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Home (1917) Department.
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Ordinary SERIES.

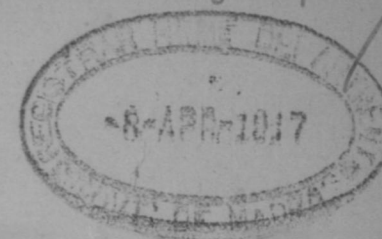
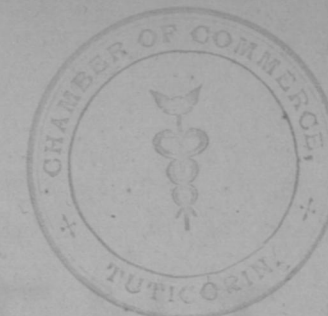
G.O. No. 388

DATED 19. 4. 17

[Despatch Abstract.]

Emigration - Ceylon.

Informing the
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce of the
Circumstances under which the Govt have
found it necessary to prohibit the embarkation
at Tuticorin of third class passengers in
general.



TUTICORIN, 5th APRIL 1917.

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT,

M A D R A S.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that Order G.C.No.326 issued by your Department under 30.3.17. has been brought to the notice of this Chamber. It would appear therefrom that no unskilled labourer shall henceforward be allowed to proceed from this Presidency to Ceylon without a Permit, the prescribed route being Mandapam only and that no third class passengers shall be permitted to leave for Ceylon via Tuticorin.

The Chamber views the introduction of such a drastic change with considerable apprehension and regrets that it should have been made without reference of any kind to local interests which are likely to be seriously affected thereby.

Not only is the Dhanushkody route thus given undue preference to the detriment of Tuticorin without justification, but the passenger traffic which always formed an important source of income to the people of Tuticorin and the Steamer Companies, is thus being suddenly destroyed by a single stroke of pen.

In this connection the Chamber would like to correct the wrong impression which appears to exist, that all third class passengers proceeding from this Presidency to Ceylon

are unskilled labourers or Estate Coolies, whereas a number of these third class passengers are employed in the Harbour, factories and Railway yard in Colombo itself and its surroundings as labourers or artisans, some being also domestic servants and petty traders, all of whom have hitherto invariably used the Tuticorin route and would be put to considerable inconvenience, delays and expenses if they had to travel via Mandapam. The probability is that under such circumstances they would prefer not to proceed to Ceylon at all, whereby considerable difficulties would arise in Colombo itself in dealing with the traffic of the Port and in many other ways, difficulties which have possibly been overlooked or not sufficiently appreciated.

I am therefore to request that the Order may be reconsidered and modified in such manner that only Estate labourers may be compelled to travel via Mandapam, the Ceylon Officer in charge of the Tataparai Depot being empowered to issue the necessary permits, and that for other passengers the Tuticorin route may remain open as hitherto.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

P. S. Muttu

CHAIRMAN.

Home dept
(this)

Emigration - Ceylon

(1258)

From the Chawiraw, Chamber of
Commerce, Tuticorin to the 5.4.

For the u.s

Submitted that the
Govt have already considered the
suggestion made by the Tuticorin
Chamber of Commerce that estate
labourers alone may be stopped
from passing through the Tuticorin
route - vide page 1 of notes to
G.O. no 361, Home (this), to the
6.4.1917. The Ceylon Govt have
not raised any objection
~~already agreed~~ to the closing
of the Tuticorin route to third
class passengers. It appears therefore
hardly necessary to take any notice
of the Chamber's ^{statement} ~~proposal~~ that
considerable difficulties would
arise in Colombo itself in dealing
with the traffic of the Port. For or
whether the Chamber ^{may be informed} that the Govt
have already considered the quest
fully and that they are not prepa

Call
17.4.17

to reconsider the decision. A draft order is submitted for approval.

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10.4.17

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The reason for closing the Tuticorin route to 3rd class passengers & diverting the stream through the Mandapam channel, was chiefly to enable the Govt to supervise through its own agents & officers & to some extent control the flow of emigration to Ceylon, ^{as well as to supervise (indirectly) regarding conservation of manpower} It was not overlooked that amongst 3rd class passengers travelling from Tuticorin there were ^{unskilled labourers &} coolies & others besides estate-coolies. The difficulty known of allowing them to go through white privately owned estate coolies & diverting them to Mandapam, ~~which~~ ^{which} impeded the Govt, actuated them in closing the Tuticorin route wholly to 3rd class passengers. Orders also had to issue in very great haste & it was impossible at the time to consult local bodies like the Chamber, interested in the matter, but doubt it would be possible at Tuticorin as well as at Mandapam to station a staff to watch orders regulating emigration to Ceylon; but

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would be very expensive and unnecessary.
no reconsideration. seems to be called for.
A draft is submitted for consideration.

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17.4.17 8/11/17

19.4.17

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Emigration-Ceylon.- Informing the Chairman, Chamber of Commerce,
Tuticorin that the Government ~~see no reason to reconsider~~
~~the orders issued in G.O. No. 326, Home (Misc) dated the 20th~~
~~March 1917~~ of the circumstances under which the
Govt have found it necessary) to prohibit the
embarkation at Tuticorin of third class passengers in
general.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 326, Home (Mis.), dated the 30th March 1917.

” ” ” ” 191 .

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 1258, From the Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Tuticorin, No. .., dated the 5th April 1917.

” ” ” ” ” ” ” ” 191

” ” ” ” ” ” ” ” 191

ORDER.

No. 388, dated 19.4. 1917

Mis.

SAB
please issue
in copy & return
file intact to section
Jha
19.4.17.

The Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Tuticorin, is informed that the Government have already considered the suggestion that ~~estate~~ ^{unskilled} labourers alone ~~may~~ ^{should} be ~~stopped~~ ^{prohibited} from passing ^{to Cochin} ~~through~~ ^{by} the Tuticorin route, but in view of the difficulty foreseen in distinguishing between unskilled labourers and other third class passengers found it necessary to prohibit the embarkation at Tuticorin of 3rd class passengers in general.

The Government has no room to
reconsider the order passed in G.O. No
326, Home (Misc) D. 30.3.17.

To

The Chairman, Chamber of Commerce,
Tuticorin (Q & O.)

17.4.17
 10/4/17

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

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.—

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- P = Copy abstract only.
- Q = Copy heading only.