

Home (1918) Department.
Education

Ordinary SERIES.

Letter
G.O. No. 142

DATED 7. 2. 18

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Exemption.

Sanctioning the permanent ----- from the provisions of article 1 of the Public service notification of V. Kannayya Raja of the Kandyan family, acting examiner of copies in the District Munsif's Court of Tiruvannamalai with a view to his promotion to posts carrying pay not exceeding Rs.50 per mensem

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
ms	65	Home	5.1.19				

C.F.—29.

DEPARTMENT.



Received

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Registered

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Subject.

Forwarding a memorial from V. Kanniah Raja, Acting Examiner of copies of the District Munsif's Court, Tiruvannamalai for permanent exemption from the provisions of Article 1 of the Public Service Notification.

ENCLOSURES.

No.

Spare copies

R.O.C. No. 147/18

Station Madras, Dated the 25th January 1918. 191

From (Name) G. S. White Esquire. (Solicitor).

(Designation) Deputy Registrar, High Court.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Home (Education) Department.

Hon'ble Sir,

I am directed to forward for the orders of His Excellency the Governor in Council a memorial, dated the 5th January 1918 with its enclosures from V. Kanniah Raja, acting Examiner of copies of the District Munsif's Court, Tiruvannamalai, for permanent exemption from the provisions of Article 1 of the Public Service Notification so as to enable him to hold appointments carrying a salary upto Rs.50.

A copy of a letter No.204, dated the 11th January 1918

from the District Judge of North Arcot forwarding and recommending the memorial is also enclosed.

I have the honour to be,

Hon'ble Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

White
Deputy Registrar.

P.S.
22/1

Copy of letter No.204, dated the 11th January 1918, from the District Judge, North Arcot.

I have the honour to forward herewith a memorial submitted by V. Kanniah Raja, acting Examiner of Copies of the District Munsif's Court of Tiruvannamalai, praying that, in the circumstances detailed therein, His Excellency the Governor in Council may be pleased to exempt him from educational qualifications to enable him to hold appointments carrying a salary upto Rs.50, to state that the applicant appears to be the great grandson of the late ^{Raja} (King) of Ceylon as set out in his memorial and to strongly recommend the applicant for such an exemption. The District Munsif of Tiruvannamalai in whose Court the applicant has been working as acting Examiner of copies reports that he has been doing ~~in~~ his work diligently and satisfactorily and recommends him for exemption from examination rules as requested by the applicant.

2. I have the honour further to state that I have seen the applicant and consider him worthy of exemption.

P.S.
22/1



To

His Excellency the Governor-in-Council,
MADRAS.

Through

The Honourable the Judges of
The High Court of Judicature,
MADRAS.

And through

The District Judge of
North Arcot.

May it please Your Excellency:-

The humble memorial of V.Kanniah Raja, great-grandson of the late King of Ceylon and acting Copyist Examiner, District Munsif's court, Tiruvannamalai, most respectfully sheweth:--

1. The previous history of the Kandyan Exiles one of whose lineal descendents the memorialist is, is too well known to be fully detailed. They had rendered meritorious services to the Government, - His great-grandfather Rajathiraja Singa Maharaja being the means of establishing the British Government in the Island of Ceylon. They are well known for their staunch loyalty and attachment to the British Throne. But the treatment accorded to them by the Government is not in any way commensurate with the amount of good work and help that had been rendered to the British Government by their ancestors. He need not trouble Your Excellency with the recital of the past glories of his ancestors, but he shall rest content himself with enclosing a copy of the recommendation made on behalf of the members of his family by several distinguished officers of the Government who have had to come in contact with them. He would also refer to Sir James Emerson Tenant's of Ceylon which contains an impartial account of the later kingdom of Kandy. Nor need he refer to the present importance of the

pp 7 to 10

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the kingdom of Ceylon in the British Empire.

3. That his father ~~xxx~~ is in receipt of a monthly political pension of Rs.36 and odd from the benign Government of Ceylon. The pension which his father now draws monthly was fixed so long ago as 1822 and has continued to be so ever since. Owing to the diminution in the purchasing power of the rupee and owing to the costly mode of living incidental to a period when civilization has made long and rapid strides, the pension which his father now draws is hardly sufficient to meet the bare necessities of existence and so he is driven to the necessity of entering the Government service to earn a living. He has been educated at the expense of the Ceylon Government upto the Matriculation standard, but before he could come out of the school with the ^{Hall} ~~haul~~ mark of the University, the Ceylon Government with-held his stipendiary allowance as ~~he~~ had attained the age of 21 years.

(not put up)

4. That on the initiative of the Marquis of Ripon who was then the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Ceylon Government referred to a select Committee the question whether any further measure of general assistance could be extended to the Kandyan Pensioners. As a result of the deliberations of the committee, a letter was addressed to the Government of Madras printed in G. O. No.211 and 212 Political, dated the 2nd April 1895, sketching out the policy to be adopted in the case of Kandyan Exiles. One of the recommendations was that reasonable aid be granted at the expense of the Government to secure the advancement of any pensioner or son of a pensioner who may hereafter qualify for any profession for superior employment. The Board so long ago as 1897 remarked that it desires to give special encouragement to the youths

youths of such lineage entering Government service and there appears to be a stated policy to encourage members of exalted families to enter in Public Service in suitable posts. Despite these policies and orders he has been thrown in the back-ground and no facilities have yet been offered to him so that he may be the recipient of the encouragement which as they have remarked the Board and Government desire to give.

5. It is an irony of fate that when sons of petty land lords are being exempted from examination rules and appointed to comparatively high posts, his claims though endorsed by some of the British Officials should have been overlooked.

6. The late Mr. William Digby, Political Agent of India in his statement prepared in April 1893 for the most Honourable the Marquis of Ripon, the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, compares the Kandyan Exiles to the Orleans Princess of the ex-Empress Eugence or the ex-Imperialist family of Brazil.

W 7. That he understands that a G. O. No. 1021, Home, (Education), dated 6th August 1917 has been issued by the Madras Government requiring all heads of Offices to make all possible attempts in securing the service of School Final candidates to fill up vacancies in the superior service.

8. That he submits that his eldest brother who is also employed in the Judicial Department in the South Arcot District was kindly exempted from the general Education Qualification Rules by the Government of Madras in their letter No. 1225, dated 21st November 1916 to the Honourable the Judges of the High Court, Copy of which is herein enclosed.

9. That the memorialist's aspirations are not high, his requests are not unreasonable, nor are his qualifications too low to hold the post he applies for.



10. The memorialist begs that Your Excellency may be graciously pleased to exempt him from the necessary Educational Qualifications Rules, so as to enable him to hold appointments carrying a salary upto Rs.50 which form an insuperable barrier in the advancement of the memorialist in official life, and thus help a scion of the ex-Royal Family of Khandy. The memorialist's case is a hard one and deserves a good deal of consideration at the hands of high officials such as Your Excellency.

The memorialist begs to remain,

May it please your Excellency,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

V. Kanniah Rajah
5-1-18

V. Kanniah Rajah
8-1-18

GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

—:o:—

I beg to quote the orders of the Government relating to the treatment to be awarded to the Kandyan youths.

1. Sympathising with the fallen condition of the Kandyan Exiles, Lord Napier and Ettrick while Governor of Madras penned a strongly worded minute to the Ceylon Government in May 24, 1869. In paras 2nd, 6th and 7th of the minute his Lordship says:—

"The Kandyan Exiles, if I understand the matter aright, are divided into two classes, and derive their origin from two families which successively occupied the throne of Ceylon, and fell successively, in part by their own error, in part, it may be, by the policy of the English Government. Whatever may be the share of culpability justly attributable to either all are now the representatives of misfortune, rather than of guilt, in our eyes, and, no doubt still more so in the eyes of the people of this country".

"I venture, however to affirm that the support awarded to the unfortunate class of persons under consideration is so inadequate to their natural wants as to leave them in actual distress, and, I am disposed to believe, subject to the better Judgment of the Colonial authorities, that the time has come when they might be sent back to their country."

"It strikes me that this state of affairs is not generous or politic. The victims of the past revolutions of Ceylon ought not to exhibit before the eyes of the people of India a picture of parsimony and neglect on the part of the English authority."

"If the Government of Ceylon deem it indispensable that these people should still be maintained abroad, they should be maintained in comfort, and not only the present material comfort, but with some provision for education and for employment, in order that their descendants may not be reduced to unavoidable beggary or remain a burden on the state for ever."

2. In exactly the same strain writes Sir John Douglas, the Auditor General of Ceylon who was deputed in 1871 to report on the condition of the Kandyan Exiles. In para 36 of his report he says:—

"Taken as a whole, however, the present condition of the higher class of the Kandyan pensioners cannot fail to leave a very painful impression on the mind of any one who visits them, and enquires into their case. It cannot be considered creditable to this Government that a lady who for a time was queen of Kandy, should be living in debt and squalid misery, as is the case with Mooducunnamahal at Tanjore. And though undoubtedly it was a convenient and economical mode of getting rid of persons who might give trouble, to deport them from Ceylon, take possession of their properties, pension them indiscriminately, and try to forget all about them,—putting aside all ideas of generosity as far as this Government is concerned,—it is not to be expected that the Government of Madras will acquiesce in the abandonment, in their territory, of a class of persons who are allied to some of their best families, and whom the present practice is systematically confirming in idleness and pauperism.

Later on, in the same report No. 54 the learned Auditor General singles out the 1st class of Kandyan pensioners, which include the nearest blood relations of the Royal family, to which class the Petitioner also belongs. In speaking of this latter class of Kandyan pensioner, he writes as follows:—

"Turning now to the class of pensioners included in list No. 1, all those whose names are enumerated therein will be found to be more or less really related to the old Kandyan dynasty. List No. 1 cannot unfortunately be dealt with in the summary and economical manner proposed for list No. 2. For, in the case of the majority of the persons classed in list No. 1, they belong to families of rank and comparative opulence at the time Kandy was taken. Passing over the somewhat inconvenient question as to the right of the English



Government at the time to take permanent possession of Vickrama Singhas kingdom excepting for the benefit of the family of Mootoosamy, whose right to the throne it had recognised by treaty, it will, I think be admitted, that according to the ideas of civilisation, neither the deposed dynasty nor the families of their immediate relatives whose properties were seized by the English, *can be allowed to starve in India*, even supposing that the Madras Government did not interfere in their behalf; and for these a low-rate of commutation such as that sketched out above would, I fear, not be practicable."

3. And lastly the late Mr. William Digby the Political Agent in the statement prepared dated 26—4—93 for the most Hon'ble The Marquis of Ripon K. G. C. etc., the then Secretary of State for the Colonies, writes as follows:—

"With a deposition made necessary by a course so described, the least that could have been expected or hoped for would have been that *the victimised monarch and his family should be fairly recompensed for the large revenues taken from them*. From the beginning however, *the conduct of the authorities in Ceylon has been marked by an avoidance of their duty in this respect*, and as time has gone on, the condition of the unhappy descendants of victimized King has become worse and worse. The present state of the descendants of the Ex-king and of those dependents upon him, *is deplorable in the extreme*. Their daily life is one of degrading and hopeless poverty. The pittance granted to him is so small as not to suffice for mere bodily sustenance, while the decencies of respectable living, the possibility of education, and the consequent chance of leading a useful life are impossible. It seems almost incomprehensible that an administration, so generally enlightened as that Ceylon has been for many years, can have acted with so much harshness, not to say cruelty, towards the Ex-Kandyan royal family.

"Suppose the unhappy position and circumstances described were those of the Orleans Princes, or of the Ex-empress Engenie, or of the Ex-Imperialist family of Brazil, there can be no doubt as to what would be the opinion of the civilized world at such ungracious treatment. And in none of the cases just mentioned, are there either the very ancient lineage of the Kandyan monarchy or the discreditable circumstances such as those under which the Wejayan dynasty was deposed and its territory annexed. The grievousness of the treatment of the Prince and his dependents is heightened by the remembrance of the marvellous prosperity which, for many years past, has under British administration, marked what was once the Kandyan kingdom."

4. The Board of Revenue Mis. 16698 dated 13—12—1897. "The Board desires to give special encouragement to the youths of such leniage entering the Government service and will be glad to hear the Collector's proposals."

5. "That reasonable aid be granted at the expense of the Ceylon Government to secure the advancement of any pensioner or son of a pensioner who may hereafter qualify for any profession or superior employment." (G. O. Nos. 211 and 212 Policial dated 2—4—1895.)

6. The Collector of North Arcot in his Dis. 509 D of 1908 dated 18—2—1908 speaks as follows:—"It is the policy to encourage members of exalted families to enter in Public service in suitable posts."

7. The District Judge (P.A. Booty Esq., I.C.S.,) of North Arcot speaks as follows on 13-4-1917:—

"Forwarded to the District Munsif of Tiruvannamalai. The applicant appears a suitable candidate and says he is prepared to work as may be required. I think it would be well if a place could be found for him."

No. 34.

Dated 24th May 1869.

Minute by His Excellency the President.

1. The accompanying papers have reference to the condition of the Kandyan exiles and pensioners, who, as a measure of state policy were in the early part of the present century transported to the Madras Presidency, and have since been maintained in the District of Tanjore at the expense of Government of Ceylon, I ought to have brought the question sooner under the consideration of Government. The delay has been caused by a certain reluctance to initiate proposals which, I fear may not be acceptable to the Colonial Government; but I feel that there is a duty involved in this matter which ought no longer to be deferred.

2. The Kandyan exiles, if I understand the matter aright, are divided into two classes, and derive their origin from two families which successively occupied the throne of Ceylon, and fell successively in part by their own errors in part, it may be, by the policy of the English Government. Whatever may be the share of culpability justly attributable to either, all are now the representatives of misfortune, rather than of guilt, in our eyes, and, no doubt, still more so in the eyes of the people of this country.

3. It cannot be the desire of her Majesty's Government, or of the Government of Ceylon, that exiles should take the form of punishment, or that it should be perpetrated after the motives of expatriation have ceased to be imperative. I venture, however, to affirm that the support awarded to the unfortunate class of persons under consideration is so inadequate to their natural wants as to leave them in actual distress, and, I am disposed to believe, subject to the better judgement of the colonial authorities, that the time has come when they might be sent back to their country.

4. An inspection of the list furnished by the Collector of Tanjore will show, Vencatasamy Raja, a near relative and in some sort a representative of Muthusamy Rajoo, a sovereign of Ceylon, formerly in alliance with the English Government, is in receipt of a pension of £ 3-9 S per month, though invested with some of the obligations of distinguished rank and burdened with a train of relatives and dependents. Others, closely connected with the same sovereign, nephews by blood and adoption, are endowed with monthly stipends descending from £ 7 to £ 2. These allowances are subject to a rapid system of diminution at the death of the existing recipients. In another generation the progeny of these former princes will be placed in the position of domestic servants, in the next they will be reduced to the lowest level of helpless indigence.

5. In the other class of pensioners, known as the section of Sre Wickrama Simhala Maharajah, some of the older femal relatives of the dispossessed sovereign are still in the enjoyment of stipends which may be sufficient for the decencies of life; but the younger members of the race have already fallen to pensions of £ 1-12-0 and less, while the distant relations dispute for a pittance of a few shillings.



6. It strikes me that this state of affairs is not generous or politic. The victims of the past revolutions of Ceylon ought not to exhibit before the eyes of the people a picture of parsimony and neglect on the part of the English authority.

7. If the Government of Ceylon deem it indispensable that these people should still be maintained abroad, they should be maintained in comfort; and not only in present material comfort, but with some provision for education and for employment, in order that their descendants may not be reduced to unavoidable beggary or remain a burden on the state for ever. The Government of Ceylon might be requested, in my humble opinion, to despatch an officer to this country for the purpose of reviewing the condition of the exiles, first with a view to the increase of their present scale of maintenance, and, secondly, with a view to the education and eventual settlement of the younger members of the two communities, either in connection with the land or in connection with public service.

8. But the Government of Ceylon should also, I think, be asked seriously to consider whether the exiles might not be permitted to return. Ceylon is now a settled and prosperous country. All traces of disaffection to government and elements of revolt or civil strife have probably long since disappeared. Resorted to their proper country these unfortunate families could become object of solicitude to Government. They would elicit sympathy, they would find protectors, and they would discover avenues to an independent and honourable existence, which will probably remain closed to them for ever here.

9. Such are my impressions respecting the positions of the Kandyan exiles in general. With reference to the particular petition from Vencatasamy Rajah the son of Sooboorayalu Rajah, lately deceased Nephew of Mootoosamy Rajah and adopted son of his widow, I think the Government should authorize the payment to him of a pension of Rs. 70-0-0 per mensem in anticipation of the consent of the Government of Ceylon, and that they should instruct the Resident at Tanjore to disburse to him a sum of money which may be deemed commensurable to the funeral solemnities of his father, Sooboorayalu Rajah. In regard to the liquidation of the debt of Rs. 7000-0-0 contracted by the late Sooboorayalu in consequence of the alleged inadequacy of his stipends, I think that the question may be referred for the consideration and inquiry of the Government of Ceylon, should they depute an officer, as proposed, to this country.

(Signed), NAPIER.

(True Copy).

No. 35.

Order there on 14th July 1869 No 232. Resolved that the following letter be despatched to the Govt. of Ceylon.

(True extract).

(Signed). Acting Secretary to Government.



Copy of the letter from the Secretary to Government of Madras Home (Educational) department to the Honble, the Chief Justice of the High court of Judicature, Madras, No.1225 dated the 21st November 1916.:-----

With reference to Mr. Hensman's letter R.O.C.No. 3756 of 1916, dated the 18th October 1916, I am directed to state that His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to ~~extend~~ extend the exemption from the provision of Article I of the Public Service Notification granted to V.Govindaswami Rajah 7th clerk of the District Munsiff's court of Mannargudi, in letter No.1409 Educational, dated the 11th December 1914, so as to admit of his employment as a First Grade Deputy Naizir on Rs.50 per mensem.

(True copy)

6-182/B, from the High Court, R.O.C. 14-25-18

Subject: Exemption from the exam. rules.

That special concessions should be given to members of the Khandyan family seems to have been ~~accepted~~ accepted by the Govt. - if the case disposed of in 1808 948 Edn. of the 8th Sep. 1916, No. 549 Edn. of the 21st June 1912 and No. 781 Edn. of the 23rd Aug. 1913. It is therefore for orders whether the exemption now asked for may be granted. If so the draft below may issue after acceptance by Home (Edn.) and Public (Poln.).

Vide also

Ex. 1809 Edn. 11.12.14



CURRENT NO. 190 Political Reg. 2-2-18

Ex. 182B-f 31.1.18

Ind. Cell B Refd 31.1.18 W.S.

Ind. Cell B-f 2-2-18

28.1.18

29.1.18

30/1/18

31/1/18

Ind. Pol.

Home Govt.

The case is similar to in Ex. 1225 Edn. of 21.11.19. Draft may be accepted in Ind.

1-2-18

Public Pol. no.

2

NOTES.

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Pub (Pol) Dept

The draft may be accepted in
Political.

PM 8
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PM no 190-1
5.2.18

PM
2-2-18

4.2.18

To Home (Ed) W



Draft may issue.

A
5/2/18

27/2/18

GOVERNMENT

of the P. S. Notice of J. Kammayya Raju (of the
Kandam family) acting examiner of copies in the Dist. Mf. Ch. at
Tiruvannamalai with a view to his ~~sub~~ submission to
posts carrying post not exceeding Rs 50 p. M.

191

C. No. 182, From the Dr. Regd. Hsch. No. R. 001177 dated 25.1.1918.

Leont, Natal

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Letter
~~ORDER~~

No. 142, dated 7-2, 1918

Ms

copied
COR
7.2.18

Received
M^{rs}
9.2.18.

To the Honble: the Chief
Justice of the High Court
of Judicature at Madras.

Handels: 80,

With refer. to
Mr. White's letter F.O.C. No
147/18, dt. the 25th January
1918, I am directed to
state that H. E. the Governor
in Council is pleased to
sanction the permanent
exemption from the provision
of Art. 1 of the Public
Service Notice of
V. Kannaaya Raja, acting
~~examiner~~ of papers in
the Dist. Munsif's Court.

at Tiruvannamalai,
with a view to his promotion
to posts carrying pay
not exceeding Rs 50 p. M.
I have

28.1.18

29.1.18

29.1.18

7/27/18

When given for copying

When copied

When examined

When signed

191

READ AGAIN G.O. No.
191

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.

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