Revenue (Special)

Scott. II—48—21,640-19-1-17.

Home (1917) Department.

Miscellaneous

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 1238

DATED 7-12-17

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Emigration - Ceylon.-

Informing petitioner Valliammal of Madras that she should herself make arrangements on behalf of her daughter and grandson to clear off the debt due to the estate in which they are working in Ceylon.

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No.

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

Number.	Date.	Original (=O) or spare copy (=S.C.)	Remarks. (In this column such of the papers as have been removed for copying, printing, etc., should be marked with a cross.)	Initials of Referencer with date in token of return to Reference department.
	732 9.7.17			
	415 26.4.17			
	326 30.8.17			

Papers of other departments.

Department.	Number	Date.	Original (=O.) or spare copy (=S.C.)	Initials with date of (1) Referencer acknowledging returns of the paper concerned or (2) Despatcher to denote the return of the papers to the department concerned.

1051/17

Home (Misc.) Cn. 3824
26.11.17

2

TO

The Secretary

to His Excellency the Governor-in-Council,

Fort Saint George,

Madras.

23-NOV-1917

Humbly sheweth,

The humble petition of Valliammall, residing at No. 48, Thoppai Mudali street, Royapuram, Madras,

That your petitioner humbly begs to lay her pitiable circumstances before your honour hoping to meet with your honour's deep consideration, necessary attention and immediate enquiry.

Your petitioner begs to submit herewith few enclosures from which your honour will find that your petitioner's daughter Amirthammal and her son Nadeson are as coolies in Pussalla Estate, Parukadu Post, Ceylon, for the last 7 years.

By the last tamil letter dated 9-11-1917 received from your petitioner's daughter which letter was literally translated into English and enclosed herein for your honour's information will show that Amirthammal fears that she and her son Nadeson will be poisoned or killed by the estate superintendent if your petitioner does not take them from the estate as early as possible, otherwise they say that they will suicide themselves on account of the cruelties in the said estate. Before this letter was received by your petitioner, your petitioner sent a letter to the Ceylon Labour Commissioner, Trichinopoly, requesting him to release the said Amirthammal and her son Nadeson and he replied stating that he will enquire into the matter.

Nos 3-4 below

N 5 cf

N 7 cf?

Your petitioner then sent a letter to the Estate p10 infra Superintendent of Pusella, Parakudi on the 10th instant enclosing copy of the memorandum received from the Ceylon Labour Commission on the 2nd instant. In the meanwhile your petitioner received a letter from the Celon Labour p9 infra Commissioner dated 15th instant, informing that your petitioner's daughter is due of a large sum to the estate, she is happy in the estate and she is not willing to leave the estate. The copy of all the letters received and replied are herewith enclosed for your honour's perusal.

Your petitioner submits that the letter of Ceylon Labour Commissioner is false in saying that your p9 infra petitioner's daughter Amirthammal is happy and she is not willing to go back to Madras, as her letter dated p3 infra 7-11-1917 contradicts his statement.

Your petitioner prays that your honour will go through the papers sent herewith and order the Estate Superintendent to take care of the lives of the above said persons viz. Amirthammal and her son Nadeson, until they are released, and then direct him to release them as early as possible.

For this act of kindness and charity, your petitioner will always feel thankful.

mark × of Valliammalle

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The literal translation of the tamil letter received from Amirthammal of Pussella Estate.

By the grace of the Almighty I, Amirthammal and my son Nadeson thanking I write the following to my mother, my aunt, my sister Logam and her husband and to all the younger and elders there. Sivaperumal only knows our welfare here and we pray Perumal for your welfares. Received your letter and was sorry to see the contents of it. God only knows the cruelties done in the estate. After you have gone to Madras it seems that my son and another boy have ~~has~~ done some mischief for which my son Nadeson was beaten with cane 24 stripes and stopped our payment of daily expenses and our monthly salaries. Rice is given to us twice a month, instead of 4 times a month. When I asked the Superintendent about this, he says that it is his desire and there is none to ask him. He also said "You and your son may go and die. It will be no matter if the company sustains loss by you". Such a gentleman may sometimes poison and kill me and my son Nadeson in the estate. If we are taken from the estate earlier it will be better. We therefore do not like to stay a minute in the garden, and there is no justice in the garden. Mother, seeing this letter apply to the Commissioner. If he does like these, there will be no means for us to live here. In the garden all the coolies are one, and we are left helpless, as you have written a petition, the Superintendent is very angry with me and my son. Superintendent says that I am due to the estate 1,000 Rs. which amount if I pay he will send us out of the estate. Gentleman paid Rs. 5 monthly as salary but now pays only Rs. 4 to me. When I asked him why he pays so, he says that he will not believe me. While so why such a gentleman asks me thousand rupees ? If the letter is delivered to me I will have little satisfaction. That also is not

forthcoming. Write to Kander at Ceylon. You must release us from the jail. Try and release us fron restrainment. If you do not release us from the estate, and if we are not released by you, my dear and beloved mother, who brought forth me with endearnment, the good and bad will be known. Not a letter received from Rangoon. A day is passed as a year, and I and my child stand helpless. I am like a sinner in the garden. When I think of you both day and night, and when we go to sleep we are melting like wax
We do not know when God will cut our great fetters. Mother you should take us early from the garden, otherwise we will hang and die in the garden alone. My son Nadeson will die before me by the beatings of the coolies of the estate. You should by any means try to take us from the estate.

Ceylon Labour Commission,

Trichinopoly,

C.C. 154/17. Memorandum. 15th November 1917.

From

The Ceylon Labour Commissioner,

To

Valliammall,
c/o Amirthammal,
No. 48, Thoppai Mudaly street,
Meenatchiammanpet,
Royapuram, Madras.

Pussella Estate - Claimed cooly Amirthammal & her so

Referring to my letter of the
ceived a letter from the Sup
which

Madras, 10th November 1917.

From

Valliammall
c/o Amirthammal,
No. 48, Thoppai Mudali street
Meenatchiammanpet,
Royapuram, Madras.

To

The Superintendent
of Pussella Estate, Parakkadu Post,
Ceylon.

Sir,

Pussella Estate - Claimed coolies Amirthammal & her

I beg to state that there are my daughter the said Amirthammal and her son Nadeson as coolies in your Pussell tate under your superintendency. I have on the 1st instan letter to the ceylon Labour Commissioner for their re- liver them to m

9,089—2-17.

5

Home (miscellaneous) ~~Home~~ DEPARTMENT.

C.N. 3845

Received 24 NOV 1917 191 . Registered 26.11. 191 7

REGISTRAR, HOME DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF MADRAS

Subject.

Forwarding the petition of ~~Mxx~~ one Valliammal allegin that her daughter and grandson are being ill-treated on an estate in Ceylon.

ENCLOSURES

No. one.

Spare copies

C. No. 1580/Pel- of 17.

Station Madras, Dated the 23rd November 191

From (Name) F. Armitage, Esq.,

(Designation) Commissioner of Police, Madras.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Home (miscellaneous) Departme

6

Ceylon Labour Commission.

Trichinopoly,

2nd November 17.

C.C. 164/17. Memorandum.

From

The Ceylon Labour Commissioner,

TO

Valliammall,
c/o Amirthammal,
No. 48, Thoppai Mudaly street
Meenatchiammanpet,
Royapuram, Madras.

Pussella Estate - Claimed coolies Amirthammal and her son.

Your petition dated 1st instant regarding the persons is receiving my attention. I enclose a

Enclosure to letter No. 1580/Pel. D. 23.11.17 from the Commr
of Police, Madras City.

Madras, 20" November 1917.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE
23 NOV 1917
MADRAS CITY POLICE.

F. ARM
23 NOV 1917

TO

The Commissioner of Police,
Egmore, Madras.

The humble petition of
Valliammal, residing at No. 48,
Thoppai Mudely street, Royapuram,

Humbly sheweth,

That your petitioner humbly begs to represent the following hoping to meet with your honour's deep consideration necessary attention and immediate enquiry.

Your petitioner humbly begs to state that from the copies of the petition herein enclosed your honour may find that your petitioner's daughter Amirthammal and her grandson Nadeson are in the Pussella estate, Parakadu Post, Ceylon, and the literal translation of the tamil letter received from Ceylon from your petitioner's daughter Amirthammal which is also enclosed for your honour's perusal will show that Amirthammal is not happy in the estate, and wish to come away from the garden owing to the cruelties done to h

cation made by your petitioner to

is reply is not forwarded to Govt.

his reply is received, the Commissioner again sent a letter informing that your petitioner's daughter is due to the estate a large sum of money and that Amirthammal and her son Nadeson are happy in the estate and they are not willing to go out of the estate. But the letter received from your petitioner's daughter Amirthammal (the literal English translation is herewith enclosed) will show that the Commissioner's statement is false. In her letter Amirthammal clearly says that the Superintendent is cruelly treating her and her son Nadeson, and if she is in the estate for some more time the Superintendent will poison her, or she will suicide herself with her son.

Under the above circumstances your petitioner requests that your honour will be so good as to write a letter to the Ceylon Labour Commissioner to advice the Superintendent of the Estate to preserve the lives of Amirthammal and her son Nadeson until they are released from the estate and until the investigation in the matter is over.

For this act of kindness, your petitioner shall always feel thankful.

Sd. Valliammal

ter named A[illegible]
usawmy, my daughter
males and 2 females out
children. The said R.
Amirthammal and her son
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her children registered
missioner's Office at
to Pussella Estate, Para-
R. Munusawmy somehow
y to Madras with the
is now employed as a
there is no hope of his re-
has left in the Estate my
Nadeson hopelessly to
letters often from her in-
ition in which she is now in
mal and her son Nadeson are
king as coolies. According t

Home (mis) Deptt.

Emigration - Ceylon

3847) From Valliammal of Royapuram

3848) C. P. M. 1580 | Petn. of 23. 11. 17.

U.S.

The whole trouble with the petitioner's daughter and grandson appears to be the result of the debt of Rs 1,000 due by them to the estate. The question of the arrangements that have to be made in respect of ~~Ceylon~~ emigration to Ceylon as also that of liquidating or writing off the existing debts of Indian Coolies in Ceylon is now unde the Consideration of the Govt of Indi and until a definite decision is arr at in the matter, it is not desirable t take action on petitions like these (please see page 3 of notes to Ego 732. of 9. 7. 17).

p 3 CF.

Ego 416 / 26. 4. 17. (F)

(G)

The Ceylon Labour Commissioner's letter on p 9 CF Contradicts the allegations ~~made~~ by the petitioner's daughter on pp 3 & 4 CF, and it would ~~[illegible]~~ appear that the petitioner was ~~withholding the salient facts (e.g. that of her also~~ ~~being~~ also a Coolie in the same estate bu repatriated at the expense of the estate) ~~from the authorities~~. In the circumst

p 9 CF

NOTES.

9

(G)

LIICF

It is for orders whether the petition may be recorded as in No 732 of 9.7.17. Draft order Enld. It does not seem necessary to inform the Commissioner of Police why no action is taken on the petition.

S.

AR
26.11.17

P.dd.
7.12.17

The question of taking up this sort of case has already been discussed & it has been held inadvisable now until the more general aspects are settled. We may record meantime.

3.12.17

Can we not inform the petr that she must herself make necessary arrangements for her daughter & grandson to clear off the existing debts on the clearance of which it is hoped that they will be allowed to leave the estate?

4/12/17

U.S.

Revised draft Enld.

AR
4.12.17.

Fair.
5.12.17

S. 6.12.17

7/12/17

Scott. II-99—14,308—19-1-17.

1917.

Home Miscellaneous DEPARTMENT. 10

CUTTINGS FROM NEWSPAPERS.

1. *Name of Paper*— Hindu.
2. *Published at*— Madras.
3. *Dated*— 2. 12. 17.

THAT the recommendations of the Marjoribanks and Maracayar Labour Enquiry Commission have not been felt to be satisfactory even by the Government of Ceylon is evident from the fact that an independent Committee to consider the question has been appointed by that Government. On the appointment of this Committee, the "Ceylonese" writes:—"The announcement that His Excellency the Governor is about to appoint a Committee to go into the question of Indian Cooly Immigration will be welcomed by everyone interested in the condition of estate labourers in Ceylon. The evils of the present labour system still flourish and an earnest attempt must be made to remove them. Only the other day we came across a notice in some of the local newspapers describing minutely the appearance of a young bolter with a view evidently to getting him back to the place which he had left. Surely, there must be something radically wrong with a system when it is unable to make the labourer contented with his lot. coolies do not run away just for mere pleasure or out of wickedness." That a great deal of discontent exists among the coolies and that the estates are either not aware of it or do not wish to recognise it must have been evident from the case of a woman coolie and her children of this city, now in a Ceylon estate, to which we recently made brief reference in our editorial columns. We do hope the scandals which are alleged to exist widely at present will be effectively put an end to by the Government of Sir John Anderson.

Vallianmal?

Sl
6.12.17

See
7/12/17

5/12/17

11

Sectt. II—10 (a)

Emigration – Ceylon – ~~Petition~~ Home (mis) DEPARTMENT.

Informing petitioner Valliammal of Madras that she should herself make arrangements on behalf of her daughter + grandson to clear off the ~~existing~~ debts ~~they~~ due to the estate in which they are working ~~in~~ Ceylon.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. ...., dated .... 19 .

" " " " ...., " .... 19 .

READ ALSO :—

C. No. 3847, From the Valliammal, Royapuram, No. ...., dated .... 19 .

" " 3845, " " Commr of Police 1580/Petn, " ...., " 23.11. 1917.

" " ...., " " ...., " ...., " .... 19 .

ORDER. No. 1238, dated 7.12. 1917.

Mis.

The petitioner is informed that she should herself make the necessary arrangements on behalf of ~~for~~ her daughter and grandson to clear off the ~~existing~~ debts due ~~which they owe~~ to the estate. ~~in which they are working, on the clearance of which,~~ when ~~it is hoped that they will be allowed to leave the estate~~.

OR
4.12.17

5.12.17

7/12/17

Despatched

To Valliammal,
48. Thoppai Mudali St.
Royapuram,
Madras. (9/10)

Copy to the Commr of Police (9/10)

Return to the Commr the paper placed below folded

4/12

When given for copying
When copied
When examined } 191 .
When signed 6/12

READ AGAIN G.O. No. , DATED
191 .

CURRENT NO.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT .. .. .. A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.