

Rev Spl Dept
Government of Madras

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 457, 14th May 1917

Emigration—Malaya

Authorizing the Superintendent of the Federated Malay States Government Emigration Depot at Negapatam and the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements to ship up to a total of 70,000 adult male emigrant labourers during the calendar year 1917.



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READ—the following papers :—

I

G.O. No. 278, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 16th March 1917.

ABSTRACT.—Permitting the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States and Superintendent of the Federated Malay States Government Emigration Depot at Negapatam to ship emigrant labourers until the 31st March 1917.

G.O. No. 322, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 30th March 1917.

ABSTRACT.—Authorizing the emigration to Malaya of adult emigrant labourers up to a total of 7,000 in April subject to certain conditions.

II

Letter—from H. C. BATHURST, Esq., Emigration Agent, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Madras, the 19th March 1917.

No.—E.A. 110.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of G.O. No. 285 of the 18th of March 1917 regarding the total prohibition of indentured emigration to the West Indian Colonies, and the limitation of the emigration of agricultural labourers to the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States to the minimum requirements of those countries, together with a copy of rule 16-B of the Defence of India Consolidation Rules, 1915.

2. It is stated that the Government of the Federated Malay States will be addressed, but as it would appear impossible for a reply to be obtained from that Government before the end of the current month, I would ask that authority be granted to myself and the Superintendent, Straits Emigration Depot, Negapatam, to ship labourers to Malaya unrestricted until arrangements have been made between the Governments of Madras and the Federated Malay States regarding the minimum requirements of Malaya.

3. It would not be possible to detain all intending emigrants at Avadi and Negapatam arriving at those places after the 1st of April pending the settlement of negotiations between the two Governments, if for any reason there should be any delay in arriving at an arrangement, and in order that the heavy expense entailed in sending back to their villages intending emigrants who would not be allowed to proceed might be avoided, I would ask that my request for authority in paragraph 2 above be acceded to.

4. I should be glad of a reply to this letter at the earliest opportunity in order that I may make all the necessary arrangements for temporarily stopping recruiting if the authority requested cannot be granted.

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக்காப்பகம்

பாதுகாப்பு (Pr1) பிரிவு

செப்பனிட்டவரின் பெயர் : செ. சீனிவாசன்

ஆவணத்திலுள்ள மொத்த தாட்கள் : 34

செப்பனிட்டு முடித்த நாள் : 27.2.15

செப்பனிட்டவரின் கையொப்பம் : செ. சீனிவாசன்

-- சரிபார்க்கப்பட்டது --

பணி வழங்கிய எழுத்தர்
(Issue Clerk)

பிரிவுத் தலைவர்

பணி சரிபார்த்த எழுத்தர்
(Checking Clerk)

III

Telegram—from the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

To—the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.

Dated—Fort St. George, the 21st March 1917.

No.—86.

Please telegraph when may reply be expected to my telegram No. 81, dated March 19th, regarding restriction of emigrants to Malay States from 1st April next. Please also telegraph your proposals.

IV

Telegram—from the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States.

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Kuala Lumpur, the 22nd March 1917.

Your telegram dated 21st March, No. 86. Hope to be able to reply in a few days. Necessary reference being made to Singapore several States and Colony are concerned time shortest make arrangements to meet labour shortage already serious.

V

Telegram—from the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States.

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Kuala Lumpur, the 23rd March 1917.

Your letter 19th March. Minimum of Indians required to maintain existing areas and continue output rubber 82,000 adults with assisted passage(s). Ten thousand would be shipped by end of March. For months following it is suggested for your consideration that licences may be granted to Federated Malay States Emigration Agents at Madras, Negapatam. Give free passage to following number of adults: April 7,000, May 10,000, June 13,000, July 12,000, August 9,000, September 8,000, October 5,000, November 5,000, December 3,000, always provided that in case of deficiency in any month supply for any subsequent month can be increased proportionately. Minors and children not to be limited.

VI

Telegram—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry.

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Simla, the 1st April 1917.

No.—3537-Emi.

My telegram 1239-E.D., dated 13th March. Reference latter part of that telegram please report arrangement proposed. Following telegram received from Secretary of State. ~~Begins~~ "The Government Straits Settlements who will forbid new scheme involving Indian labour reports at least 82,000 required. Colonial Office hope that in view of national importance of Malay States industries this number may be allowed. The question is one for you to decide with regard to military requirements"—ends. If 82,000 permitted to go, what balance would be available for military purposes?

VII

Letter—from E. A. HARVEY, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

To—the Chief Secretary to High Commissioner, the Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.

Dated—Fort St. George, the 4th April 1917.

No.—1008-1.

I am directed to invite a reference to the correspondence ending with my telegram, dated the 30th March 1917, regarding the restriction of emigration of Indian labour to the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States from the 1st April 1917. The Governor in Council observes that the estimated total number of adult male and female labourers required for Malaya for the whole of 1917, viz., 82,000 coolies, exceeds by about 17,500 the annual average number of labourers who emigrated from the Madras Presidency to the Straits Settlements and the Federated

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Malay States during the past six years. Taking into consideration male coolies only with whose emigration this Government is particularly concerned at present, the demand now made would represent about 66,750 males, which number is about 14,300 in excess of the six years' average.

2. I am to say that, having regard to these facts, His Excellency in Council is of the opinion that sufficient provision will be made for the needs of the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States if this Government limits the number of male adults (over 18 years of age) whose emigration will be permitted to 50,000 for the twelve months ending December 31st, 1917.

3. I am to express the hope that your Government will be satisfied with this decision. In case any further demands for adult male coolies are considered necessary, I am to request that this Government may be favoured with a full statement of reasons or exceptional circumstances if any in justification of the additional requirements.

4. Pending the issue of general orders the Government have authorized the Superintendent of the Federated Malay States Government Emigration Depot at Negapatam, and the Emigration Agent at Madras to ship up to 7,000 adult coolies (males and females) of over 18 years of age in April next, subject to the submission by them of a weekly return to this Government of the number of emigrants shipped during the previous week. A copy of G.O. No. 322, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 30th March 1917, is enclosed.

VIII

Telegram—from the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

To—the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry, Simla.

Dated—Fort St. George, the 4th April 1917.

No.—112.

Reference correspondence ending your telegram No. 3537 of 1st instant. Arrangements proposed regarding restriction of emigration to Ceylon and Malaya are being reported by letter.

IX

Letter—from E. A. HARVEY, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

To—the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry.

Dated—Fort St. George, the 4th April 1917.

No.—1008-2.

With reference to your telegram No. 1239-E.D., dated 13th ultimo, concerning the prohibition of the emigration of unskilled Indian labourers, I am directed to report for the information of the Government of India the action taken by this Government.

2. As regards emigration to the distant colonies hitherto conducted under the Indian Emigration Act, 1908, instructions were at once issued to the Colonial Government Emigration Agent and to the Protector of Emigrants and Commissioner of Police, Madras, to give immediate effect to the prohibition.

3. As regards emigration to Ceylon and Malaya, no restrictions were enforced till the 1st April 1917.

4. The Ceylon Government placed the minimum requirements of the Island at 60,000 labourers for one year. It is not practicable however to enforce a restriction as to numbers only in the case of Ceylon as labourers emigrate thither by several channels and for various purposes. His Excellency the Governor in Council has, therefore, decided to enforce the prohibition in the case of all adult males unaccompanied by their families proposing to emigrate for the first time to Ceylon and to grant permits to all other emigrant labourers. Arrangements have been made accordingly. It is estimated that the emigration of about 15,000 adult males will be thereby prevented.

The curtailment of the importation of Ceylon tea into the United Kingdom will also diminish the normal demand for Indian labour in the Island.

5. The minimum requirements of Malaya have been stated by Government of the Colony to be 82,000 adults (males and females) for the whole of 1917. The bulk of the Indian labourers emigrating to Malaya being single adult males, the decision

taken in the case of Ceylon could not be applied to Malaya without seriously injuring the production of rubber. On the other hand, 82,000 adult labourers is above the average number of such emigrants during the past six years. His Excellency the Governor in Council has therefore permitted the emigration of 7,000 adult labourers during April 1917 and is prepared to permit the emigration of 50,000 adult male labourers during the whole of 1917, i.e., including the number of adult males who have already emigrated from 1st January to 31st March. The Government of the Colony have been addressed to ascertain if this number will not suffice to meet their minimum requirements.

6. The number of unskilled adult male labourers emigrating under these orders will be watched monthly and further restrictions introduced if necessary. The emigration of adult males to the number permitted by this Government will not have any prejudicial effect on recruiting for the army or for labour corps.

X

Letter—from H. C. BATHURST, Esq., Federated Malay States Civil Service, Emigration Agent, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, Madras.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Madras, the 20th April 1917.

No.—E.A. 110/17.

With reference to G.O. No. 292 of the 20th March 1917, I have the honour to request you to be good enough to inform me as early as possible of the number of adult labourers whom I and the Superintendent, Emigration Depot, Negapatam, will be permitted to ship from Madras and Negapatam to the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States during the month of May, or the total number that may be shipped from those two ports from the 1st proximo to December 31st, 1917, if any particular number of emigrants has been fixed by arrangement with the Governments of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.

XI

Telegram—from the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

To—the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.

Dated—Kuala Lumpur, the 25th April 1917.

No.—145.

Please telegraph when reply may be expected to this Government's letter 1008-1, dated 4th April 1917, regarding arrangements decided by this Government for giving effect to restriction of emigration to Malaya.

XII

Order—No. 411, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 26th April 1917.

Under the proviso to rule 16-B of the Defence of India (Consolidation) Rules, 1915, the Government of Madras authorize the Superintendent of the Emigration Depot of the Government of the Federated Malay States stationed at Negapatam and the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States to ship emigrant labourers to Malaya from the 1st to the 15th May 1917, subject to the undermentioned conditions:

(1) That the total number of adult coolies, i.e., males and females over 18 years of age, shipped during the fifteen days does not exceed 5,000.

(2) That a report be submitted to the Government every week giving particulars of the number of emigrants shipped during the previous week from Negapatam and Madras respectively.

(True Extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States at Madras.
Superintendent of the Emigration Depot of the Government of the Federated Malay States at Negapatam.
Commissioner of Police, Madras.
Inspector-General of Police.
District Magistrate of Tanjore.

Copy to the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur (with C.L.).
Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Singapore (with C.L.).

XIII

Telegram—from the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States.

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Kuala Lumpur, the 26th April 1917.

Reference my letter 24th regarding emigration missent Singapore, reply despatched yesterday. Hope you will suspend restriction of emigration to Malaya pending further consideration. Information contained in reply will show numbers proposed by Government of Madras insufficient.

XIV

Letter—from H. C. BATHURST, Esq., Federated Malay States Civil Service, Emigration Agent, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, Madras.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Madras, the 30th April 1917.

No.—E.A. 110/17.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of G.O. No. 411, dated the 26th April 1917, authorizing myself and the Superintendent, Emigration Depot, Negapatam, to ship emigrant labourers to Malaya during the period 1st to the 15th of May to a number not exceeding 5,000.

2. A larger number of recruiters than usual have arrived in Madras and Negapatam this year to date, and if authority will not be forthcoming to ship all the labourers these recruiters may be expected to bring to the depots at Madras and Negapatam, the earliest possible measures must be taken to restrict their activities in order to avoid congestion in the depots, and expense in sending back labourers in excess to their villages.

I would therefore ask you to be good enough to inform me as early as possible of the number of labourers who may be shipped to Malaya after the 15th of May.

XV

Memorandum No. 1470-1, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 3rd May 1917.

With reference to his letter No. E.A. 110/17, dated the 30th April 1917, the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States is informed that the issue of general orders regarding the number of unskilled labourers whose emigration to Malaya will be permitted during the year 1917 is held over pending receipt and consideration of the reply of the Government of the Federated Malay States on the subject which is said to have been despatched on the 25th April. Orders will be issued as soon as the reply is received.

(By order)

E. A. HARVEY,
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States.

XVI

Letter—from the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States.
To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Kuala Lumpur, the 24th April 1917.

No.—1465/1917.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1008-1, dated the 4th April 1917, on the subject of the restriction of Indian labour to the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States and to convey the thanks of the Government for permitting 7,000 emigrants to depart from India in the month of April.

If the decision of His Excellency the Governor of Madras in Council to limit the number of male adults (over 18 years of age) whose emigration will be permitted to 50,000 for the twelve months ending December 31st, 1917, is adhered to, I fear that the situation will be very serious for this country.

I will cause to be prepared a full statement of reasons in support of the claims of the planting community for additional immigrants, but in the meantime I venture to submit the following for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council.

2. In estimating the average requirements of this country the Government of Madras has taken the figures of the past six years. In any case these should not be taken as affording an accurate basis of calculation inasmuch as two years, 1914 and 1915, are included in which, owing to exceptional circumstances, there was an interruption in immigration.

But the figures of the past are not a safe guide to the requirements of the future. The area of rubber now coming into the productive stage is rapidly increasing and will go on increasing monthly. The shortage of labour is already becoming serious and other sources of labour are not to be found readily. There is prospect of a reduced labour supply from China.

3. The returns of the exports of cultivated rubber will show at a glance the needs of this country in the way of labour. They are shown in the following table which relates only to the Federated Malay States:—

	TONS.
1912	15,505
1913	23,465
1914	30,697
1915	44,523
1916	62,764

For the three months January to March 1917 the exports have been 20,332 tons. There will probably be a progressive monthly increase provided that labour is sufficient and I anticipate that the total exports for 1917 will exceed 85,000 tons.

4. The above figures are only for the Federated Malay States. I have not the corresponding figures for the Straits Settlements and other Malay States, but the position is very much the same there. This progressive increase can only be maintained if there is also an increase in the labour available.

5. I feel justified in putting these facts before the Government of Madras and having done so I can only conclude by saying that this Government fully recognizes the fact that emigration from India is being restricted for reasons which this Government cannot and does not wish to question in any way. If having fully considered the question with this further information His Excellency the Governor of Madras in Council decides that the reasons for restricting emigration are sufficiently grave to justify limiting emigration to the Colony of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States as proposed to 50,000 for 1917, this Government will not of course venture to question the decision, but it will certainly have a most serious effect upon the principal industry of British Malaya.

XVII

Telegram—from the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

To—the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.

Dated—Ootacamund, the 14th May 1917.

No.—174.

Your letter of 24th April. Statement of reasons in support of claims of planting community for additional emigrants awaited pending receipt of which number of adult males that will be permitted to emigrate to Malaya during 1917 is raised from 50,000 to 70,000.

Order—No. 457, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 14th May 1917. —

Under the proviso to rule 16-B of the Defence of India (Consolidation) Rules, 1915, the Government of Madras authorize the Superintendent of the Emigration Depot of the Government of the Federated Malay States stationed at Negapatam and the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States to ship emigrant labourers (unskilled labourers) to Malaya subject to the following conditions:—

(1) That the total number of adult coolies (males only) of over 18 years of age shipped from the 1st January to the 31st December 1917 does not exceed 70,000 excluding female coolies and children who should be permitted to emigrate freely without restriction.

(2) That a report be submitted to the Government every week giving particulars of the number of emigrants shipped during the previous week from Negapatam and Madras, through the District Magistrate of Tanjore and the Commissioner of Police, Madras, respectively.

2. The Superintendent of the Federated Malay States Government Depot at Negapatam and the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States at Madras are requested to submit to Government through the District Magistrate of Tanjore and the Commissioner of Police, Madras, respectively, a list of the total number of emigrant labourers shipped to Malaya from the 1st January 1917 up to date showing adult males, adult females and children separately.

(True Extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States at Madras.

„ Superintendent of Emigration Depot of the Government of the Federated Malay States at Negapatam.

„ Commissioner of Police, Madras.

„ District Magistrate of Tanjore.

„ Inspector-General of Police.

Copy to the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur (with C.L.).

„ Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Singapore (with C.L.).

„ Public Department.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 457, HOME (MISCELLANEOUS)
DATED 14TH MAY 1917.

[SUBJECT.—*Emigration—Malaya.*]

Previous papers:

G.O. 278, Home (Miscellaneous), 16th March 1917.
" 322 " (") 30th " "
" 411 " (") 26th April "

II

From the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States, No. E.A. 110/17, dated 19th March 1917.

Submitted that the issue of a general authorization of the nature asked for by Mr. Bathurst in paragraph 2 of his letter is opposed to the instructions of the Government of India under which the restriction of emigration to Ceylon and Malay States becomes operative from the commencement of April.

2. The Colonial office has already telegraphed to the Colonial Government suggesting that the requirements of labour should be limited to the lowest possible minimum and enquiring what the minimum is. This Government's telegram on the subject was despatched yesterday. It does not therefore seem to be impracticable to make the necessary arrangements before the end of this month for enforcing the provisions of the rule from the 1st April. The Government of the Federated Malay States will probably wire their suggestions in the matter. Mr. Bathurst is perhaps under the impression that the Government of the Federated Malay States have been addressed by letter. For orders whether Mr. Bathurst may be informed in detail of the action already taken in the matter.

3. A draft letter is submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—20-3-17.

P.DER.—20-3-17.

It is quite probable that Mr. Bathurst's fear that no arrangement in regard to the minimum requirements of Malaya will have been come to by the end of this month, will be realized.

I submit that the orders of the Government of India may be wired for; it might be suggested to them that the permission to allow the departure of labour without restriction might be extended for a reasonable time, say a fortnight or until an agreement has been arrived at with the Federated Malay States and Ceylon Governments, whichever is earlier.

In the meantime Mr. Bathurst may be advised to reduce by degrees his recruiting operations.

E. A. HARVEY—20-3-17.

If we have not already asked the Ceylon and Federated Malay States Governments when we may expect their statements of minimum requirements we had better do so now by telegram and ask for a telegraphic reply.

H. F. W. G[ILLMAN]—21-3-17.

Drafts, please, at once.

E.A.H.—21-3-17.

Two drafts are submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—21-3-17.

P.DER.—21-3-17.

E.A.H.—21-3-17.

[Telegrams Nos. 85-86, dated 21st March 1917—III]

IV and V

Telegrams from the Government of the Federated Malay States, No. 69, dated the 22nd March 1917, and No. 113, dated the 23rd March 1917.

Please see the replies of the Government of the Federated Malay States. That Government suggest that licences may be granted to their emigration agents stationed at Madras and Negapatam to ship 72,000 adult labourers in all from April to end of December 1917, excluding minors and children.

2. The following statement shows (1) the number of arrivals of immigrant coolies in the Federated Malay States for the years 1911 to 1915 and (2) the number of arrivals of labourers in the whole of the Malay Peninsula for the same years:—

	Total arrivals of emigrant labourers in the Federated Malay States.	Arrivals of recruited labourers in Malaya.		
		Adult males.	Adult females.	Total.
1911	67,408	64,718	13,558	78,376
1912	65,102	60,083	13,610	73,693
1913	76,878	67,957	15,892	83,849
1914	30,534	27,991	6,255	34,247
1915	46,300	42,174	9,104	51,278
Average for a year ..	57,243	..	..	64,288
Proportionate average for nine months.	42,932	..	..	48,216

The number of adult labourers required by the Government of the Federated Malay States for the nine months from April to December 1917, viz., 72,000, is much above the average and it does not appear that this number represents the lowest possible minimum requirements.

3. India's telegram mentions only Ceylon and Malay States to which emigration of labour may be permitted. In the press communiqué, dated the 12th March 1917, India has made it clear that emigration may be permitted to Ceylon and the Federated Malay States. It appears, however, from the telegram of the Government of the Federated Malay States, that that Government are under the impression that emigration of labour will be permitted to the Straits Settlements also. The position may be made clear to that Government. [No reply has been sent to Mr. Bathurst to his letter at page 1 of G.O. No. 457, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 14th May 1917.]

T.C.N.—24-3-17.

P.D.R.—24-3-17.

We may provisionally agree to authorize the shipping of 7,000 in April and by further notification effect a reduction for the year of nine months.

The Government of India may perhaps be consulted.

I presume that the Government of India intend the Straits Settlements to be included under the term Federated Malay States. The point may be verified by telegraphing to that Government.

E. A. HARVEY—24-3-17.

Note of instructions from the Honourable Member.

For the present licence to be given to Straits Government emigration agents to ship up to total of 50,000 adult (over 18) males on understanding that present system of rejections and selection is continued. Straits Government to be asked meantime to substantiate demand for 82,000 adults which is greater than average for past six years (64,436 men and women) and greater also than the emigration of 1913 which was maximum to date. Weekly return to be sent by Straits Government agents to Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

N. E. MARJORIBANKS—26-3-17.

* The correspondence has been with the Chief Secretary, Federated Malay States. It ought to have been with the Colonial Secretary, Singapore.

N.E.M.—26-3-17.

The Straits Government* ask for 82,000 adults for the whole year (10,000 to end of March—gone already practically—and 72,000 during the rest of the year).

2. The average adult emigration during the past six years has been each year 52,422 men and 12,014 women. The maximum was in 1913 when 67,957 men and 15,892 women emigrated to Malaya. These figures are those in columns 4 (a) and 4 (b) of the statement at page 26 of our report. Some of the third-class passengers entered in columns 6 (a) and 6 (b) are also labourers: the numbers certainly so are given in paragraph 28 of the report, page 33. It is doubtful whether very many more are labourers as there is no reason why an emigrant labourer should pay for the passage when he can get one for nothing by going to the agent.

3. The case for a demand of 82,000 labourers is thus not made out. Ten thousands A have already gone and a licence for 50,000 adult men might be given, this to include the total number of adult male emigrants in 1917: and the Straits Government asked to explain the large demand made. If they make out a good case, a supplementary licence can always be issued. Paragraph 10 of the report, page 27, shows that the supply of labour is not very short.

N. E. MARJORIBANKS—26-3-17.

Arrangement at A may be approved. It was formulated at a conference yesterday between Mr. Marjoribanks, Mr. Bathurst and myself.

Malaya is very differently circumstanced from Ceylon. Movement of labourers to and from Malaya is much more fluid than the movement to and from Ceylon owing to greater freedom of contract and immunity of the labourer from debt on landing in the colony. The majority of the labourers that go over to Malaya are single males and we cannot very well prevent their emigration owing to the fact that the principal article of export is rubber, the supply of which must be maintained for war purposes.

H. F. W. G[ILLMAN]—29-3-17.

I understand that the proposal at A is to allow 50,000 coolies (inclusive of the 10,000 who have gone already) to proceed to Singapore and the Federated Malay States within the calendar year 1917. This is against an average of 52,000 and seems liberal. Women and children would be extra.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—27-3-17.

P[ENTLAND]—27-3-17.

Draft telegram please.

E. A. HARVEY—28-3-17.

A draft telegram to the Government of the Federated Malay States is submitted for approval.

2. It appears from the latter portion of India's telegram No. 1239-E.D., dated the 13th March 1917, that a further communication may be expected from the Government of India on the subject of the arrangements to be adopted from the 1st April next in respect of emigration of labour to Ceylon and the Federated Malay States. In any case before orders issue authorising the Emigration Agents of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States stationed at Madras and Negapatam to ship 50,000 emigrant labourers until the end of December 1917 (inclusive of those shipped in March 1917) it appears desirable to report to India the decision already arrived at by this Government in the matter. If this is agreed to, a draft letter to India will be submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—29-3-17.

P.D.R.—29-3-17.

A draft telegram to India may be prepared at once.

E.A.H.—29-3-17.

Draft telegram to India submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—29-3-17.

P.D.R.—29-3-17.

Draft telegrams to India and Federated Malay States may be approved.

E.A.H.—29-3-17.

There is no need to ask India for approval of what we have done. I can see nothing in their telegram of 13th instant indicating that they will send us a further communication about the arrangements to be made after 1st April. On the contrary, they distinctly ask us to arrange.

We have done so, and we may telegraph India the arrangements we have made both for Ceylon and Malaya. Telegrams should come to me for approval.

There is no need whatever to send a long telegram to Federated Malay States. We may tell them that we have sanctioned 7,000 adults for April and are writing them our views on their total demand and the arrangements we propose. Arrangements after end of April can be settled by letter.

H. F. W. G[ILLMAN]—29-3-17.

Issue this telegram to Federated Malay States:—

103. Under Defence of India Consolidation Rules Government of Madras have authorized the Superintendent of the Emigration Depot at Negapatam and the Federated Malay States Emigration Agent at Madras to ship adult coolies not exceeding 7,000 in April. Letter follows.

E. A. HARVEY—30-3-17.

Now draft telegram to India and letter to Federal Government.

E.A.H.—30-3-17.

A draft telegram to India and a draft letter to the Government of the Federated Malay States are submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—30-3-17.

P.D.R.—30-3-17.

The drafts are submitted for approval.

E.A.H.—31-3-17.

My instruction to send a telegram to India is cancelled. They may be told by letter about the action we have taken. Mr. Marjoribanks may be asked to draft the letter.

The draft as now revised may issue. A copy of the correspondence should go to the Colonial Secretary, Singapore, with whom, as Mr. Marjoribanks says, we ought to have corresponded in the first instance.

H. F. W. G[ILLMAN]—31-3-17.

Mr. Marjoribanks u.o.

E.A.H.—1-4-17.

The average of 64,436 adult emigrants during the past six years comprised 52,422 men and 12,014 women, i.e., out of 100 emigrants there were 81 men and 19 women (81.4 and 18.6 to be more exact). At this rate the number of men in 82,000 emigrants would be 66,748 which is 66,748 — 52,422 or 14,326. I have altered the figures in the draft accordingly which presumably has now to issue and a copy (with covering letter) to the Colonial Secretary, Singapore.

2. A draft letter to the Government of India is also put up as directed by the Honourable Member. I would suggest that this should go separately as it deals with Ceylon and distant Colonies as well as Malaya.

N. E. MARJORIBANKS—1-4-17.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

VI

Telegram from the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry, No. 3537, dated the 1st April 1917.

The draft letters to the Federated Malay States (Straits Settlements) Government and to the * Government of India, respectively, are ready for issue. The Honourable Member has not seen the latter.

* Drafted by Mr. Marjoribanks.

8/45

In view however of the telegram from India it is for orders whether the steps taken and the arrangements proposed may now *after all be wired to India*. Perhaps the arrangement proposed for Malaya may be kept pending, until a further communication from India is received, and the draft letter held over.

We are asked to report, if 82,000 coolies are permitted to leave, what balance will be available for military purposes. This department is quite unable to say, as there is no information. It may be available in Public (War). Will that department kindly note what is known and circulate the case very urgently to the Honourable Member?

E. A. HARVEY—2-4-17.

PUBLIC (WAR) DEPARTMENT.

The question put to this department is what balance of labour would be available for military purposes if permission is accorded to the emigration of 82,000 adult coolies during the calendar year 1917 from the Madras Presidency to the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements. It is submitted that no definite information is available in this department as to the total military requirements of

labour; so far as the recruitment of labour for work in Europe is concerned, the Department letter 3342, dated 9th March 1917. Madras Government have to contribute

only one corps of about 2,000 labourers, and even this one corps has to be raised only later on when further orders in the matter are received by the Government of India from the Secretary of State and communicated to this Government. Perhaps the General Officer Commanding, 9th (Secunderabad) Division, may be consulted in Home (Miscellaneous) Department in regard to the exact immediate requirements in the matter of labour, if further information is considered necessary.

C.P.K.—2-4-17.

J. P. BEDFORD—2-4-17.

The drafts to Federated Malay States and to Government of India should issue at once.

Reply to Government of India telegram (by wire) that arrangements proposed for Ceylon and Malaya are being reported by letter.

H. F. W. G[ILLMAN]—3-4-17.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

I take it that the draft letters have issued. Let me have fair copies with the original papers at once.

Draft telegram is approved. Issue sharp.

E.A.H.—4-4-17.

[Issued as Letter No. 1008-1, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 4th April 1917—VII.]

[Issued as telegram No. 112, dated the 4th April 1917—VIII.]

[Issued as Letter No. 1008-2, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 4th April 1917—IX.]

X

From the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States at Madras, No. 110/17, dated 20th April 1917.

Submitted that no reply has been received from the Colonial Government to this Government's letter No. 1008-1, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 4th April 1917. Pending receipt of this reply the issue of general orders as regards the number of labourers whose emigration to Malaya will be permitted during the calendar year 1917

E.A.H.—25-4-17.

R.R.—25-4-17.

is held over. The Government of the Federated Malay States may perhaps be reminded by telegram. A draft telegram is submitted for approval.

2. The Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States and the Superintendent of the Colonial Government Emigration Depot at Negapatam were authorized in G.O. No. 322, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 30th March 1917, to ship up to a total of 7,000 adult coolies (males and females) in April, pending the issue of general orders. The returns of emigrants shipped during the month which have been received up to date show that 3,419 adult coolies have been shipped to Malaya till now.

3. It is not known whether the Colonial Government's reply will be received in time for the issue of general orders before the end of this month. It is for consideration whether the Emigration Agent at Madras and the Superintendent of the Emigration Depot at Negapatam may be authorized to ship provisionally up to a total of 5,000 adult coolies from the 1st to the 15th May next. The Colonial Government's demand for the whole month of May is 10,000 adult coolies. It may be hoped that the Colonial Government's reply will be received before the 15th May. For orders.

Yes.

R.R.—25-4-17.

T.C.N.—25-4-17.
P.D.R.—25-4-17.

E. A. HARVEY—25-4-17.

[Issued as telegram, No. 145, dated 25th April 1917—XI.]

A draft order is submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—25-4-17.

P.D.R.—25-4-17.

E.A.H.—26-4-17.

[G.O. No. 411, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 26th April 1917—XII.]

XIII

Telegram from the Government of the Federated Malay States, dated 26th April 1917.

The receipt of the reply from the Government of the Federated Malay States said to have been despatched on the 25th may be awaited. Emigration to Malaya has not been restricted so far. On the other hand this Government have permitted the emigration of as many labourers as have been asked for by the Colonial Government.

T.C.N.—27-4-17.

P.D.R.—30-4-17.

E.A.H.—30-4-17.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—30-4-17.

XIV

From the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States, No. E.A. 110/17, dated the 30th April 1917.

Please see Mr. Bathurst's letter. For orders whether he may be informed that the issue of general orders awaits receipt and consideration of the Colonial Government's reply which is said to have been despatched on the 25th April. It may be left to him to decide in the circumstances whether he should or should not take measures to restrict the activities of recruiters. A draft letter is submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—5-5-17.

P.D.R.—2-5-17.

Issue.

In case the Federated Malay States' reply is not received within six days, put up the case again.

E.A.H.—5-5-17.

[Issued as Memorandum No. 1470-1, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 3rd May 1917—XV.]

XVI

From the Government of the Federated Malay States, No. 1465/1917, dated the 24th April 1917.

Please see the reply of the Government of the Federated Malay States. The reasons urged by that Government for holding that 50,000 adult male labourers for the calendar year 1917 will not be sufficient to meet the needs of the Federated Malay States and the Straits Settlements are briefly:—

(1) The area of rubber coming into productive stage is rapidly increasing and will go on increasing monthly.

(2) The shortage of labour is already becoming serious and other sources of labour are not to be found readily. There is a prospect of reduced labour supply from China.

2. It is stated that the figures of emigration for the past six years should not be taken into account in estimating the average requirements of the Colony as there was an interruption in immigration during the years 1914 and 1915. It is submitted that if these two years are left out of account the average number of adult male labourers who emigrated to Malaya during the four years 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1916 works out to only 61,092. The demand made by the Colonial Government would represent about 66,750 males, which number is about 5,700 in excess of the four years' average. The Colonial Government is of the opinion that the figures of the past are not a safe guide to the requirements of the future. It is submitted that in fixing the lowest possible minimum requirements of the future the figures of the past seem to be a sufficiently safe guide. Orders are requested.

T.C.N.—8-5-17.

P.D.R.—8-5-17.

In view of the facts put forward by the Chief Secretary to the Federated Malay States Government* and the national importance of rubber, the request of that Government may, I think, be acceded to. It is not as if the labour conserved in India by these measures is devoted in any special way to war-work; there are no indications that the restriction of the emigration of South Indian labour is likely to entail any tangible benefit to the State.

* Which need not be doubted.

Rubber is necessary for war purposes. The chief labour in the Federated Malay States is in connection with rubber. I venture to think that the requirements may be safely met—82,000 adults. (I see, however, the emigration is dull and this figure may not be reached.)

E. A. HARVEY—8-5-17.

Rubber is necessary for war purposes. The chief labour in the Federated Malay States is in connection with rubber. I venture to think that the requirements may be safely met—82,000 adults. (I see, however, the emigration is dull and this figure may not be reached.)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—8-5-17.

Wire Chief Secretary, Federated Malay States, that statement promised of minimum requirements of Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements is awaited and that pending receipt of number of adult males who will be permitted to emigrate in 1917 is raised from 50,000 to 70,000. Inform Mr. Bathurst.

H. F. W. GILMAN—12-5-17.

A draft telegram is submitted for approval.

2. It is submitted in this connection that the minimum requirements of the Colonial Government are 82,000 adults (both males and females). Mr. Marjoribanks calculated that 81 per cent of these would be males. The Colonial Government's demand would thus represent 66,750 adult males. The number of adult males whose emigration it is now proposed to permit is 70,000. This number would exceed the number required by the Colonial Government by 3,250 adult males. It does not appear that the Government intend to permit the emigration of a larger number of adult males than are required by the Colonial Government. The number of adult males whose emigration is to be permitted has not, therefore, been entered in the draft.

Emigration - Malaya

$$\frac{10}{457}$$

P. DER. -- 12-5-17.

E. A. HARVEY—13-5-17.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO -14-5-17.

[G.O. No. 457, Hone (Miscellaneous), dated 14th May 1917.]

READ AGAIN G.O. No. _____, dated _____ 191
" " " " *mak emigrant labourers during*
" " " " *the calendar year 1917.* 191

C. No. _____, From the _____, No. _____, dated _____ 191

80 411 - 2 π 264 17 191

ORDER

No. 457 dated 14.5. 1917

P.S.

To see
please
24
14/5/17

under the proviso to rule 16-B
of the Defence of India
(Consolidation) Rules, 1915,
the Govt of Madras authorise
the Supd of the Emigration
Dept of the Govt of the F.M.S
stationed at Negapatam and
the Emigration Agent at
Madras for the Straits
Settlements and the F.M.S to
ship emigrant labourers
(unskilled labourers) to Malaya
subject to the following conditions

1) That the total number

15
of adult coolies (males only) of over 18 years of age shipped from the 1st January to the 31st December 1917 does not exceed 70,000 excluding females ^{coolies} and children who shall be permitted to emigrate freely without restrictions.

(2) That a report be submitted to the Govt every week giving particulars of the number of emigrants shipped during the previous week from Negapatam and Madras, through the D. H. of Tanjore, and the Commissioners of Police; Madras, respectively.

The Supot of the F.M.S. ^{depot} at Negapatam and the Emigration Agent for the ~~S. S. and Straits Settlement~~ and the F. M. S. at Madras are also requested to submit to Govt through the D. H. of Tanjore and the Commissioner of Police, Madras, respectively, a list of the total number of ~~adult~~ ^{emigrant labourers} shipped to Malaya

16
11/457
up to date. from the 1st Jan. 1917 up to date. showing
the adult males, adult females
12.5.17. children separately
Pled 12.5.17
14/77

To
The Emigration Agent
for the S. S. & the F. M. S. at
Madras
Supd. of the Emigration depot
of the Govt of the F. M. S. at
Negapatam
Commissioner of Police, Madras
D. H. of Tanjore
I. & of Police

Copy to the Chief Secretary
to the Govt of the F. M. S.,
Kuala Lumpur
(with C.L.)
Copy to the Hon'ble the Colonial
Secretary, Singapore
(with C.L.)

Copy to the Pub. Dept.
Not for E.T.

To come in the first 9 of for read
& order only
to print 7 ^{advisers}

Don't print this

Scott, 11-8 (c) 20,005-18-1-16.

Asr Codified

12/15/17

Chief Secretary, F.M.S.
Kuala Lumpur

Barcosa, Kuala Lumpur.

Please telegraph

Please Telegraph

when may reply be
expected to my letter

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1008 - 1

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4th April

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by this Govt for

giving effect to
restriction of
emigrants to
Malaya

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Malaya

Government of Madras.

[Gillflap]

72

25.4.17.

15.4.17

DEPARTMENT.

Seott. 11-8-1-17.

CURRENT No.

From

Received

191

Registered

Subject.

POSTS

TELEGRAPHS.

NOTICE.

This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

Charges to pay.

Rs.

As.

Office Stamp.

Kualalumpur 26 2 25 X 7 Pgmst

Send in at (Office of Origin).

Date.

Hour.

Minutes.

Service Instructions.

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N.B. - The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, is written after the text.

Lal Chand & Son, Calcutta-141-Reg. 389 Tel.-1-7 16-50,000 Bks.

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Lal Chand & Son, Calcutta-141-Reg. 389 Tel.-1-7 16-50,000 Bks.

Dont 68/17/17

Home dept
(Mis)

14/457 Telegram as codified

To
Chief Secretary, Federated
Malay States,
Kuala Lumpur

Barcoda, Kuala Lumpur.

Your letter 24th April Embedded.

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in support of Gleisur.

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Feb 14.5.17 Dept Ant & Madras.

Griffiths

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INDIAN



TELEGRAPHS.

NOTICE.

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Charges to pay.

Rs.

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Office Stamp.

14 MAY 17

Handed in at (Office of Origin).

Madras 14

Date.

Hour.

Minute.

12 30

Service Instructions.

State

Words.

347

Read here at

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16

M.

TO

Secy to Government
Home department
State House Hill

reference order four hundred
and eleven of twenty sixth
april please send authority
for shipment of emigrants
to malaya steamer leaves
(2)

sixteenth may = Bathurst
emigration
agent =

~~Notes~~

State

Don't print this
1920

Telegram Home Dept
(Hiv)

16/457

Bathurst Eng

Emigration Agent
for Federated Malay
States

Desd
14.5.17

Kaduna

178 Provisional orders authorising shipment
of emigrant labourers
to Malaya up to total
^{seventy thousand}
of 70,000 adult males
during calendar year 1917
issuing. No restriction
^{against}
of emigration of adult
female coolies and children

SSM

Port copy
14/5

74
14.5.17
Rueh
14.5.17

14.5.17

Statements of reasons of all requirements
for all the areas concerned

17
457

My
14/5/17



XVI

178

[Issued as Telegram No 174, d the 14.5.17
9.0.457, Home (Mis), d the 14.5.17]

From the Chief Secretary, F.H.S., No 1465/17
d the 26.4.17.

For the W.O.

with reference to the

last sentence of the Secretary's note
above a draft letter is submitted for
approval. After issue the papers
will be sent to Press to be printed.

My
16/5/17

4/4

15.5.17.

P. del

15.5.17

Don't
print this

(Record set)

Recd at [unclear] 24/5

Government of Madras

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT. 18/457

G.O. No. 457, 14th May 1917

Emigration—Malaya

Authorizing the Superintendent of the Federated Malay States Government Emigration Depot at Negapatam and the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements to ship up to a total of 70,000 adult male emigrant labourers during the calendar year 1917.

READ—the following papers:—

I

G.O. No. 278, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 16th March 1917.

ABSTRACT.—Permitting the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States and Superintendent of the Federated Malay States Government Emigration Depot at Negapatam to ship emigrant labourers until the 31st March 1917.

G.O. No. 322, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 30th March 1917.

ABSTRACT.—Authorizing the emigration to Malaya of adult emigrant labourers up to a total of 7,000 in April subject to certain conditions.

G.O. No. 411, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 26th April 1917.

ABSTRACT.—Authorizing the emigration to Malaya of adult emigrant labourers up to a total of 5,000 from the 1st to the 15th May 1917 subject to certain conditions.

II

Letter—from H. C. BATHURST, Esq., Emigration Agent, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Madras, the 19th March 1917.

No.—E.A. 110.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of G.O. No. 285 of the 18th of March 1917 regarding the total prohibition of indentured emigration to the West Indian Colonies, and the limitation of the emigration of agricultural labourers to the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States to the minimum requirements of those countries, together with a copy of rule 16-B of the Defence of India Consolidation Rules, 1915.

2. It is stated that the Government of the Federated Malay States will be addressed, but as it would appear impossible for a reply to be obtained from that Government before the end of the current month, I would ask that authority be granted to myself and the Superintendent, Straits Emigration Depot, Negapatam, to ship labourers to Malaya unrestricted until arrangements have been made between the Governments of Madras and the Federated Malay States regarding the minimum requirements of Malaya.

3. It would not be possible to detain all intending emigrants at Avadi and Negapatam arriving at those places after the 1st of April pending the settlement of negotiations between the two Governments, if for any reason there should be any delay in arriving at an arrangement, and in order that the heavy expense entailed in sending back to their villages intending emigrants who would not be allowed to proceed might be avoided, I would ask that my request for authority in paragraph 2 above be acceded to.

4. I should be glad of a reply to this letter at the earliest opportunity in order that I may make all the necessary arrangements for temporarily stopping recruiting if the authority requested cannot be granted.

III

Telegram—from the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

To—the Chief Secretary to the Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.

Dated—Fort St. George, the 21st March 1917.

No.—86.

Please telegraph when may reply be expected to my telegram No. 81, dated March 19th, regarding restriction of emigrants to Malay States from 1st April next. Please also telegraph your proposals.

303 bare
16 for 1000
16 for 1000

Plus

Please strike

24/31.5.17



No. 457 HOME (Mis.)

2
IV

Telegram—from the Chief Secretary to the Federated Malay States.

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Kuala Lumpur, the 22nd March 1917.

Your telegram dated 21st March, No. 86. Hope to be able to reply in a few days. Necessary reference being made to Singapore several States and Colony are concerned time shortest make arrangements to meet labour shortage already serious.

V

Telegram—from the Chief Secretary to the Federated Malay States.

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Kuala Lumpur, the 23rd March 1917.

Your letter 19th March. Minimum of Indians required to maintain existing areas and continue output rubber 82,000 adults with assisted passage(s). Ten thousand would be shipped by end of March. For months following it is suggested for your consideration that licences may be granted to Federated Malay States Emigration Agents at Madras, Negapatam. Give free passage to following number of adults April 7,000, May 10,000, June 13,000, July 12,000, August 9,000, September 8,000, October 5,000, November 5,000, December 3,000 always provided that in case of deficiency in any month supply for any subsequent month can be increased proportionately. Minors and children not to be limited.

VI

Telegram—from the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry.

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Simla, the 1st April 1917.

No.—3537-Emi.

My telegram 1239-E.D., dated 13th March. Reference latter part of that telegram please report arrangement proposed. Following telegram received from Secretary of State. Begins—"The Government Straits Settlements who will forbid new scheme involving Indian labour reports at least 82,000 required. Colonial office hope that in view of national importance of Malay States industries this number may be allowed. The question is one for you to decide with regard to military requirements"—ends. If 82,000 permitted to go what balance would be available for military purposes.

VII

Letter—from E. A. HARVEY, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras.

To—the Chief Secretary to High Commissioner, the Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.

Dated—Fort St. George, the 4th April 1917.

No.—1008-1.

I am directed to invite a reference to the correspondence ending with my telegram, dated the 30th March 1917, regarding the restriction of emigration of Indian labour to the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States from the 1st April 1917. The Governor in Council observes that the estimated total number of adult male and female labourers required for Malaya for the whole of 1917, viz., 82,000 coolies, exceeds by about 17,500 the annual average number of labourers who emigrated from the Madras Presidency to the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States during the past six years. Taking into consideration male coolies only with whose emigration this Government is particularly concerned at present the demand now made would represent about 66,750 males, which number is about 14,300 in excess of the six years' average.

2. I am to say that, having regard to these facts, His Excellency in Council is of the opinion that sufficient provision will be made for the needs of the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States if this Government limits the number of male adults (over 18 years of age) whose emigration will be permitted to 50,000 for the twelve months ending December 31st, 1917.

3. I am to express the hope that your Government will be satisfied with this decision. In case any further demands for adult male coolies are considered necessary, I am to request that this Government may be favoured with a full statement of reasons or exceptional circumstances if any in justification of the additional requirements.

No. 457, Home (Mis.).

4. Pending the issue of general orders the Government have authorized the Superintendent of the Federated Malay States Government Emigration Depot at Negapatam, and the Emigration Agent at Madras to ship up to 7,000 adult coolies (males and females) of over 18 years of age in April next, subject to the submission by them of a weekly return to this Government of the number of emigrants shipped during the previous week. A copy of G.O. No. 322, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 30th March 1917, is enclosed.

VIII

Telegram—from the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

To—the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry, Simla.

Dated—the 4th April 1917.

No.—112.

Reference correspondence ending your telegram No. 3537 of 1st instant. Arrangements proposed regarding restriction of emigration to Ceylon and Malaya are being reported by letter.

IX

Letter—from E. A. HARVEY, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

To—the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry.

Dated—the 4th April 1917.

No.—1008.

With reference to your telegram No. 1239-E.D., dated 13th ultimo, concerning the prohibition of the emigration of unskilled Indian labourers, I am directed to report for the information of the Government of India the action taken by this Government.

2. As regards emigration to the distant colonies hitherto conducted under the Indian Emigration Act, 1908, instructions were at once issued to the Colonial Government Emigration Agent and to the Protector of Emigrants and Commissioner of Police, Madras, to give immediate effect to the prohibition.

3. As regards emigration to Ceylon and Malaya, no restrictions were enforced till the 1st April 1917.

4. The Ceylon Government placed the minimum requirements of the Island at 60,000 labourers for one year. It is not practicable however to enforce a restriction as to numbers only in the case of Ceylon as labourers emigrate thither by several channels and for various purposes. His Excellency the Governor in Council has, therefore, decided to enforce the prohibition in the case of all adult males unaccompanied by their families proposing to emigrate for the first time to Ceylon and to grant permits to all other emigrant labourers. Arrangements have been made accordingly. It is estimated that the emigration of about 15,000 adult males will be thereby prevented.

The curtailment of the importation of Ceylon tea into the United Kingdom will also diminish the normal demand for Indian labour in the Island.

5. The minimum requirements of Malaya have been stated by Government of the Colony to be 82,000 adults (males and females) for the whole of 1917. The bulk of the Indian labourers emigrating to Malaya being single adult males, the decision taken in the case of Ceylon could not be applied to Malaya without seriously injuring the production of rubber. On the other hand, 82,000 adult labourers is above the average number of such emigrants during the past six years. His Excellency the Governor in Council has therefore permitted the emigration of 7,000 adult labourers during April 1917 and is prepared to permit the emigration of 50,000 adult male labourers during the whole of 1917, i.e., including the number of adult males who have already emigrated from 1st January to 31st March. The Government of the Colony have been addressed to ascertain if this number will not suffice to meet their minimum requirements.

6. The number of unskilled adult male labourers emigrating under these orders will be watched monthly and further restrictions introduced if necessary. The emigration of adult males to the number permitted by this Government will not have any prejudicial effect on recruiting for the army or for labour corps.

21/457

4

X

Letter—from H. C. BATHURST, Esq., Federated Malay States Civil Service,
Emigration Agent, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States,
Madras.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.
Dated—Madras, the 20th April 1917.
No.—E.A. 110/17.

With reference to G.O. No. 292 of the 20th March 1917, I have the honour to request you to be good enough to inform me as early as possible of the number of adult labourers whom I and the Superintendent, Emigration Depot, Negapatam, will be permitted to ship from Madras and Negapatam to the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States during the month of May, or, the total number that may be shipped from those two ports from the 1st proximo to December 31st, 1917, if any particular number of emigrants has been fixed by arrangement with the Governments of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.

XI

Telegram—from the Secretary to the Government of Madras Home (Miscellaneous) Department.
To—the Chief Secretary, Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.
Dated—the 25th April 1917.
No.—145.

Please telegraph when reply may be expected to this Government's letter 1008-1, dated 4th April 1917, regarding arrangements decided by this Government for giving effect to restriction of emigration to Malaya.

XII

Order—No. 411, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 26th April 1917.
Under the proviso to rule 16-B of the Defence of India (Consolidation) Rules, 1915, the Government of Madras authorize the Superintendent of the Emigration Depot of the Government of the Federated Malay States stationed at Negapatam and the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States to ship emigrant labourers to Malaya from the 1st to the 15th May 1917, subject to the undermentioned conditions:—

- (1) That the total number of adult coolies, i.e., males and females over 18 years of age, shipped during the fifteen days does not exceed 5,000.
- (2) That a report be submitted to the Government every week giving particulars of the number of emigrants shipped during the previous week from Negapatam and Madras respectively.

(True Extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States at Madras.
" Superintendent of the Emigration Depot of the Government of the Federated Malay States at Negapatam.
" Commissioner of Police, Madras.
" Inspector-General of Police
" District Magistrate of Tanjore.
" Copy to the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur (with C.L.)
" Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Singapore (with C.L.)

XIII

Telegram—from the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States.

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Kuala Lumpur, the 26th April 1917.

Reference my letter 24th regarding emigration missent Singapore, reply despatched yesterday. Hope you will suspend restriction of emigration to Malaya pending further consideration. Information contained in reply will show numbers proposed by Government of Madras insufficient.

Letter—from H. C. BATHURST, Esq., Federated Malay States Civil Service, Emigration Agent, Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States, Madras.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—the 30th April 1917.

No.—E.A. 110/17.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of G.O. No. 411, dated the 26th April 1917, authorizing myself and the Superintendent, Emigration Depot, Negapatam, to ship emigrant labourers to Malaya during the period 1st to the 15th of May to a number not exceeding 5,000.

2. A large number of recruiters than usual have arrived in Madras and Negapatam this year to date, and if authority will not be forthcoming to ship all the labourers these recruiters may be expected to bring to the depots at Madras and Negapatam, the earliest possible measures must be taken to restrict their activities in order to avoid congestion in the depots, and expense in sending back labourers in excess to their villages.

I would therefore ask you to be good enough to inform me as early as possible of the number of labourers who may be shipped to Malaya after the 15th of May.

XV

Memorandum No. 1470-1, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 3rd May 1917.

With reference to his letter No. E.A. 110/17, dated the 30th April 1917, the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States is informed that the issue of general orders regarding the number of unskilled labourers whose emigration to Malaya will be permitted during the year 1917 is held over pending receipt and consideration of the reply of the Government of the Federated Malay States on the subject which is said to have been despatched on the 25th April. Orders will be issued as soon as the reply is received.

(By order)

E. A. HARVEY,

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States.

XVI

Letter—from the Chief Secretary, Federated Malay States.

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

Dated—Kuala Lumpur, the 24th April 1917.

No.—1465/1917.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1008/1, dated the 4th April 1917, on the subject of the restriction of Indian labour to the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States and to convey the thanks of the Government for permitting 7,000 emigrants to depart from India in the month of April.

If the decision of His Excellency the Governor of Madras in Council to limit the number of male adults (over 18 years of age) whose emigration will be permitted to 50,000 for the twelve months ending December 31st, 1917, is adhered to, I fear that the situation will be very serious for this country.

I will cause to be prepared a full statement of reasons in support of the claims of the planting community for additional immigrants but in the meantime I venture to submit the following for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council.

2. In estimating the average requirements of this country the Government of Madras has taken the figures of the past six years. In any case these should not be taken as affording an accurate basis of calculation inasmuch as two years, 1914 and 1915, are included in which, owing to exceptional circumstances, there was an interruption in immigration.

But the figures of the past are not a safe guide to the requirements of the future. The area of rubber now coming into the productive stage is rapidly increasing and will go on increasing monthly. The shortage of labour is already becoming serious and other sources of labour are not to be found readily. There is prospect of a reduced labour supply from China.

3. The returns of the exports of cultivated rubber will show at a glance the needs of this country in the way of labour. They are shown in the following table which relates only to the Federated Malay States:—

										TONS.
1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,505
1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,465
1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30,697
1915	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44,523
1916	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62,764

For the three months January to March 1917 the exports have been 20,332 tons. There will probably be a progressive monthly increase provided that labour is sufficient and I anticipate that the total exports for 1917 will exceed 85,000 tons.

4. The above figures are only for the Federated Malay States. I have not the corresponding figures for the Straits Settlements and other Malay States but the position is very much the same there. This progressive increase can only be maintained if there is also an increase in the labour available.

5. I feel justified in putting these facts before the Government of Madras and having done so I can only conclude by saying that this Government fully recognises the fact that emigration from India is being restricted for reasons which this Government cannot and does not wish to question in any way. If having fully considered the question with this further information His Excellency the Governor of Madras in Council decides that the reasons for restricting emigration are sufficiently grave to justify limiting emigration to the Colony of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States as proposed to 50,000 for 1917, this Government will not of course venture to question the decision but it will certainly have a most serious effect upon the principal industry of British Malaya.

XVII

Telegram—from the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

To—the Chief Secretary, Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur.

Dated—the 14th May 1917.

No.—174.

Your letter of 24th April. Statement of reasons in support of claims of planting community for additional emigrants awaited pending receipt of which number of adult males that will be permitted to emigrate to Malaya during 1917 is raised from 50,000 to 70,000.

Order—No. 457, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 14th May 1917.

Under the proviso to rule 16-B of the Defence of India (Consolidation) Rules, 1915, the Government of Madras authorize the Superintendent of the Emigration Depot of the Government of the Federated Malay States stationed at Negapatam and the Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States to ship emigrant labourers (unskilled labourers) to Malaya subject to the following conditions:—

(1) That the total number of adult coolies (males only) of over 18 years of age shipped from the 1st January to the 31st December 1917 does not exceed 70,000 excluding female coolies and children who should be permitted to emigrate freely without restriction.

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457

(2) That a report be submitted to the Government every week giving particulars of the number of emigrants shipped during the previous week from Negapatam and Madras, through the District Magistrate of Tanjore and the Commissioner of Police, Madras, respectively.

2. The Superintendent of the Federated Malay States Government Depot at Negapatam and the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States at Madras are requested to submit to Government through the District Magistrate of Tanjore and the Commissioner of Police, Madras, respectively, a list of the total number of emigrant labourers shipped to Malaya from the 1st January 1917 up to date showing adult males, adult females and children separately.

(True Extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States at Madras.

" Superintendent of Emigration Depot of the Government of the Federated Malay States at Negapatam.

" Commissioner of Police, Madras.

" District Magistrate of Tanjore.

" Inspector-General of Police.

" Copy to the Chief Secretary to the Government of the Federated Malay States, Kuala Lumpur (with C.L.)

" Honourable the Colonial Secretary, Singapore (with C.L.).

" Public Department.

Previous paper

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 457, HOME (MISCELLANEOUS)
DATED 14TH MAY 1917.

90278, Home (M), 21.6.17

90322, " 21.3.17

90411, " 21.4.17

[SUBJECT.—Emigration—Malaya.]

From the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States, No. E.A. 110/17, dated 19th March 1917.

Submitted that the issue of a general authorization of the nature asked for by Mr. Bathurst in paragraph 2 of his letter is opposed to the instructions of the Government of India under which the restriction of emigration to Ceylon and Malay States becomes operative from the commencement of April.

2. The Colonial office has already telegraphed to the Colonial Government suggesting that the requirements of labour should be limited to the lowest possible minimum and enquiring what the minimum is. This Government's telegram on the subject was despatched yesterday. It does not therefore seem to be impracticable to make the necessary arrangements before the end of this month for enforcing the provisions of the rule from the 1st April. The Government of the Federated Malay States will probably wire their suggestions in the matter. Mr. Bathurst is perhaps under the impression that the Government of the Federated Malay States have been addressed by letter. For orders whether Mr. Bathurst may be informed in detail of the action already taken in the matter.

3. A draft letter is submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—20-3-17.

P.D.E.R.—20-3-17.

It is quite probable that Mr. Bathurst's fear that no arrangement in regard to the minimum requirements of Malaya will have been come to by the end of this month, will be realized.

I submit that the orders of the Government of India may be wired for; it might be suggested to them that the permission to allow the departure of labour without restriction might be extended for a reasonable time, say a fortnight or until an agreement has been arrived at with the Federated Malay States and Ceylon Governments, whichever is earlier.

In the meantime Mr. Bathurst may be advised to reduce by degrees his recruiting operations.

E. A. HARVEY—20-3-17.

If we have not already asked the Ceylon and Federated Malay States Governments when we may expect their statements of minimum requirements we had better do so now by telegram and ask for a telegraphic reply.

H. F. W. G[ILLMAN]—21-3-17.

Drafts, please, at once.

E.A.H.—21-3-17.

Two drafts are submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—21-3-17.

P.D.E.R.—21-3-17.

E.A.H.—21-3-17.

[Telegrams Nos. 85-86, dated 21st March 1917.]



10 with 400
9 spare
8 Quares

Plus plus strike of son

27.5.17
10/07

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IV-2
Telegrams from the Government of the Federated Malay States, No. 69, dated the 22nd March 1917, and No. 113, dated the 23rd March 1917.

Please see the replies of the Government of the Federated Malay States at pages 1 and 2, current file. That Government suggest that licences may be granted to their emigration agents stationed at Madras and Negapatam to ship 72,000 adult labourers in all from April to end of December 1917, excluding minors and children.

2. The following statement shows (1) the number of arrivals of immigrant coolies in the Federated Malay States for the years 1911 to 1915 and (2) the number of arrivals of labourers in the whole of the Malay Peninsula for the same years:—

	Total arrivals of emigrant labourers in the Federated Malay States.	Arrivals of recruited labourers in Malaya.		
		Adult males.	Adult females.	Total.
1911	67,403	64,718	13,658	78,376
1912	65,102	60,083	13,610	73,693
1913	76,878	67,957	15,892	83,849
1914	30,534	27,991	6,266	34,247
1915	46,300	42,174	9,104	51,278
Average for a year ..	67,243	..	..	64,288
Proportionate average for nine months.	42,932	..	..	48,216

The number of adult labourers required by the Government of the Federated Malay States for the nine months from April to December 1917, viz., 72,000, is much above the average and it does not appear that this number represents the lowest possible minimum requirements.

3. India's telegram mentions only Ceylon and Malay States to which emigration of labour may be permitted. In the press communiqué, dated the 12th March 1917, India has made it clear that emigration may be permitted to Ceylon and the Federated Malay States. It appears, however, from the telegram of the Government of the Federated Malay States at page 1, current file, that that Government are under the impression that emigration of labour will be permitted to the Straits Settlements also. The position may be made clear to that Government. [No reply has been sent to Mr. Bathurst to his letter at page 1, current file.]

T.C.N.—24-3-17.

P.DEK.—24-3-17.

We may provisionally agree to authorize the shipping of 7,000 in April and by further notification effect a reduction for the year of nine months.

The Government of India may perhaps be consulted.

I presume that the Government of India intend the Straits Settlements to be included under the term Federated Malay States. The point may be verified by telegraphing to that Government.

E. A. HARVEY—24-3-17.

Note of instructions from the Honourable Member.

For the present licence to be given to Straits Government emigration agents to ship up to total of 50,000 adult (over 18) males on understanding that present system of rejections and selection is continued. Straits Government to be asked meantime to substantiate demand for 82,000 adults which is greater than average for past six years (64,436 men and women) and greater also than the emigration of 1913 which was maximum to date. Weekly return to be sent by Straits Government agents to Home (Miscellaneous) Department.

N. E. MARJORIBANKS—26-3-17.

*The correspondence has been with the Chief Secretary, Federated Malay States. It ought to have been with the Colonial Secretary, Singapore.

N.E.M.—26-3-17.

2. The average adult emigration during the past six years has been each year 52,422 men and 12,014 women. The maximum was in 1913 when 67,957 men and 15,892 women emigrated to Malaya. These figures are those in columns 4 (a) and 4 (b) of the statement at page 26 of our report. Some of the third-class passengers entered in columns 6 (a) and 6 (b) are also labourers: the numbers certainly so are given in paragraph 28 of the report, page 33. It is doubtful whether very many more are labourers as there is no reason why an emigrant labourer should pay for the passage when he can get one for nothing by going to the agent.

3. The case for a demand of 82,000 labourers is thus not made out. Ten thousands A have already gone and a licence for 50,000 adult men might be given, this to include the total number of adult male emigrants in 1917: and the Straits Government asked to explain the large demand made. If they make out a good case, a supplementary licence can always be issued. Paragraph 10 of the report, page 27, shows that the supply of labour is not very short.

N. E. MARJORIBANKS—26-3-17.

Arrangement at A may be approved. It was formulated at a conference yesterday between Mr. Marjoribanks, Mr. Bathurst and myself.

Malaya is very differently circumstanced from Ceylon. Movement of labourers to and from Malaya is much more fluid than the movement to and from Ceylon owing to greater freedom of contract and immunity of the labourer from debt on landing in the colony. The majority of the labourers that go over to Malaya are single males and we cannot very well prevent their emigration owing to the fact that the principal article of export is rubber, the supply of which must be maintained for war purposes.

H. F. W. GILLMAN—29-3-17.

I understand that the proposal at A is to allow 50,000 coolies (inclusive of the 10,000 who have gone already) to proceed to Singapore and the Federated Malay States within the calendar year 1917. This is against an average of 52,000 and seems liberal. Women and children would be extra.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—27-3-17.

P[ENTLAND]—27-3-17.

Draft telegram please.

E. A. HARVEY—28-3-17.

A draft telegram to the Government of the Federated Malay States is submitted for approval.

2. It appears from the latter portion of India's telegram No. 1239-E.D., dated the 13th March 1917, that a further communication may be expected from the Government of India on the subject of the arrangements to be adopted from the 1st April next in respect of emigration of labour to Ceylon and the Federated Malay States. In any case before orders issue authorising the Emigration Agents of the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States stationed at Madras and Negapatam to ship 50,000 emigrant labourers until the end of December 1917 (inclusive of those shipped in March 1917) it appears desirable to report to India the decision already arrived at by this Government in the matter. If this is agreed to, a draft letter to India will be submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—29-3-17.

P.D.R.—29-3-17.

A draft telegram to India may be prepared at once.

E. A. HARVEY—29-3-17.

Draft telegram to India submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—29-3-17.

P.D.R.—29-3-17.

Note 457 Mis.

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Draft telegrams to India and Federated Malay States may be approved.

E.A.H.—29-3-17.

There is no need to ask India for approval of what we have done. I can see nothing in their telegram of 13th instant indicating that they will send us a further communication about the arrangements to be made after 1st April. On the contrary, they distinctly ask us to arrange.

We have done so, and we may telegraph India the arrangements we have made both for Ceylon and Malaya. Telegrams should come to me for approval.

There is no need whatever to send a long telegram to Federated Malay States. We may tell them that we have sanctioned 7,000 adults for April and are writing them our views on their total demand and the arrangements we propose. Arrangements after end of April can be settled by letter.

H. F. W. G[ILLMAN]—29-3-17.

Issue this telegram to Federated Malay States:—

103. Under Defence of India Consolidation Rules Government of Madras have authorised the Superintendent of the Emigration Depot at Negapatam and the Federated Malay States Emigration Agent at Madras to ship adult coolies not exceeding 7,000 in April. Letter follows.

E.A.H.—30-3-17.

Now draft telegram to India and letter to Federal Government.

E.A.H.—30-3-17.

A draft telegram to India and a draft letter to the Government of the Federated Malay States are submitted for approval.

T.O.N.—30-3-17.

P.DER.—30-3-17.

The drafts are submitted for approval.

E. A. HARVEY—31-3-17.

My instruction to send a telegram to India is cancelled. They may be told by letter about the action we have taken. Mr. Marjoribanks may be asked to draft the letter.

The draft as now revised may issue. A copy of the correspondence should go to the Colonial Secretary, Singapore, with whom, as Mr. Marjoribanks says, we ought to have corresponded in the first instance.

H. F. W. G[ILLMAN]—31-3-17.

Mr. Marjoribanks u.o.

E.A.H.—1-4-17.

The average of 64,436 adult emigrants during the past six years comprised 52,422 men and 12,014 women, i.e., out of 100 emigrants there were 81 men and 19 women (81.4 and 18.6 to be more exact). At this rate the number of men in 82,000 emigrants would be 66,748 which is 66,748 — 52,422 or 14,326. I have altered the figures in the draft accordingly which presumably has now to issue and a copy (with covering letter) to the Colonial Secretary, Singapore.

2. A draft letter to the Government of India is also put up as directed by the Honourable Member. I would suggest that this should go separately as it deals with Ceylon and distant Colonies as well as Malaya.

N. E. MARJORIBANKS—1-4-17.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

Telegram from the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry,
No. 3537, dated the 1st April 1917.

The draft letters to the Federated Malay States (Straits Settlements) Government and to the * Government of India, respectively, are ready for issue. The

* Drafted by Mr. Marjoribanks.

Honourable Member has not seen the latter.

Note 457 Mis.

5

In view however of the telegram from India (page 2, current file), it is for orders whether the steps taken and the arrangements proposed may now *after all be wired to India*. Perhaps the arrangement proposed for Malaya may be kept pending, until a further communication from India is received, and the draft letter held over.

We are asked to report, if 82,000 coolies are permitted to leave, what balance will be available for military purposes. This department is quite unable to say, as there is no information. It may be available in Public (War). Will that department kindly note what is known and circulate the case very urgently to the Honourable Member?

E. A. HARVEY—2-4-17.

PUBLIC (WAR) DEPARTMENT.

The question put to this department is what balance of labour would be available for military purposes if permission is accorded to the emigration of 82,000 adult coolies during the calendar year 1917 from the Madras Presidency to the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements. It is submitted that no definite information is available in this department as to the total military requirements of

Please see paragraphs 4, 6 and 10 of Army Department letter 3342, dated 9th March 1917.

labour; so far as the recruitment of labour for work in Europe is concerned, the Madras Government have to contribute only one corps of about 2,000 labourers,

and even this one corps has to be raised only later on when further orders in the matter are received by the Government of India from the Secretary of State and communicated to this Government. Perhaps the General Officer Commanding, 9th (Secunderabad) Division, may be consulted in Home (Miscellaneous) Department in regard to the exact immediate requirements in the matter of labour, if further information is considered necessary.

C.P.K.—2-4-17.

J. P. BEDFORD—2-4-17.

The drafts to Federated Malay States and to Government of India should issue at once.

Reply to Government of India telegram (by wire) that arrangements proposed for Ceylon and Malaya are being reported by letter.

H. F. W. GILLMAN—3-4-17.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

I take it that the draft letters have issued. Let me have fair copies with the original papers at once.

Draft telegram is approved. Issue sharp.

E. A. HARVEY—4-4-17.

[Issued as Letter No. 1008-1, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 4th April 1917.]

[Issued as telegram No. 112, dated the 4th April 1917.]

[Issued as Letter No. 1008-2, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 4th April 1917.]

From the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States at Madras, No. 110/17, dated 20th April 1917.

Submitted that no reply has been received from the Colonial Government to this Government's letter No. 1008-1, Home (Miscellaneous), dated the 4th April 1917. Pending receipt of this reply the issue of general orders as regards the number of labourers whose emigration to Malaya will be permitted during the calendar year 1917 is held over. The Government of the Federated Malay States may perhaps be reminded by telegram. A draft telegram is submitted for approval.

E.A.H.—25-4-17.

R.R.—25-4-17.

2. The Emigration Agent at Madras for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States and the Superintendent of the Colonial Government Emigration Depot at Negapatam were authorized in G.O. No. 322, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 30th March 1917, to ship up to a total of 7,000 adult coolies (males and females) in April, pending the issue of general orders. The returns of emigrants shipped during the month which have been received up to date show that 3,419 adult coolies have been shipped to Malaya till now.

3. It is not known whether the Colonial Government's reply will be received in time for the issue of general orders before the end of this month. It is for consideration whether the Emigration Agent at Madras and the Superintendent of the Emigration Depot at Negapatam may be authorized to ship provisionally up to a total of 5,000 adult coolies from the 1st to the 15th May next. The Colonial Government's demand for the whole month of May is 10,000 adult coolies. It may be hoped that the Colonial Government's reply will be received before the 15th May. For orders.

Yes.

R.R.—25-4-17.

The Colonial Government's demand for the whole month of May is 10,000 adult coolies. It may be hoped that the Colonial Government's reply will be received before the 15th May. For orders.

T.C.N.—25-4-17.

P.DER.—25-4-17.

E. A. HARVEY—25-4-17.

[Issued as telegram, No. 145, dated 25th April 1917—X]

A draft order is submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—25-4-17.

P.DER.—25-4-17.

E.A.H.—26-4-17.

[G.O. No. 411, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 26th April 1917—XII]

Telegram from the Government of the Federated Malay States, dated 26th April 1917.

The receipt of the reply from the Government of the Federated Malay States said to have been despatched on the 25th may be awaited. Emigration to Malaya has not been restricted so far. On the other hand this Government have permitted the emigration of as many labourers as have been asked for by the Colonial Government.

T.C.N.—27-4-17.

P.DER.—30-4-17.

E.A.H.—30-4-17.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—30-4-17.

31/4/17
XIII XIV

From the Emigration Agent for the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States, No. E.A. 110/17, dated the 30th April 1917.

Please see Mr. Bathurst's letter at page 9, ~~current file~~. For orders whether he may be informed that the issue of general orders awaits receipt and consideration of the Colonial Government's reply which is said to have been despatched on the 25th April. It may be left to him to decide in the circumstances whether he should or should not take measures to restrict the activities of recruiters. A draft letter is submitted for approval.

T.C.N.—5-5-17.

P.D.E.R.—2-5-17.

Issue.

In case the Federated Malay States' reply is not received within six days, put up the case again.

E. A. HARVEY—5-5-17.

[Issued as Memorandum No. 1470-1, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 3rd May 1917—~~XIV~~.]

XVI

From the Government of the Federated Malay States, No. 1465/1917, dated the 24th April 1917.

Please see the reply of the Government of the Federated Malay States at page 11-13 ~~current file~~. The reasons urged by that Government for holding that 50,000 adult male labourers for the calendar year 1917 will not be sufficient to meet the needs of the Federated Malay States and the Straits Settlements are briefly:—

(1) The area of rubber coming into productive stage is rapidly increasing and will go on increasing monthly.

(2) The shortage of labour is already becoming serious and other sources of labour are not to be found readily. There is a prospect of reduced labour supply from China.

2. It is stated that the figures of emigration for the past six years should not be taken into account in estimating the average requirements of the Colony as there was an interruption in immigration during the years 1914 and 1915. It is submitted that if these two years are left out of account the average number of adult male labourers who emigrated to Malaya during the four years 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1916 works out to only 61,092. The demand made by the Colonial Government would represent about 66,750 males, which number is about 5,700 in excess of the four years' average. The Colonial Government is of the opinion that the figures of the past are not a safe guide to the requirements of the future. It is submitted that in fixing the lowest possible minimum requirements of the future the figures of the past seem to be a sufficiently safe guide. Orders are requested.

T.C.N.—8-5-17.

P.D.E.R.—8-5-17.

In view of the facts put forward by the Chief Secretary to the Federated Malay States Government* and the national importance of rubber, the request of that

* Which need not be doubted. Government may, I think, be acceded to. It is not as if the labour conserved in India by these measures is devoted in any special way to war-work; there are no indications that the restriction of the emigration of South Indian labour is likely to entail any tangible benefit to the State.

E. A. HARVEY—8-5-17.

32/5
Rubber is necessary for war purposes. The chief labour in the Federated Malay States is in connection with rubber. I venture to think that the requirements may be safely met—82,000 adults. (I see, however, the emigration is dull and this figure may not be reached.)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—3-5-17.

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Wire Chief Secretary, Federated Malay States, that statement promised of minimum requirements of Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements is awaited and that pending receipt number of adult males who will be permitted to emigrate in 1917 is raised from 50,000 to 70,000. Inform Mr. Bathurst.

H. F. W. GILLMAN—12-5-17.

A draft telegram is submitted for approval.

2. It is submitted in this connection that the minimum requirements of the Colonial Government are 82,000 adults (both males and females). Mr. Marjoribanks calculated that 81 per cent of these would be males. The Colonial Government's demand would thus represent 66,750 adult males. The number of adult males whose emigration it is now proposed to permit is 70,000. This number would exceed the number required by the Colonial Government by 3,250 adult males. It does not appear that the Government intend to permit the emigration of a larger number of adult males than are required by the Colonial Government. The number of adult males whose emigration is to be permitted has not, therefore, been entered in the draft.

3. No general orders regarding the number of adult males whose emigration will be permitted have yet been issued. It is for consideration whether the general orders should now issue or should await the receipt of the statements of reasons in support of the claims of planting community for additional emigrants, promised by the Colonial Government. If however the orders may issue at once a draft is submitted for consideration. With a view to facilitating check of the number of labourers (adult males) that emigrate it appears desirable to ask the Superintendent of the Federated Malay States Depot at Negapatam and the Emigration Agent for the Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements to furnish complete statistics of emigrants (adult males) that have been shipped to Malaya from the 1st January 1917 up to now. It is for consideration whether it is not desirable that these statistics are furnished to Government through the local officers concerned (the District Magistrate, Tanjore, and the Commissioner of Police, Madras). Weekly returns of emigrants may also be submitted as hitherto. It is desirable that these returns also are submitted through the local officers. Orders are requested.

T.C.N.—12-5-17.

P.D.R.—12-5-17.

For orders. It would perhaps be better to agree provisionally to the Colonial Government's original demands pending receipt of statement of minimum requirements.

E. A. HARVEY—13-5-17.

The Honourable Member's orders are clear. He wants pending further consideration permission to issue for 70,000 adult males to emigrate. When the further report comes in, the matter will be reconsidered.

Reading the notes, I see women and children are extra.

8/ I am not sure it is right to argue from the average percentage that 70,000 adult males necessarily represent more than the number of males involved; nor is it clear that the requirements assessed at 82,000 refers to both female and male adults. These points may be settled when the fuller reply comes in.

Please issue the two drafts first and follow with a letter calling for the statements of reasons and full requirements for all the areas concerned.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—14-5-17.

Space
[Telegram No. 174, dated the 14th May 1917.]
[G.O. No. 457, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 14th May 1917.] XVII

ORDINARY.

PRESS SLIP.

PREFERENCE.

Very URGENT (a).

Seott. II-38-2-15.

Home

DEPARTMENT.

Current No., dated..... 191 ..

G.O. No. 457, dated 14 5 1917.

Number of MS. pages sent {

(b) Correspondence 19

(b¹) Notes 16

Brief subject *Emigration - Malaya*

(c) Number of copies required when struck off (not including copies for volumes and editors' table which are retained in the Press).

E. T. copies to supply requisitions for purchase by the public.

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(b) Each letter, memorandum, or order, or set of orders, in the file of correspondence should be headed in succession with the Roman numeral I, II, III, etc., the number being written in red ink or blue chalk above the item. The particular papers to be printed in the special issue-copies should be indicated by the Roman numeral (I, II, etc.) by which that item has been headed in the correspondence file. All matter, including marginal remarks or references, to be printed should be written in ink and matter which should not be printed should be encircled. Initials and signatures that are not quite legible should be re-written distinctly.

(b¹) For rules regarding printing of notes, see rule 315 of the office Manual.

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[P.T.O.]

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