

**Report On The
External Trade Of
Bengal With Nepal,
Sikkim, And Bhutan,
For The Year**



BENGAL (INDIA)

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REPORT

OF THE

EXTERNAL TRADE OF BENGAL

WITH

NEPAL, SIKKIM, AND BHUTAN,

FOR THE YEAR 1881-82.

THE registration of traffic between Bengal and Nepal, Sikkim, and Bhutan was for the first time undertaken in Bengal from September 1875. The system then introduced was, however, modified under the orders of the Government of India, and a common system of traffic registration was adopted in Bengal and the North-Western Provinces with effect from the 1st of June 1879, in order to obtain as complete a record as possible of the traffic passing along all the important trade routes on the northern frontier of British India. The result of the registration of this trade during the year 1881-82 is presented.

2. The total value of the external trade of Bengal with Nepal, Sikkim, and Bhutan, registered at all the principal routes of traffic between Chumparan and Julpigoree during the past three years was, as follows:—

	Imports into Bengal.				Exports from Bengal.		
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.		1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	To	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
From Nepal ...	95,63,394	1,03,17,915	75,42,743	Nepal ...	55,92,335	56,15,443	65,36,668
" Sikkim ...	2,61,491	1,67,960	1,67,633	" Sikkim ...	48,085	80,898	86,011
" Bhutan ...	3,85,406	2,43,923	1,25,448	" Bhutan ...	2,89,688	1,96,947	1,05,168
Total ...	1,02,00,291	1,07,29,797	78,35,724	Total ...	59,30,009	58,93,288	67,27,847

3. The value of the registered trade with other provinces, which passed through Bengal in those years, was—

Year.	Imports into other provinces from Nepal.		Exports from other provinces to Nepal.	
		Rs.		Rs.
1879-80	27,533	...	3,64,209
1880-81	28,731	...	3,49,170
1881-82	4,38,040	...	5,33,733

4. The grand total of the registered traffic under imports therefore amounts in value to Rs. 82,73,764 against Rs. 1,07,58,528 in 1880-81, and Rs. 1,02,27,324 in 1879-80, and that under exports to Rs. 62,91,579 against Rs. 62,92,458 in 1880-81, and Rs. 62,94,217 in 1879-80. The greatest portion of the decrease, shown above, under imports as compared with the previous year is owing to a reduction in the prices of food-grains, as will be seen from the statement given below:—

Total Food-grains imported.

	Quantity.			Value.		
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Wheat ...	8,152	13,408	8,437	28,539	46,937	25,991
Gram and pulses ...	54,777	78,035	65,101	1,84,873	2,69,563	1,84,424
Rice, husked ...	8,13,152	7,91,757	7,60,545	30,45,670	29,69,016	19,37,068
Rice, unhusked ...	6,65,768	4,95,775	6,40,698	14,97,978	10,85,553	8,35,226
Miscellaneous spring crops ...	23,140	74,635	43,162	66,528	2,20,330	97,601
Miscellaneous rain crops ...	2,67,630	1,98,113	1,83,665	6,35,080	3,96,229	8,59,517
Total ...	18,31,519	16,52,323	16,91,598	53,58,540	49,87,615	34,83,014

5. It will be observed that there is an increase of 2.38 per cent. in the quantity of food-grains imported during 1881-82 as compared with 1880-81, but as regards the value, the figures indicate a decrease of Rs. 15,04,601, or 30.17 per cent. In the case of oil-seeds there has been a decrease of 1,82,157 maunds in quantity and of Rs. 7,87,760 in value, while in timber the decrease amounts to 1,82,994 maunds in quantity and to Rs. 10,85,629 in value. The large increase in the value of merchandise imported into other provinces from Nepal as compared with the two previous years, is attributable to the inclusion of treasure in the returns of the year under review, a separate head for which was inserted under the orders of the Government of India from the 1st of October 1881.

6. The value of the imports into Bengal exceeds that of the exports by Rs. 21,07,877 against Rs. 48,36,509 in 1880-81, and Rs. 42,70,283 in 1879-80.

7. As regards the duties or imposts to which traders on the frontier are liable after they leave or before they enter British territory, the Collector of Chumparun has furnished the following lists showing the rate of duty levied by the Nepal authorities on the different commodities imported from, and exported to, Nepal during 1881-82.

Duties levied on goods imported from Nepal into British territory.

Description of articles.	Rate of duty levied.	REMARKS.
Oilseed (1)	15 per cent. on value	(1) i.e., If exported by river; Rs. 1-8 if exported by land
Paddy (2)	64 " " " " " " " "	
British coins	2½ " " " " " " " "	(2) If exported by river; 10 annas if exported by land.
Spices and medicinal drugs	Rs. 4-10 per maund.	
Schaga (borax), sandal-wood, salajet (storax), hortal (yellow arsenic), &c.	Rs. 14 " "	
Tangis (axes) and koodalies	2 annas each.	
Dabia knives	1½ annas each.	
Blankets	2 annas.	
Oranges	12½ per cent. on value.	
Ganja	25 per cent.	
Horses	Rs. 5 to 15 per head.	
Timber	25 per cent. royalty per tree <i>ad valorem</i> .	

Duties levied on goods imported into Nepal from British territory.

Description of articles.	Rate of duty levied.	REMARKS.
Piece-goods, European and Native, including carpets, blankets, &c.	3½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> and Rs. 1-2 per maund.	In addition to these duties there is levied on all goods a duty of 17 pies per pony-load at Hethowra, a duty of 14 pies per pony-load at Bhechakho, and a duty of 11 pies per pony-load at Sitagarhi, on the road to Khatmundoo.
Lace and other articles manufactured and woven.	5 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> and Rs. 1-2 per maund.	
Vessels of brass, copper, tin, &c.	Ditto ditto.	
Spices, sugar, fruits, medicines.	Ditto ditto.	
Looking glasses, combs, shoes, umbrella, &c.	Ditto ditto.	
Indigo	15 per cent., and Rs. 1-2 per maund.	
Cotton	15 per cent., and Rs. 2-2 per maund.	
Ornaments, jewels, pearls, and silver and gold vessels.	1½ per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .	
Tobacco and goor ...	Rs. 1-2 per maund.	

The Collector adds :-

"It has lately been ascertained from a Bettiah trader, who has considerable dealings with Nepal, that some changes have recently been made in the taxes leviable on imports and exports beyond the Nepal frontier, but the exact nature of these changes is not yet ascertained."

8. The report of the Collector of Mozufferpore contains the following remarks :—

“ The same complaint as heretofore of the excess realization of custom duties and other illegal dues levied from British traders in some parts of Nepal frontier still continues to prevail. The rates at which these duties are levied along the frontier of the following outposts vary as per details given below :—

	Bairasia.	Majorunge.
Per cart laden with goods	6 Lohia pice.	10 Lohia pice.
Pack-bullock	3 ”	4 ”
Cooly	1 ”	1 ”

“ I am also informed that along the frontier of Bela outpost an annual rate of custom duties is levied at 8 as. per cart, 4 as. per pack-bullock, and 2 as. per cooly, and along the frontier of Sobursa outpost, 2 pice per rupee are taken on sale or purchase of goods.

“ The question of excess realization of customs duties by the ticcadars in the Nepal territory has formed the subject of a separate correspondence, and I propose to take up the matter during my next cold-weather tour towards the north of the district.”

9. The sub-divisional officer of Madhubani in the Durbhunga district writes :—

“ It appears there has not been any material change in the system of taxation from that reported last year. Duties which are known by the names of *khurchappi*, *lag*, and *sayer* are levied on all articles of trade, whether imported into or exported from the Nepal State. With a few exceptions in particular cases *khurchappi* is a duty levied on articles, chiefly grains, which are exported from Nepal at nine pice (Lohia pice equivalent to about one and a half annas) per cart and four pice per bullock. Some of the amount is collected by the zamindars at the place where the articles are purchased and some is taken by the State direct at the frontier. This tax can be paid once for all by regular traders at their option at contract rates for a fixed period, generally for one year, at eight annas per cart or bullock per annum.

“ All animals except cows, which are exported from Nepal, are liable to duty as follows :—

Buffaloes	8 annas per head.
Young buffaloes	1 ”
Bullocks of all ages	2 ”
Horses	2 ”
Hogs	2 ”
Goats	4 pice per head.

“ The other two duties, *Lag* and *Sayer*, are taken on articles imported into Nepal, the former on carts and bullocks at the same rate as of *khurchappi* and the latter on the amount of sale proceeds at two pice per rupee. An import duty on salt, pice goods, and articles of higher value is levied either on carts at eight annas each or on their estimated value at half-anna per rupee. Grain only, which Nepalese subjects themselves import, is allowed to pass in free.

“ It has been found that there exists no uniformity on the mode of collection, nor are there uniform rates of tax strictly followed. The reason of this is that the levying of such taxes is generally let out in farm. In the engagement with the farmers no rate is fixed by the State, which gives them a loophole for exacting more than the actual due. It is said that these farmers take sometimes one rupee per cart.

“ It appears that no dues not authorized by the Nepal Government are collected.”

10. The information supplied by the Collector of Bhagulpore is to the same effect that was published in paragraph 7 of the Report on the external trade of Bengal for 1880-81. The sub-divisional officer of Kissengunge in the Purneah-district states that there has been no change in the rates of duties levied by the Nepal authorities during 1881-82.

11. The Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling gives the following list of duties levied by the Nepal Government on traders entering the country from British territory. No export duties are levied :—

	Duties levied.
Cattle	1 to 8 annas.
Buffaloes	8 annas.
Sheep and goats	2 ”
Coarse cloth	6 pice per than.
Rice, dal, salt, bhutta, &c.	1 anna per load of about 1 maund.
Oil and ghee	8 annas per maund.

As regards Sikkim and Thibet, he writes :—

“ No duty was levied by the Sikkim officials during the past year.

“ At Phari in Thibet duties were levied on those traders entering Thibet, who were formerly Thibetan subjects, but left the country to settle elsewhere. The rate of duty was 1 to 5 per cent.”

12. The Deputy Commissioner of Julpigoree writes:—

“Up to the last information I have received on the subject no duties or imposts are levied on traders after they leave or before they enter British territory from Bhutan.”

13. The quantity of untaxed foreign salt imported into British territory from trans-Himalayan sources amounted to 1,932 maunds 8 seers and 8 chittacks during the year, against 2,374 maunds 33 seers and 8 chittacks in 1880-81, and 2,362 maunds and 29 seers in 1879-80 as shewn below—

Into	1879-80.			1880-81.			1881-82.		
	Mds.	s.	c.	Mds.	s.	c.	Mds.	s.	c.
Darjeeling	2,268 9 0	2,268 13 0	1,807 2 0				
Julpigoree	94 20 0	108 20 8	34 81 0				
Bhagalpore	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 15 8				
Total	2,362 29 0	2,374 33 8	1,932 8 8				

In the case of Darjeeling the decrease amounts to 371 maunds 11 seers compared with 1880-81, and to 371 maunds 7 seers compared with 1879-80, and the facilities for transport afforded by the opening of the Railway will doubtless result in a still further decrease in the importation of this salt. The returns of Julpigoree shew a decrease of 71 maunds 29 seers and 8 chittacks as compared with 1880-81, and of 59 maunds 29 seers as compared with 1879-80. This is attributable to the trade routes in Bhutan being nearly closed owing to a serious outbreak of small-pox which has not yet ceased. Only 15 seers and 8 chittacks of this salt was imported into Bhagalpore from the Nepal hills through Patchpandareah road. The returns of the previous years, however, shewed no such imports.

TRADE OF BENGAL WITH NEPAL.

14. The number of the recognized principal routes on which the work of the registration of the traffic crossing the frontier between Bengal and Nepal was carried on during 1881-82 was 27. The total value of the trade registered during the past three years, is shewn in the following statement:—

	Imports from Nepal.		Exports to Nepal.		Grand total of value.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1879-80	...	95,63,394	55,92,335	1,51,55,729	
1880-81	...	1,03,17,915	56,15,443	1,59,33,358	
1881-82	...	75,42,743	55,36,668	1,30,79,411	

15. The money value of the imports shews a decrease of 26·90 per cent. compared with 1880-81, and of 21·13 per cent. compared with 1879-80, owing chiefly to a reduction in the prices of food-grains. Regarding exports the decrease amounts to 1·40 per cent. and ·99 per cent. respectively as compared with the two previous years. Of all staples the traffic in paddy shews the largest increase, namely 1,43,757 maunds as compared with 1880-81. The other important items showing an increase are piece-goods, Indian (Rs. 61,007), iron (3,854 maunds), skins of sheep, &c. (34,809 pieces), salt (9,539 maunds), spices (7,575 maunds), and tobacco (5,393 maunds). The articles in which the decrease was most marked are pulses and gram (13,622 maunds) miscellaneous spring crops (30,587 maunds), rice (44,855 maunds), miscellaneous rain crops (13,239 maunds), hides of cattle (11,406 pieces), linseed (1,04,607 maunds), mustard seed (33,419 maunds), and timber (1,82,835 maunds). The usual statement showing all the chief articles of trade imported into and exported from Bengal from and to Nepal during the past three years is subjoined. The figures shewn here, however, represent the net trade between Bengal and Nepal after deducting such portion of it as passed into and from other provinces through Bengal.

NAME OF ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.			VALUE.			
	Import.	Report.	Total.	Import.	Report.	Total.	
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Cattle	1879-80	29,231	31,220	69,230	7,39,778	5,84,718	13,24,496
	1880-81	16,372	7,279	23,651	4,54,800	1,81,976	6,36,776
	1881-82	21,218	8,433	29,751	8,12,980	1,51,825	9,64,805
Sheep and goats	1879-80	29,732	29,732	67,732	2,79,320	79,320	3,58,640
	1880-81	29,236	19,516	48,752	4,08	49,118	4,57,870
	1881-82	29,103	31,728	60,831	73,918	64,547	1,38,465
Cotton, raw	1879-80	1,142	7,011	2,133	12,412	1,28,127	1,33,841
	1880-81	1,322	8,771	7,653	23,546	60,200	1,47,893
	1881-82	1,571	8,523	7,954	31,657	96,331	1,27,988
Pisco-goods (European)	1879-80	.....	.....	.....	11,028	17,36,119	17,36,119
	1880-81	.....	.....	.....	94,327	81,74,298	81,74,298
	1881-82	.....	.....	.....	55,884	12,82,811	12,82,811
Pisco-goods (Indian)	1879-80	.....	.....	.....	18,321	2,97,451	3,12,830
	1880-81	.....	.....	.....	19,133	1,94,379	1,94,379
	1881-82	.....	.....	.....	21,548	2,37,022	2,37,022
Other fibrous, raw	1879-80	14,942	1,329	16,271	1,84,384	10,703	1,95,087
	1880-81	11,963	1,938	13,901	98,115	6,864	104,979
	1881-82	14,477	1,939	16,416	12,517	6,262	18,779
Gram and pulse	1879-80	24,038	16,411	40,449	1,85,839	23,378	2,09,217
	1880-81	29,899	7,218	37,117	2,28,124	24,021	2,52,145
	1881-82	64,702	7,037	71,739	1,63,666	19,467	1,83,133
Other spring crops	1879-80	23,019	1,911	24,930	60,126	2,964	63,090
	1880-81	74,340	830	75,170	3,30,428	2,230	3,32,658
	1881-82	74,123	1,311	75,434	3,46,372	2,230	3,48,602
Rice (husked)	1879-80	8,11,180	2,386	8,13,566	20,62,644	17,623	20,80,267
	1880-81	7,91,181	7,025	7,98,206	19,36,116	29,082	19,65,198
	1881-82	7,17,569	6,123	7,23,692	17,43,291	19,16,659	17,611
Rice (unhusked)	1879-80	6,52,437	1,454	6,53,891	14,97,379	10,54,828	15,52,207
	1880-81	4,85,772	1,812	4,87,584	10,84,528	8,970	10,93,498
	1881-82	6,65,650	2,731	6,68,381	8,45,216	3,471	8,48,687
Other rain crops	1879-80	2,44,030	943	2,44,973	4,97,074	426	4,97,500
	1880-81	1,37,235	233	1,37,468	2,74,040	948	2,74,988
	1881-82	1,73,415	619	1,74,034	3,60,470	1,364	3,61,834
Hides of cattle	1879-80	43,270	608	43,878	94,396	1,282	95,678
	1880-81	22,210	350	22,560	67,048	683	67,731
	1881-82	7,148	18	7,166	2,385	13	2,398
Skins of sheep, goats, and small animals	1879-80	12,073	74	12,147	1,32,328	124	1,32,452
	1880-81	67,700	1,900	69,600	71,373	1,710	73,083
	1881-82	844	7,740	8,584	22,102	3,10,780	3,32,882
Brass and copper	1879-80	173	6,620	6,793	6,920	3,77,220	3,84,140
	1880-81	873	8,797	9,670	33,000	6,80,280	6,83,950
	1881-82	229	4,524	4,753	17,844	2,68	2,703
Iron	1879-80	824	6,854	7,678	2,902	67,378	67,378
	1880-81	8,216	6,007	14,223	21,024	46,028	67,048
	1881-82	181	1,249	1,430	6,339	37,770	38,200
Other metals	1879-80	106	1,333	1,439	3,170	22,326	25,496
	1880-81	123	1,900	2,023	7,260	8,500	10,523
	1881-82	4,739	4,739	9,478	1,63,348	1,63,348	1,63,348
Ghee	1879-80	4,284	28	4,312	1,30,623	1,218	1,31,841
	1880-81	1,242	10	1,252	1,24,121	223	1,24,344
	1881-82	63,776	80,325	1,44,101	4,63,323	6,03,890	10,67,213
All other kinds of provisions	1879-80	60,927	1,13,272	1,74,200	6,16,510	6,30,640	12,47,150
	1880-81	60,927	1,13,272	1,74,200	7,91,378	6,04,436	13,95,814
	1881-82	1,849	87,818	89,667	7,020	2,92,777	4,1,026
Salt	1879-80	223	72,834	73,057	4,024	3,21,818	3,21,818
	1880-81	1,323	21,498	22,821	7,260	3,27,921	3,27,921
	1881-82	10,180	7	10,187	61,271	64	61,335
Salt-petre	1879-80	14,001	.....	14,001	88,294	88,294	88,294
	1880-81	12,911	.....	12,911	97,128	.....	97,128
	1881-82	1,84,787	1,836	1,86,623	7,25,496	7,771	7,26,267
Linnseed	1879-80	1,87,336	236	1,87,572	3,56,124	1,516	3,57,640
	1880-81	81,738	.....	81,738	1,74,800	7,468	1,82,268
	1881-82	4,682	909	5,591	2,64,271	1,393	2,65,664
Mustard seed	1879-80	1,13,241	1,028	1,14,269	4,94,248	5,810	4,94,248
	1880-81	81,273	387	81,660	3,18,986	1,480	3,19,466
	1881-82	.....	.....	.....	160	42,023	42,023
Sift (manufactured)	1879-80	.....	.....	.....	180	28,346	28,346
	1880-81	.....	.....	.....	1,800	42,833	34,441
	1881-82	.....	.....	.....	23,825	79,210	1,03,035
Spices	1879-80	8,476	21,298	29,774	55,722	19,792	75,514
	1880-81	6,412	15,225	21,637	44,284	2,18,773	1,64,057
	1881-82	18	7,481	7,499	128	1,19,626	1,19,626
Betel-nuts	1879-80	980	10,494	11,474	18,323	1,67,501	1,85,824
	1880-81	89	7,403	7,492	1,468	1,14,148	1,14,616
	1881-82	11	8,423	8,434	176	1,00,200	1,00,476
Sugar (refined)	1879-80	61,481	4,997	66,478	4,384	279	77,154
	1880-81	.....	8,514	8,514	.....	82,841	82,841
	1881-82	476	18,464	18,940	.....	1,28,623	1,28,623
Sugar (unrefined)	1879-80	1,603	23,225	24,828	10,797	1,04,126	1,29,054
	1880-81	298	29,629	30,927	7,090	1,00,116	1,07,206
	1881-82	7,738	12,678	20,416	37,854	1,20,311	1,58,165
Tobacco	1879-80	7,516	16,878	24,394	48,874	1,06,078	1,54,952
	1880-81	8,379	10,468	18,847	39,363	1,32,611	1,71,974
	1881-82	2,23,973	.....	2,23,973	6,23,271	.....	6,23,271
Timber	1879-80	4,23,917	.....	4,23,917	12,50,000	.....	12,50,000
	1880-81	2,93,924	.....	2,93,924	7,79,000	.....	7,79,000
	1881-82	.....	.....	.....	6,238	1,00,377	1,00,377
Wool (manufactured)	1879-80	.....	.....	.....	16,000	2,14,901	2,14,901
	1880-81	.....	.....	.....	1,000	1,00,000	1,00,000
	1881-82	88,708	17,110	1,05,818	4,21,001	6,23,141	7,28,942
All other articles	1879-80	67,732	.....	67,732	1,18,513	8,74,768	8,92,501
	1880-81	65,114	23,631	88,745	2,05,870	7,21,460	2,05,870

16. *Cattle*.—The number of cattle registered during the year was 26,751 against 24,251 head in 1880-81. These figures, however, are to a great extent fallacious, inasmuch as it is not possible to register the cattle trade so completely as could be desired for reasons which have already been explained in previous reports.

17. *Cotton, raw*.—There has been very little change in the trade in raw cotton, the total quantity registered during the year being 7,494 maunds against 7,653 maunds in 1880-81. The district of Chumparun, with an exportation of 3,987 maunds, supplied the largest quantity to the Nepal market.

18. *Piece-goods.*—The total value of European piece-goods exported to Nepal was Rs. 18,34,818, or Rs. 3,39,472 below the figures of 1880-81; but, as compared with 1879-80, the traffic indicates an increase of Rs. 1,10,700. The different exporting marts in connection with this trade are shown in the following statement:—

	Total value.		
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Calcutta	5,76,002	9,58,220	6,30,017
Chumparun	3,46,345	4,42,953	5,61,285
B-tiash	76,980	1,43,302	1,71,983
Motechary	32,600	1,11,140	1,28,150
Oharsan	51,827	65,548	78,534
Chowradano	31,423	38,897	37,405
Chumnapore	10,156	9,559	17,546
Kowdhar	19,691	23,778	15,313
Other places	57,419	76,404	69,000
Bhagulpore	1,97,855	1,70,167	1,60,755
Kandowli	1,43,907	1,02,896	94,447
Balla Bahabgunge	10,496	24,991	21,128
Heerpore	20,327	23,841	23,616
Patch Pandareah	9,737	3,483	4,955
Other places	6,279	7,181	4,421
Mosufferpore	1,76,330	95,978	1,19,770
Bataigola	25,078	24,483	20,354
Gunduck Bahabgunge	6,230	4,000	31,524
Mosufferpore	14,490	13,831	20,680
Sootanurthe	29,850	3,554	4,374
Other places	80,238	15,289	13,103
Purneah	1,31,042	1,66,403	1,19,266
Purneah	1,12,323	1,27,314	99,500
Other places	18,720	39,189	20,468
Durbhanga	1,25,289	1,61,709	1,10,145
Durbhanga	1,25,289	1,61,709	1,10,145
Madhwapore	14,113	37,428	50,846
Medhoobunee	8,333	5,733	1,848
Other places	328	1,954	639
Saran	61,123	73,378	83,368
Chuprah	37,483	54,524	24,979
Other places	23,641	18,854	58,489
Darjeeling	45,123	54,334	51,067
Patna	65,010	49,853	5,230
Other places ... ..	.....	1,300	600
Total	17,24,118	21,74,290	18,34,818

19. The several routes of traffic through which the Calcutta supply mentioned above was distributed, are detailed below:—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Kutkenwa	4,78,500	8,42,100	4,88,850
Adapore	33,950	69,930	1,71,982
Bairagnia	100	.....	9,500
Ruxoul	55,484	41,264	5,121
Tribanighat ... ..	.....	.....	2,000
Joyragger ... ..	.....	425	1,660
Megahat ... ..	.....	528	694
Heerpore	800	75	150
Kandowli ... ..	.....	4,900	.....
Madhwapore	1,688	2,000	.....
Pipraghat	5,500	.....	.....
Total	5,76,002	9,58,220	6,30,017

In the case of Indian piece-goods the figures show an increase of Rs. 61,007 as compared with 1880-81, but they are below the total of 1879-80 by Rs. 56,489. The districts from which Nepal imported largely during the year are Chumparun (Rs. 96,731), Sarun (Rs. 54,668), and Purneah (Rs. 46,708).

20. *Food-grains.*—The total traffic in food-grains showed a slight improvement under imports, namely, 37,579 maunds as compared with 1880-81. The different staples comprised under this head are detailed in the following table:—

	Imports from Nepal.			Exports to Nepal.		
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Wheat	7,696	13,356	8,380	201	375	374
Gram and pulse	54,089	78,209	64,762	10,441	7,212	7,037
Other spring crops	23,019	74,530	43,182	1,011	930	1,711
Rice (husked)	8,11,105	7,91,191	7,47,268	3,866	7,055	6,123
Do. (unhusked)	6,05,457	4,85,773	6,40,680	1,444	3,942	2,781
Other rain crops	2,44,039	1,87,020	1,73,415	243	263	619
Total	18,05,315	16,40,078	16,77,657	16,706	19,767	18,645

21. The following statement shows the principal marts with the quantities of food-grains said to have been imported from Nepal during the past official year:—

WHEATS IMPORTED.	IMPORTS FROM NEPAL.						TOTAL.
	Wheat.	Gram and pulse.	Miscellaneous spring crops.	Rice.	Paddy.	Miscellaneous rain crops.	
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Mozufferpore—							
Gunduck Sahebgunge ...	586	3,023	691	5,164	18,438	11,073	28,672
Bairagnia ...	878	6,991	6,121	4,648	8,267	19,965	24,994
Mozufferpore ...	53	321	48	10,371	2,598	2,598	26,499
Scantimuloo ...	60	3,308	2,221	7,791	6,827	1,231	20,956
Bakra ...	33	396	.....	18,658	.....	.....	19,089
Lalmanee ...	23	154	113	13,338	548	1,743	15,978
Lalmanee ...	.....	54	.....	2,536	1,611	1,223	7,943
Hajepore ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Other places ...	753	12,638	0,947	2,03,164	81,108	63,621	8,76,243
Total ...	1881-82 ...	2,199	24,070	18,276	2,76,333	1,20,303	98,863
	1880-81 ...	6,663	43,313	25,359	3,11,716	1,02,769	1,90,146
	1879-80 ...	4,222	28,814	11,768	3,11,332	1,09,227	86,379
Champaran—							
Kesoreah ...	315	868	367	3,427	27,190	2,915	33,063
Motechary ...	74	1,432	1,433	6,461	19,148	1,619	30,135
Gobindgunge ...	61	321	275	1,521	21,407	491	23,968
Bansraopore ...	.....	298	371	1,438	2,778	1,074	7,797
Modhobun ...	.....	647	167	576	3,867	1,293	7,623
Burhura ...	25	174	744	1,151	3,355	.....	6,423
Other places ...	575	18,123	12,708	20,151	1,33,987	34,104	2,53,127
Total ...	1881-82 ...	1,050	19,090	18,668	50,533	2,18,722	43,003
	1880-81 ...	8,753	21,274	27,238	29,907	1,62,370	53,518
	1879-80 ...	721	9,422	6,523	40,984	2,23,963	73,063
Durbhunga—							
Durbhunga ...	2,267	4,143	2,043	46,469	21,800	3,884	1,10,945
Talpoore ...	.....	257	.....	21,548	.....	647	22,112
Modhobunee ...	81	636	643	3,908	1,173	1,223	21,125
Kantool ...	199	71	81	3,449	6,850	760	11,118
Madhwaopore ...	27	645	80	719	287	329	1,994
Other places ...	185	1,694	1,547	47,229	48,871	3,919	1,05,566
Total ...	1881-82 ...	2,679	7,413	4,196	1,23,031	1,23,906	10,023
	1880-81 ...	900	12,816	2,779	1,67,410	91,963	7,990
	1879-80 ...	513	2,166	2,356	1,72,506	1,23,955	35,181
Barru—							
Kowria ...	.....	98	94	12,524	485	789	14,920
Chupra ...	.....	1,064	230	9,963	877	1,125	13,046
Maharajgunge ...	.....	543	.....	6,646	2,538	733	9,926
Bateopore ...	.....	273	26	6,070	.....	386	8,064
Hasruck ...	.....	199	46	2,627	.....	836	2,454
Other places ...	.....	3,974	1,663	1,17,717	16,104	3,023	1,47,545
Total ...	1881-82 ...	.....	5,909	1,091	1,56,907	10,628	1,96,149
	1880-81 ...	317	8,323	6,182	1,37,829	21,500	1,90,267
	1879-80 ...	121	2,445	733	1,23,537	27,090	39,844
Purneah—							
Hatitapoonh ...	.....	109	151	680	5,419	.....	23,520
Kusambha ...	.....	66	104	223	3,036	2,413	6,261
Mirgan ...	.....	.....	.....	240	.....	.....	5,909
Purneah ...	.....	469	629	1,638	24,498	94,131	1,51,123
Other places ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total ...	1881-82 ...	644	694	2,640	33,282	1,29,403	.....
	1880-81 ...	501	600	1,796	46,371	95,173	.....
	1879-80 ...	308	1,394	1,546	68,469	1,50,176	39
Bharulpore—							
Kandowli ...	.....	19	73	.....	15,461	10,798	1,903
Boorpore ...	.....	1,469	309	.....	7,833	4,143	1,070
Patch Pandareah ...	.....	110	18	.....	1,898	1,078	24
Other places ...	.....	327	133	87	11,443	24,559	73
Total ...	1881-82 ...	1,885	613	87	36,515	41,163	8,078
	1880-81 ...	3,174	883	23	39,513	28,391	1,618
	1879-80 ...	1,679	670	69	42,333	43,504	3,999
Darjeeling ...	.....	.....	4,323	610	32,064	1,878	6,744
Other districts ...	.....	.....	3,070	246	56,021	2,208	6,171
Total ...	1881-82 ...	.....	7,393	242	49,044	2,217	5,133
	1880-81 ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1879-80 ...	.....	620	.....	.....	.....	.....
GRAND TOTAL ...	1881-82 ...	8,500	64,703	43,103	7,47,268	6,40,690	1,73,613
	1880-81 ...	13,356	79,809	74,530	7,91,191	4,65,772	1,67,620
	1879-80 ...	7,006	64,069	28,919	6,11,106	6,05,427	2,44,029

22. By far the largest importation of food-grains was made into the town of Durbhunga (1,10,945 maunds). The other marts importing 25,000 maunds and upwards are Gunduck-Sahebgunge (38,672 maunds), Bairagnia (36,594 maunds), Kesoreah (35,082 maunds), Motechary (30,185 maunds), Kandowli (28,194 maunds), and Mozufferpore (26,499 maunds).

23. *Hides*.—The number of hides registered was 32,460 pieces against 43,866 in 1880-81, and 70,706 in 1879-80. The different districts importing hides from Nepal are:—

	Imports from Nepal.		
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Mozufferpore	31,879	7,854	8,622
Darjeeling	1,751	2,026	6,226
Bhagulpore	8,127	6,256	5,630
Chumparan	9,215	6,143	4,389
Sarun	6,324	1,903	3,103
Purneah	3,669	14,271	2,937
Calcutta	806	2,335	1,160
Patna ... ..	...	19	210
Durbhunga	8,875	3,463	153
Total	70,706	43,270	32,210

24. *Provisions other than ghee*.—The gross traffic under this head shows a decrease of 14,238 maunds as compared with 1880-81, but an increase of 10,145 maunds as compared with 1879-80. Formerly vegetables used to be shown under this head, but under the orders of the Government of India the classification was changed with effect from the 1st of July 1881, and they are now included under the head "fruits and nuts."

25. *Salt*.—Last year the quantity of salt exported to Nepal was 81,450 maunds against 72,854 maunds in 1880-81 and 87,510 maunds in 1879-80. The different marts resorted to for the salt supply are shown below:—

From	Exports to Nepal.		
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Durbhunga	16,877	11,475	19,607
Durbhunga	3,474	5,534	17,509
Madhwapore	6,798	3,990	4,937
Ranostol	1,531	374	1,710
Madhoobunee	1,903	167	211
Mirzapore	1,914	24	51
Other places	1,133	1,586	1,206
Mozufferpore	19,260	14,207	17,605
Bairasia	2,913	6,619	6,447
Gunduck Sabegunge	2,509	1,963	4,433
Lalunge	1,779	1,067	1,650
be-tamurbhee	2,418	1,172	1,453
Other places	9,533	5,384	4,384
Chumparan	19,484	15,376	16,372
Burhurwa	2,896	4,850	2,708
Ghoran	3,427	2,743	2,414
Kosorah	4,342	3,231	1,709
Motechary	872	444	193
Other places	6,957	6,687	9,158
Purneah	14,912	15,514	13,706
Purneah	7,618	2,533	2,073
Mirganj	1,047	1,356	1,584
Imphalbank	963	10,549	1,125
Other places	5,504	10,549	5,922
Bhagulpore	11,466	12,121	11,450
Boerpore	3,914	4,151	4,764
Kandowli	5,513	2,977	2,781
Other places	2,137	4,993	3,985
Sarun	3,132	2,549	1,706
Bavelunge	833	2,121	1,105
Chupra	875	82	61
Other places	1,425	316	650
Other districts	2,979	1,612	1,124
Grand Total	87,510	72,854	81,450

26. *Saltpetre*.—The saltpetre trade shows a decrease of 1,090 maunds as compared with 1880-81, but there is an increase of 2,323 maunds as compared with 1879-80. The principal districts to which these supplies were sent are:—

Name of importing districts.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Mozufferpore	6,824	11,804	8,179
Durbhunga	2,192	1,728	3,762
Chumparan	113	311	676
Calcutta	1,405	...	385
Other places	54	160	9
	10,588	14,001	12,911

27. *Oilseeds*.—There has been a marked decrease in the importation of linseed and mustard-seed during the year as shown below :—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Linseed	1,84,757	1,87,936	81,786
Mustard-seed	62,652	1,18,281	81,373

Linseed declined probably in sympathy with the decreased demand for foreign exports. The principal importing marts in connection with this trade are specified :—

Linseed.

Names of Marts.	In what district.	Quantity.		
		1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
		Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Lakhora ...	Chumparun ...	7,283	29,626	14,916
Durbhunga ...	Durbhunga ...	12,313	14,497	11,559
Soetamurhee ...	Mozufferpore ...	10,900	3,760	10,692
Bairagnia ...	Ditto ...	46,799	49,880	9,047
Balia Sahebgunge ...	Bhagulpore ...	1,056	7,193	8,167
Burburwa ...	Chumparun ...	4,921	3,844	2,555
Chowradano ...	Ditto ...	2,923	3,451	1,214
Ramnuggur ...	Ditto ...	12,882	5,140	361
Pakree ...	Ditto ...	12,401	5,336	349
Ganauk Sahebgunge...	Mozufferpore ...	1,916	9,606	267

Mustard-seed.

Balia Sahebgunge ...	Bhagulpore ...	1,200	28,506	9,528
Durbhunga ...	Durbhunga ...	1,952	8,255	6,628
Beerpore ...	Bhagulpore ...	4,275	8,039	5,081
Bairagnia ...	Mozufferpore ...	10,657	10,242	3,577
Gandharbdinga ...	Purneah ...	812	2,899	1,809
Soetamurhee ...	Mozufferpore ...	1,783	2,433	1,455

28. *Tobacco*.—The quantity of tobacco exported to Nepal was 20,408 maunds against 16,578 maunds in 1880-81 and 19,276 maunds in 1879-80. The imports from Nepal also show an advance of 1,563 maunds as compared with 1880-81, and of 1,591 maunds as compared with 1879-80.

29. *Timber*.—The import timber trade shews a falling off of 1,82,835 maunds as compared with 1880-81, but an increase of 47,909 maunds as compared with 1879-80. The different routes through which these supplies were carried are :—

	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Tribani ghat in Chumparun ...	196	16,936	86,253
Katkenwa ditto ...	24,241	66,573	66,069
Joyngger in Durbhunga ...	.....	706	41,850
Kalughat in Purneah ...	.....	17,328	30,732
Ruzoul in Chumparun ...	27,923	1,04,279	21,073
Other routes ...	1,80,713	2,57,995	24,975
Total ...	2,33,073	4,63,817	2,80,982

TRADE BETWEEN BENGAL AND SIKKIM.

30. There are at present two stations, namely Pheydong and Runjeet, for the registration of the trade of Darjeeling with Sikkim and Thibet. The total value of such trade registered during the past three years is as follows :—

Year.	Imports from Sikkim.		Exports to Sikkim.		Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1879-80	2,61,491	48,086	2,99,576		
1880-81	1,67,960	80,899	2,48,859		
1881-82	1,67,633	86,011	2,53,644		

31. There is very little change in the gross figures of the past year as compared with those of 1880-81. In the import trade an increase, as compared with 1880-81, is observable in horses, sheep and goats, miscellaneous rain crops, brass and copper, and ghee. The following statement shews the

value of the most important items of imports, registered during the past three years:—

Chief articles of trade.	Imports from Sikkim.		
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Horses	15,975	28,250	48,225
Cattle	10,450	12,475	6,950
Sheep and goats	5,365	9,984	15,578
Lime and limestone	1,213	4,938	3,380
Vegetables and other kinds of fruits	3,506	6,590	6,486
Miscellaneous rain crops	44,920	20,864	23,047
Brass and copper	15,920	11,040	17,700
Ghee	3,392	2,304	3,452
Provisions other than ghee	4,480	26,830	1,220
Salt	9,090	6,775	7,773
Tea, foreign ... ..	.....	.....	3,520
Wool manufactured (piece-goods)	1,890	16,536	17,294
All other articles of merchandise, manufactured	1,21,953	5,176	3,283

32. As already explained, vegetables were formerly shewn under "all other kinds of provisions," but this classification was changed by the Government of India, and since July 1881 they have been shewn under "other kinds of fruits and nuts." The salt shewn above is the untaxed foreign salt, of which an account has already been given in this report. The trade in manufactured woollen goods shews a slight increase. As regards tea the Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling states that it is probably the brick tea of Thibet that was imported from Sikkim. The large decrease under "all other articles of merchandise" during the past two years as compared with 1879-80, is due to a diminished supply of planks, of which only 6,321 pieces were imported during the year, against 4,342 pieces in 1880-81, and 56,616 pieces in 1879-80.

33. As regards the exports an increase is observable under European piece-goods, rice and paints and colours. The values of all the chief articles, comprising the export trade, are exhibited in the following statement:—

Chief articles of trade.	Exports to Sikkim.		
	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cattle	6,175	11,575	6,650
Piece-goods (European)	17,304	23,744	29,121
Ditto (Indian)	75	2,592	383
Indigo	5,775	11,750	11,330
Rice	2,910	3,432	7,913
Brass and copper	1,000	7,699	5,360
Paints and colours ... ..	.....	1,400	10,920
Salt	1,044	1,194	760
Tobacco	5,805	8,016	4,609

34. The Lieutenant-Governor is not satisfied with the accuracy of these figures; and, indeed, the delay in submitting this report has been caused by the necessity of repeated references for explanation of errors. The requisite orders will be passed, and it is hoped that some improvement may be effected in the registration of the traffic. Nevertheless, the figures, such as they are, suffice to shew that there has not been that increase in trade that might have been anticipated from the opening of the Darjeeling Railway, and the completion of a good road to the Jeylep Pass. Probably no large expansion of commerce with the small State of Sikkim can be expected; but the facilities that have now been offered would undoubtedly have the effect of largely developing the trade with Thibet if special causes were not operating in the contrary direction. It is stated that the heavy snow on the passes and the fear of small-pox, which was prevalent in the neighbourhood of Pheydong and Kalimpong, had the effect of deterring traders from crossing the frontier. Other causes, however, have also been suggested to the Lieutenant-Governor, and enquiries are being made in the matter. Apart, however, from the absence of physical difficulties or the removal of intentional obstructions, it is probable that much can be done to foster the trans-frontier traffic by seeking to supply the special wants of the Thibetans with Indian produce. It will be observed that foreign tea, to the value of Rs. 3,520, was registered as imported through Pheydong on the road to Thibet in 1881-82. The absence of any record of this article in the Pheydong returns of the two previous years must be due to faulty registration, as it is notorious that brick-tea of Thibet is always available for purchase in the Darjeeling Bazar. This tea is carried all the way from Ta-tsen-lu on the Chinese frontier, and is sold in Darjeeling at many times its original price. It is hoped that the tea-planters of

Darjeeling and the Dooars will make some effort to secure this trade by preparing coarse tea for the Thibetan market. Only the refuse of the tea crop is required for the purpose, and there would be no diminution in the quantity available for export to other markets. Darjeeling brick-tea should undersell Chinese brick-tea at Lhasa and the neighbouring markets, which are only three weeks' journey from Darjeeling, while they are three months' journey from Ta-t sien-lu. The attention of the tea-planters has already been drawn to this matter, and measures are being taken to disseminate information on the subject through a pamphlet written by a gentleman of special experience in the matter.

TRADE BETWEEN BENGAL AND BHUTAN.

35. The different stations for the registration of traffic between Julpigoree and Bhutan are Ambari, Buxa, and Hantoo para. The total value of the trade registered during the past three years was as follows:—

Year.	Imports from Bhutan.		Exports to Bhutan.		Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1879-80	...	3,85,406	2,89,588	6,74,994	
1880-81	...	2,43,922	1,96,947	4,40,869	
1881-82	...	1,25,443	1,05,168	2,30,616	

36. It will be seen that the total value of merchandise registered during 1881-82 contrasts very unfavourably with the figures of the two preceding years. The decrease is observable under almost all the articles of traffic, imports as well as exports. It is said, however, that the trade routes in Bhutan were nearly closed owing to a serious outbreak of small-pox, which has not yet ceased. The principal articles imported from Bhutan during the past three years, were:—

Chief articles of trade.	Imports from Bhutan.		
	1879-80. Rs.	1880-81. Rs.	1881-82. Rs.
Horses	1,49,250	22,275	38,400
Piece-goods (Indian)	3,916	5,744	1,346
Madder or manjeet	25,176	46,344	14,652
Vegetables and other kinds of fruits and nuts except coconuts and betelnuts	1,176	1,322	1,155
Shell-lac	.....	17,750	2,535
Ghee	17,024	11,424	10,525
Woollen manufacture (piece-goods)	1,08,442	40,417	17,364
All other articles of merchandise (unmanufactured)	55,445	21,614	12,102
All other articles of merchandise (manufactured)	3,630	20,059	22,399

37. The only articles which shewed some advance over the trade of the previous year were horses and miscellaneous manufactured goods. An enquiry was made through the Deputy Commissioner of Julpigoree under the orders of the Government of India regarding the shell-lac trade registered in 1880-81, but no information of value could be obtained upon the subject. The quantity imported during the past year, however, was very much less, namely 51 maunds valued at Rs. 2,535.

38. The following are the most important items of export registered during the past three years:—

Chief articles of trade.	Exports to Bhutan.		
	1879-80. Rs.	1880-81. Rs.	1881-82. Rs.
Piece-goods (European)	51,963	27,871	18,817
Ditto (Indian)	5,351	546	1,117
Rice	47,557	20,526	6,770
Paddy	12,418	16,287	2,405
Iron	296	728	3,894
Salt	...	293	1,496
Betelnuts	54,008	75,954	38,948
Sugar, unrefined	2,588	1,713	2,738
Tobacco	97,013	37,559	17,948
Woollen manufacture (piece-goods)	8,600	320	4,657

39. The trade in iron, unrefined sugar, and woollen piece-goods shews some improvement as compared with 1880-81; but under all other heads the decrease is most marked with the exception, however, of salt, under which the figures of the last year are only eight maunds below those of the preceding year.