a decreased use of this drug in its most pernicious form of smoking. It is to be regretted that the smuggling of charas which is prohibited in this province appears to be on the increase.

4. The Excise department was in the charge of four officers during the year—Messrs. Waterfall, McClenaghan, Jayaratnam and Burton. The year has owing to the civil disobedience movement been one of exceptional difficulty in the administration of Excise. Government desires to place on record its appreciation of the manner in which these officers, supported loyally by their staff and district officials, have acquitted themselves in the face of organized and dangerous opposition.

ORDER—Ordered that a copy of this resolution be submitted to the Government of India, Finance Department (Central Revenues), and that a copy be forwarded to the Excise Commissioner, Central Provinces, for information and guidance; also that it be published in the supplement to the *Central Provinces Gazette*.

By order of the Government
(Ministry of Excise),

N. J. ROUGHTON,
Secretary to Government,
Central Provinces.

[Maximum limit—30 pages.]

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

SECTION I.—INTRODUCTORY.

| Para. | | Page. |
|-------|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. | Character of season | .. 1 |
| 2. | Consumption and revenue | .. 2 |
| 3. | Temperance movements | .. 3 |

SECTION II.—GENERAL EXCISE REVENUE
AND EXPENDITURE.

| | | |
|----|----------------------------|------|
| 4. | Revenue (Statement I) | .. 5 |
| 5. | Arrears (Statement VI) | .. 5 |
| 6. | Expenditure (Statement II) | .. 6 |
| 7. | Buildings | .. 6 |

SECTION III.—COUNTRY SPIRIT.

| | | |
|-----|---|-------|
| 8. | Consumption (Statement IV) | .. 7 |
| 9. | Incidence of consumption (Statement V) | .. 8 |
| 10. | Contract supply and outstill area (Statement V) | .. 8 |
| 11. | Revenue (Statement I) | .. 8 |
| 12. | Incidence of taxation (Statement V) | .. 8 |
| 13. | Bottled liquor | .. 9 |
| 14. | Advisory Committees | .. 9 |
| 15. | Number of shops (Statement III) | .. 9 |
| 16. | Drunkenness (Statement X) | .. 10 |
| 17. | Hours of sale | .. 10 |
| 18. | Border arrangements | .. 10 |
| 19. | Distilleries and warehouses | .. 11 |

SECTION IV.—TARI.

| | | |
|-----|--|-------|
| 20. | Revenue and number of shops (Statements I and III) | 12 |
| 21. | Working of the tree-tax system | .. 12 |
| 22. | Retail rates | .. 12 |
| 23. | Consumption | .. 13 |
| 24. | Miscellaneous | .. 13 |

SECTION V.—FOREIGN LIQUOR AND
DENATURED SPIRIT.

| | | |
|-----|---|-------|
| 25. | Foreign liquor (Statements I, III, IV and XI) | .. 13 |
| 26. | Denatured and rectified spirits | .. 14 |

SECTION VI.—OPIUM.

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|-------|
| 27. | Consumption (Statement IV) | .. 15 |
| 28. | Number of shops | .. 16 |
| 29. | Revenue (Statement I) | .. 16 |
| 30. | Incidence of taxation (Statement V) | .. 16 |
| 31. | Madak | .. 16 |

SECTION VII.—HEMP DRUGS AND COCAINE.

| Para. | | Page. |
|-------|---|-------|
| 32. | Revenue and taxation (Statements I and V) | .. 17 |
| 33. | Ganja | .. 17 |
| 34. | Consumption (Statement IV) | .. 18 |
| 35. | Number of shops (Statement III) | .. 19 |
| 36. | Bhang | .. 19 |
| 37. | Cocaine | .. 19 |

SECTION VIII.—EXCISE OFFENCES AND PROSECUTIONS.

| | | |
|-----|---|-------|
| 38. | Prosecutions and convictions (Statement VII) | .. 19 |
| 39. | Fines and rewards (Statement VII) | .. 20 |
| 40. | Disposal of departmental cases under Excise and Opium Acts. | 21 |
| 41. | Offences relating to liquor-smuggling (Statement VII). | 21 |
| 42. | Illicit distillation (Statement VII) | .. 22 |
| 43. | Dilution and short measure | .. 23 |
| 44. | Offences relating to intoxicating drugs (Statement VII). | 23 |
| 45. | Offences under the Opium Act (Statement VII) | .. 25 |
| 46. | Theft of excisable articles | .. 26 |
| 47. | Assaults | .. 26 |

SECTION IX.—EXCISE ADMINISTRATION.

| | | |
|-----|--|-------|
| 48. | Changes | .. 27 |
| 49. | Excise Bureau | .. 28 |
| 50. | Touring of District Excise Officers and their assistants | 28 |
| 51. | Excise Training School | .. 28 |
| 52. | Changes and punishment among the staff | .. 28 |
| 53. | Headquarters staff | .. 29 |
| 54. | Work of the staff | .. 29 |

ANNEXURES, STATEMENTS AND GRAPHS.

INDEX.

| | |
|------------|---------|
| Annexure | .. ii |
| Statements | i—lxiii |
| Graphs. | |