
Appendices . . .

Appendix A

The Controversial Farman

1. Prelude to the farman

In 1651, Prince Suja, the Governor of Bengal, by a nishan (permit) permitted the English to have freedom of trade in Bengal without any customs or other restrictions in return for an annual payment of Rs.3000 only. Again the second nishan of 1656 allowed them to build factories or warehouses etc. in ^{any} ~~any~~ part of Bengal. After the departure of Shah Suja from Bengal in 1657 uncertain political conditions grew and the years following 1661 were of growing anxiety for the East India Company regarding their trading activities. Mir Jumla the nawab who had his own private trade using even the services of the English and their ships, came to a conflict with the company. Much trouble was created when the factors at Hugli seized a country vessel of Mir as a security for the recovery of their debt. However, the episode ended in restoration of the boat and an apology by the English Agent; but the English realised the importance of compromising with or winning over the local nawab for continuing their profitable trade. The system of renewal of nishan with the change of governor also prevailed.

In 1672, Shaista Khan made such renewal of the nishan of Shah Suja, with the sanction of the Emperor and granted, for the annual payment of Rs.3000, passing of all

goods of the English free of duty. He also directed the local Faujdars and other officers to assist the factors to recover debts due to them from merchants, weavers and others with whom they had dealings. The company's boats were to be allowed to pass along rivers without any customs.

But since 1677, when Shaista Khan temporarily vacated his office and moved to Agra, there were frequent changes in the Nawab of Bengal; and the Court of Directors of the East India Company found it very expensive as well as troublesome to procure permit from every succeeding governor. They desired the higher authority of a mandate from the Emperor of Delhi.

2. The controversy

In 1680 the following farman issued by Aurangzeb was received at Hoogly :

"In the name of GOD, Amen. To all present and future rulers in Surat that remain in the hopes of the Emperor's favour. Be it known that at this happy time it is agreed of the English nation besides their usual custom of two per cent, for their goods, more one and a half per cent jizyah or poll-money, shall be taken. Wherefore it is commanded that in the said place, from the first day of Shawwal in the twenty-third year of our reign of the said people, three and a half per cent of all their goods, on account of custom or

poll-money, be taken for the future. And at all other places, upon this account, let no one molest them for custom, rah-dari, pesh-kash, formaish and other matters by the Emperor's Court forbidden, nor make any demands in these particulars. ... Written on the twenty-third day of the month Cafar, in the twenty-third year." (underline ours)

This document is a historical example of the difficulties and dangers which arise from uncertain punctuation. Read as above, with a full stop after 'future', it would appear that Aurangzeb demanded 3½ per cent from the English at Surat and that at all other places their trade was absolutely free. This was the English punctuation. If the full stop be removed and placed after 'and at all other places', the sense is altered: At Surat and at all other places a tax of 3½ per cent is to be levied on the English trade. This was how the Nawab of Bengal and other Indian officials understood the matter, and they lost no time in acting according to their understanding. Shaista Khan who returned to Bengal at this time (1679), at once demanded the payment of the tax.

The difference of interpretation led to conflict at several places including Kashimbazar and Malda. The local officers took oppressive measures to collect revenue and the English denied to pay taxes in a bid to protect the company from a violation of privileges. The conflict led to a deadlock in trade in 1682, which was observed by Hedges who came

to Bengal that year. The English resolved to appeal to the Nawab at Dacca, but they were prevented from doing so by the local officers by all means. Hedges had to visit the Nawab at Dacca secretly and in October 1682. He obtained a promise of redress and he returned to Hoogly full of hope only to meet with disappointment and further harassment from the nawab's officials.

3. The aftermath

In 1686, the East India Company retaliated with arms and a war between the company and the Mughals ended with a settlement in favour of English privileges. In 1690 hostilities were supposed to end with the most humble and submissive petition by the company, in recognition of which Aurangzeb granted his farman for a renewal of trading privileges against old payment of $\text{Rs.} 3000$ a year. In 1699, Fort William was established. Despite fortified settlement, the company could not completely secure its trade against occasional molestation by local officials in the early years of the 18th century; and the most important development was the grant of farman in 1717 by Murshid Kuli Khan.

Sources :

- (1) C.J. Hamilton - The Trade Relations between England and India (1600-1896), Indian Reprint, Delhi 1975; ch.3.

- (2) C.R. Wilson - The Early Annals of the English in Bengal, Vol.I, London 1895; pp.78-79.
- (3) J.H.T. Walsh - A History of Murshidabad District, London 1902; p.3.
- (4) Sukumar Bhattacharya - The East India Company and the Economy of Bengal (1707-1740), Calcutta 1969; Ch.II.

Appendix B

Famine Relief : Some documents relating to Malda (1873-74)

The whole of the relief operation in 1873-74 was administered by the government officers through three-tier committees - Central Relief Committee, District Committee and the local Sub-Committees at the sub-division or thana level. The lowest unit of relief operation was a circle comprising of approximately 50 villages; on an average, 10 circles were placed under the charge of a particular senior officer. At the district level the whole operation involved all the government officials of Malda and the most responsible jobs were handled by the Collector with his Deputies, District Police officials and P.W.D. Engineers. Among these officers, only eight were "entrusted with advances of money from the Government Treasury for purposes connected with scarcity and relief."¹

The whole relief operation was dependent on large scale purchase of grains and their transportation to godowns. Excepting very few constructed by the government, these godowns were generally private godowns hired by the government for the purpose of storing relief-grains. H.R. Reily, Deputy Collector and Manager Chanchal Estate (Court of Wards) was the chief officer in charge of transportation, and he was frequently advanced 20 to 25 thousand rupees for the purchase and transportation of grains. Although Reily was one of the

eight officers entrusted with advances from the treasury, he was found to have drawn highest amounts as he was in charge of grain transportation. He was advanced so frequently as Rs.20 thousand on the 3rd March and again Rs.25 thousand on the 23rd March 1874.² It is from the reports of Reilly that we come to learn that bulk of rice was procured from Kustia and Shahibgunge; he had a target of 1,50,000 maunds procurement and by 15 April 1874 he had fulfilled 1,32,573 maunds.³ District storage or procurement was supplemented by 47,880 maunds received from the Central Relief Committee. Apart from transportation by Railways, the cost of freight being borne by the government, the district authorities had to deploy a huge fleet of carts and boats. Two government steamers, 'Sir William Peel' and 'Toynbee', were also engaged in carriage of grain particularly from Shahibgunge. Distribution or sale of grains became more important during the months March to September 1874. Apparently the quantity of rice was large enough, and average stock in different godowns was considered 'sufficient' or 'satisfactory' by the middle of June. According to the 'weekly returns' from storekeepers (or from the Grain Officer) stock of rice at two important godowns were satisfactory as :

Godagaree - as on 4 June 1874 = 7,464 maunds

Gazole - as on 22 May 1874 = 8,380 "

Similarly, according to a report from Golap Halder, Asstt. Relief Superintendent of storage of government grains at

Gomastapore, Parbattypore and Rohunpore on 17 June 1874, stock for the purpose of relief was sufficient. But, the average availability of grains should be viewed against the total population of the district and the remaining months of the season upto the next crop in November-December.⁴ In this respect, the supply of grains was by no means sufficient or large.

In the case of general relief through works undertaken by the P.W.D. there is no reason to believe that grains were sold to the workers at a very cheap rate. At a time when market price of rice varied between 10 seers to 12 seers per rupee the grains sold by the relief committee to labourers were priced at 13 seers per rupee, which included "the remuneration of the moodee".⁵ Again a report from Reilly to the Collector of Malda (No. 426 dt. 21 March 1874) indicated that distress sale of food grains was being made at a price 10-11 seers per rupee. However, the quantity of rice sold in this manner was raised month by month. To the rural poor relief came in the form of employment opportunity as well as availability of grains.

Although this is the first time that poor people of Malda found limited relief to their distress, the whole set up arranged for famine relief exposed a system where larger part of the sums spent had to be used for transportation, storage and establishment charges. There can be little doubt

that cost of operation rather than the actual relief was extravagant. A few aspects of such huge operational cost may be cited as follows :

- (i) For expenses on transportation of grain (excluding railway freights) a permanent advance of Rs.1000 per month was sanctioned to the Collector of Malda. Since the Collector found it to be meagre, the sanctioned sum was raised to Rs.10,000 per month in March 1874.⁶
- (ii) Reily, the officer in charge of transportation, engaged 1400 carts in one route only where he expected to 'move 4000 maunds a day'; and he was seeking for 400 carts more to be added to his fleet; he even hired carts from Dinajpur for transportation from Shahibgunj while he had to pay higher rent for these Dinajpur carts.⁷ Cost of operating the two government steamers was also enormous.
- (iii) Grains were stored in private golas (godowns) hired on monthly rent basis. A small clue to the rate of rent is that a relatively small gola at Old Malda was hired at the rate of Rs.30 per month and payments were made in advance.⁸ Capacity of the golas varied between 500 to 10,000 maunds, and the number of golas required may be guessed.

- (iv) In almost all the cases, the private golas were found unsuitable and the cost of repair or renovation was borne by the district authorities at the expenses of the relief fund.⁹
- (v) Apart from the rental on a gola, large sums had to be paid to man each gola. Usually every gola had at least one store keeper and two chowkidars or peons. For larger stores more staff was employed and store keepers were paid a higher remuneration. Sometimes weighmen, called kaialdurs were also appointed for weighing grains. Generally a store-keeper was paid Rs.20 per month, a chowkidar Rs.6 per month and a kaialdur between Rs.5 and 6 per month.¹⁰ It is to be noted here that big mahajans and aratdars or rich farmers who owned private golas for storing their own grain found an opportunity to make profits by letting the stores out and at the same time working as store keepers at most places.
- (vi) The district authorities had to spend large sums on special allowances to their officers : on horses and boats for their supervision etc. Only Reilly was granted an increase in allowance of Rs.200 p.m. for his famine services, which continued for years and enhancement of which he applied for making permanent.¹¹ All the relief expenditures also meant a

good deal of earning to the contractors who worked as middlemen to supply both grains and means of transport.

References to original documents :

(Source - Malda Collectorate Record Room)

1. No. 472 F dt. 3 February 1874, from the Officiating Magistrate-Collector Malda to the Treasury Officer of Malda.
2. Order Nos. 747 T dt. 3 March 1874 and 928 F dt. 23 March 1874, from the Collector to the Treasury Officer. It is to be noted that Reily was also in charge of relief operations in 11 circles of the Chanchal area.
3. Letter No. 14 F dt. 15 April 1874, from H.R. Reily to F.J. Alexander, the Offg. Collector of Malda.
4. Total population of the district as per 1872 census was 676,426.
According to one report from Reily dt. 29 March 1874 on the Relief Return of the Chanchal sub-division for the week ending 27 March, 11,912 maunds were stored for a population of 1,57,559 while the average daily number of persons receiving relief grain numbered 2169.
5. Estimate of the cash receipt from grain sold to labourers etc. for April and May 1874, vide Accountant General's Circular No.14 dt. 14 April 1874. (Name of the officer-in-charge of the estimate is illegible).
6. Official Memorandum No.15206 T dt. Calcutta 14 March 1874, from the Accountant General to the Magistrate-Collector Malda.
7. Letter No.14 F dt. 15 April 1874, from Reily to the Collector; op.cit.

8. No. 57 F dt. 8 December 1873, from the Offg. Collector Malda to the Deputy Collector in charge of Treasury.

9. For example, advance was made to the Sub-Inspector for repairing of godown floors, clearing of the godowns and repairing of the machans.

No.57 F dt. 8 December 1873, Ibid.

10. Returns from Gazole godowns dt. 22 May 1874, and Storage Report from the Asstt. Relief Superintendent dt. 17 June 1874.

11. No.41 dt. 19 May 1876, from H.R. Reily to the Collector of Malda.

Appendix C

A note on the Sannyasi and Fakir Rebellion

The Sannyasi and Fakir rebellion was the first of its kind in Bengal and Bihar against the company rule and its indiscriminate dispossession of the various elements constituting the traditional society. It was a peasants war - a popular form of organised militant resistance to the colonial rule. Since Malda was an important region when the rebels were active and since the displaced artisans of the Malda silk industry joined it we may note here, in brief, the importance of Malda as a centre for pilgrimage.

The Sannyasis and Fakirs were active in north Bengal and parts of Bihar in general and particularly in the barind area where silk industry had its concentration. Among the Sannyasis it is the Giri sect having the traditional custom of carrying arms, that participated; and among the Fakirs, it is the Madari sect that participated. In the case of Malda, the Madari sect of Fakirs were specially organised here and they led the movement of this tract. If we go through the correspondence, reports, resolutions and other documents of the East India Company and its government during the last three decades of the 18th century we find a deep concern, alertness and apprehensiveness among the officials of the whole area regarding possible movement of the Sannyasis and Fakirs their surprise attacks, need for additional troops to

combat the rebel activities, impact on revenue and investment, suspected helpers of the rebel force, stern actions against them etc. Such documents are mainly related to Rangpur, Bogra, Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Malda and Purnea.

Of these areas, Malda-Dinajpur tract was particularly important to the Fakirs. That is why leadership of the Fakirs was prominent in Malda, although Sannyasis or other Hindu leaders like Bhwani Pathak operated in league with the Fakirs in the barind region. In fact, for pilgrimage the route from Malda to Rangpur through Dinajpur was generally covered by both Sannyasis and Fakirs. Usually the Sannyasis' route was from Allahabad either to Janakpur (Nepal) through Purnea (a portion of Malda was then a part of Purnea district), or to Kamrup through Rangpur and Coochbehar, or to Puri and Sagar islands through Malda. But, for the Fakirs of Madari sect Malda and Dinajpur were very important places of pilgrimage. The shrines of Mahasthangarh (Dinajpur) and Pandua (Malda) were the centres of such pilgrimage, and hence the Fakirs had a long tradition of coming in close contact with the rural people of this area. The shrine of Baba Adam at Mahasthan as well as the Adina Mosque and the shrine Bari Dorgah of Pir Makdum Shah Jalal (and also the Chhota Dorgah near by) in Malda are well known traditional centres of religious congregation. The festivals at these places commenced during the months December to April next, - the slack period in agricultural practice. This periodical

concentration of pilgrimage offered them later on a special opportunity for organised resistance to the Company.

Sources :

1. Suranjan Chatterjee - "New Reflections on the Sannyasi, Fakir and Peasants War", Economic and Political Weekly, Vol.XIX, No.4, January 1984.
2. Suprakash Roy - Bharater Krishak Vidroha O Ganatantrik Sangram (Bengali); Calcutta, 1980.
3. A.N. Chandra - The Sannyasi Rebellion; Calcutta 1977.
4. B.P. Misra - "The Sannyasi Rebellion : the Sociology and Economics of a conflict in sub-Himalayan Bengal", Occasional Paper I, Centre for Himalayan Studies (NBU), June 1985.
5. W.K. Firminger (ed.) - Bengal District Records (Rangpur) 1770-1779, Calcutta 1914.
6. Records of the Govt. of Bengal, Proceedings of the Committee of Circuit at Rangpur, Dinajpur, Purnea and Rajmahal (Vols.V to VIII). Calcutta 1927.
7. W.W. Hunter - Annals of Rural Bengal, London 1868.

Appendix D

Identity of a district : the case of Malda

According to Murshid Kuli Khan's redistribution of fiscal divisions in 1722, the chakla of Murshidabad, out of 13 chaklas in Bengal, included the whole of present Rajshahi, Bogra, Pabna, Murshidabad and parts of Birbhum, Malda and Nadia. Other parts of Malda along with Purnea was included in a separate chakla. Since the grant of diwani to the East India Company in 1765 upto 1813 the areas under the present Malda district comprised parts of Purnea, Rajshahi, Dinajpur and also Murshidabad with certain variations at different points of time. As an administrative unit, the district of Malda only began to exist since 1813 when, in order to secure a closer magisterial supervision, various police circles were detached from the districts of Purnea, Rajshahi and Dinajpur and were placed in charge of a Joint Magistrate and Deputy Collector who was stationed at English Bazar. But, it was not before 1870 that the district acquired a complete geographical and administrative identity; rather, even after 1870 minor alterations took place for a few years more.

In February 1813, the Superintendent of Police of the Lower Provinces laid an unfavourable report before the government that the state of crime in this tract of the country, consisting of eight adjoining thanas of the above mentioned

districts, had worsened. On account of great distance of these thanas from Magistrate's Head Quarter (e.g. Kaliachak to Purnea 100 miles, Shibgunj to Purnea 120 miles) effective administrative control was difficult to be exercised, and he proposed the posting of an able Assistant to the Magistrate of Purnea or Dinajpur in the vicinity of Malda, so that effective control over criminal offences may be exerted. On the basis of this report, in March 1813, these thanas were placed under the charge of a Joint Magistrate - Depute Collector. The powers of this magistrate was anomalous in character, and confusions regarding criminal, revenue and civil jurisdictions of Malda continued for a long time. Eight thanas (police circles) constituting the district in 1818 were as follows :

(i) Sibganj	}	from Purnea district
(ii) Kaliachak		
(iii) Bholahat		
(iv) Gurguribah		
(v) Malda	}	from Dinajpur district
(vi) Bamangola		
(vii) Rohunpur	}	from Rajshahi district
(viii) Chuppye		

Initially the Deputy Collector of Malda seemed to have been under the control of both Purnea and Dinajpur and enormous difficulties were faced for the treasury operations. It is as late as 1832 that a separate treasury was for the

first time opened at English Bazar. The correspondence between the Commissioner of Bhagalpur Division and the Deputy Collector of Malda between 3 October and 27 November 1832 show that the Commercial Resident's Treasury was being used for the purpose and the Treasurer of Criminal Court was asked to perform the duties of Treasurer of the Collectorate with an increase of Rs.15 to his personal allowances. Details of the duties and responsibilities of both the treasurer and the commercial resident were also specified. In January 1833 the Divisional Commissioner wanted to know from the Deputy Collector about the safety of the room occupied in the commercial resident's treasury and also whether all money receipts could be transferred there. The Deputy Collector in reply expressed inconvenience on account of immediate transfer of all money to the Commercial Resident's Treasury and reported "that although the room now occupied in the building as the treasury is insecure yet that insecurity would be easily obviated by a little alterations the expense of which would not exceed 65 rupees." In May 1833 the accommodation of the treasury guard was also built at the estimated expense of Rs.74. In August 1833 the Commissioner of Bhagalpur noticed delay in transfer of necessary records to Malda and requested the Commissioner of Balleah (Rajshahi) and Collector of Purnea to issue "immediate orders for immediate transfer of the same." However, in 1836 the East India Company ceased to operate in the district of Malda and the Residency House was used to accommodate the

District Collectorate and Treasury, which is still continued (the new collectorate building has been added to the complex only in early 1985).

A full Magistrate and Collector was appointed in 1859; and till 1875 there was no District Judge, when the anomalies in the judiciary were more or less amended. The court however, continued to function under the judgeship of Dinajpur upto 1879 when it was transferred to that of Rajshahi. Meanwhile in 1862 Mr. E.H. Lushington, Secretary to the Government of Bengal initiated attempts to reshuffle and fix up sub-division boundaries of the Rajshahi Division, and hence a plan for specification of the boundaries of Malda district was launched. During the whole of the year much controversy arose and much correspondence was spared to settle the principle and for the execution of the sub-divisional boundaries. Initially, it was proposed that Malda district will be cut to three sub-divisions - Gorhund, Malda and Deatollah; proposal for a fourth at Nowabad also came soon; controversy over the sub-divisional headquarters also continued. Ultimately the plan was dropped and the "existing territorial arrangements to which the people are accustomed" were not disturbed. The officiating Secretary to the Government of Bengal wrote to the officiating Commissioner of Rajshahi Division in his No.3601 dt. 13 October 1862.

"It seems to the Lieutenant Governor that having regard to the impending introduction of the new constabulary and to the consequent relief of subdivisional officers from all police duties, the jurisdiction proposed to be assigned to each sub-division is much smaller than is either necessary for the convenience of the people or sufficient to provide employment for the officer in charge of it."

Territorial identity for the district of Malda was deferred to 1870 when prior to the census of 1871 the Boundary Commission and the Government of India effected certain rectification of the district boundaries. According to the thana maps supplied by the boundary commission, certain villages were transferred from and to this district. These arrangements also became helpful to simplify the boundaries and make fiscal and criminal jurisdictions continuous. As is known from the letter no. 418 A dt. 15 August 1873 of the Collector of Malda written to the Divisional Commissioner, the boundary with the district of Murshidabad posed difficulty "arising out of constant changes in the course of the Ganges and the chur islands in the river." (The Ganges became the boundary between Malda and Murshidabad under the new arrangement.) The district boundaries were notified in 1875; but modifications or execution of rectifications continued till 1876. The correspondence among the collectors of Malda, Purnea, Rajshahi and Dinajpur during that year reveal transfer of different estates from and to the district of Malda. Hunter in his Statistical Account of Bengal (1876)

described the district to be comprised of nine police circles. Alterations continued, names of police circles were also changed in course of the modifications and Lambourn's District Gazetteer (1918) shows the district divided into ten police stations (thanas) with four outposts.

In 1813 the newly formed district formed a part of the Bhagalpur Division; it was transferred to the Rajshahi Division with effect from 1 March 1833. The Revenue Department (Jurisdictions), Government of Bengal again transferred the district to Bhagalpur Division in November 1876. In 1905, at the time of the partition of Bengal, Malda district formed a part of the Rajshahi Division. In 1912 when the partition of Bengal was annulled, Malda continued to be included in the Rajshahi Division till August 1947.

The territorial identity of Malda district had a final change in 1947. M.O. Carter in his Final Report on the Survey and Settlement Operations in the District of Malda (1928-1935) stated fifteen police stations in the district :

(i) Harishchandrapur, (ii) Kharba, (iii) Gajol, (iv) Bamangola, (v) Habibpur, (vi) Old Malda, (vii) English Bazar, (viii) Ratua, (ix) Manikchak, (x) Kaliachak, (xi) Sibganj, (xii) Bholahat, (xiii) Gomastapur, (xiv) Nachole, (xv) Nawabganj. Of these fifteen, some alterations were made in the Bamangola P.S. in 1941; and finally the last five police stations, viz., Sibganj, Bholahat, Gomastapur, Nachole

and Nawabgunj, were transferred to East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) in 1947 as per the award of C. Radcliffe. The district came to exist with ten police stations, while the Old Malda P.S. now became known as Malda P.S. Malda district is within the Jalpaiguri Division and is the southern-most district of northern Bengal. According to the census of 1981 total population of the district is 2,031,871.

Sources :

1. W.W. Hunter - The Imperial Gazetteer of India, (2nd edn) Vol.IX, London 1886.
2. W.W. Hunter - A Statistical Account of Bengal, Vol.VII, London 1876.
3. J.C. Sengupta - West Bengal District Gazetteers (Malda), Calcutta 1969.
4. Quarterly Index to the Revenue Correspondence of Commissioners with their Collectors; Bhagalpur Division, 1829-35.
5. Original documents in the Record Room, Malda Collectorate.

Appendix E

Price of Bengal Raw Silk

N.B. :-

1. This chronological price list is not exhaustive, nor is it continuous. This is just a compilation of price quotations available from different sources. The list may be useful for going through this thesis as well as studying a similar subject. There is every scope for improving the list by making it more precise and adding to it the general observations on the price trends.

2. If any minor discrepancy arises between this list and the main text at any particular moment, the text should be taken as more accurate and authentic.

3. The price quotations, unless otherwise stated, refer to price of Bengal silk in general.

4. On two occasions prices have been quoted in sterling measures, as they were available; apprehending various complexities, conversion has not been attempted to.

5. Rs. means (Rs. - Annas)
£ means (£ - Shillings)

The Price List

<u>Date</u>	<u>Price per seer</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1660's	Rs. 2-2 to 2-4	
1670's	£ 0-14	
1730	Rs. 3-8 to 4-12	
1735	Rs. 4-10	Best quality
1745	Rs. 5-14	
1747	Rs. 9-4	
1753	Rs. 7-12	
1773	Rs. 9-0	
1774	Rs. 10-9	
	Rs. 14-0 to 14.8	For filature silk
1780	Rs. 6-3	
1794 (June)	Rs. 9-10	Cost price at Company's filature, Malda
1796 (February)	Rs. 7-14	Do, Kashimbazar Cost
	Rs. 9-5	price at Company's filature, Malda.
1817	Rs. 8-6	Do, Kashimbazar
1818	Rs. 12-0	Invoice cost Sicca Rs.
1819	Rs. 12-10	"
1820	Rs. 13-5	"
1821	Rs. 14-0	"
1822	Rs. 14-12	"
1823	Rs. 14-10	"
1825	Rs. 14-12	"
1826	Rs. 15-6	"
1827	Rs. 14-14	"
1828	Rs. 15-4	"
1828	Rs. 14-3	"
1830	Rs. 13-2	"
1831	Rs. 12-8	"
1832	Rs. 12-2	"
1833	Rs. 11-12	"
1834	Rs. 11-8	"
1835	Rs. 11-0	"
1858	Rs. 11-0	"
1859	Rs. 8-0 to Rs. 16-0	
1860	Rs. 9-8 to 16-12	
1861	Rs. 10-0 to 21-0	
1862	Rs. 9-8 to 19-0	
1863	Rs. 7-8 to 15-8	
1864	Rs. 9-8 to 19-8	
1865	Rs. 11-0 to 17-0	
1866	Rs. 11-0 to 19-0	
1867	Rs. 14-0 to 26-0	
	Rs. 12-0 to 25-4	

<u>Date</u>	<u>Price per seer</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1868	Rs. 11-0 to 26-0	
1869	Rs. 15-0 to 27-0	
1870	Rs. 16-0 to 25-8	
1876	Rs. 18-0	Price of Malda thread
1886	£ 0-17 to 1-3	Price of Malda thread
1898-99	Rs. 12-12	thread
1899-1900	Rs. 11-14	"
1903	Rs. 15-0 to 16-0	"
1914	Rs. 16-12	Filature silk
1915	Rs. 14-8	"
1916	Rs. 17-6	"
1917	Rs. 22-6	"
1918	Rs. 26-9	"
1919	Rs. 24-10	"
1920	Rs. 29-0	"
1921	Rs. 29-1	"
1922	Rs. 36-2	"
1923	Rs. 34-8	"
1924	Rs. 29-15	"
1925	Rs. 22-1	"
1926	Rs. 22-1	"
1927	Rs. 20-13	"
1928	Rs. 20-7	Filature silk, Malda
1929	Rs. 17-14	" "
1930	Rs. 14-7	" "
1931-32	Rs. 8-9 to 12-0	at Malda
1932-33	Rs. 8-0 to 15-8	at Malda
1943 (December)	Rs. 83-12	Best quality filature silk
1944 (August)	Rs. 35-2 Rs. 181-0	Inferior silk Best quality filature silk
1945 (March)	Rs. 60-0 Rs. 224-0 Rs. 50-10	Inferior silk Best quality filature silk Inferior silk
