

Home (1917) Department.
Miscellaneous

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 626

DATED 22.6.17

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Spelling of personal names.-

Directing that in official publications and
correspondence the name of Mr. C.V. Narasiah, Barrister-at-Law,
Coimbatore, be spelt "Narasiah."

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No. _____

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

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

Papers of other departments.

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



364 To The Chief Secretary
to the Government of Madras.
Ootacamund

Regd: 24-5-17. I have the honour to draw your attention to a matter which may be considered unimportant, but which to me is very serious. I have noticed of late years that in communications from the Government and in the gazette notifications, my name is being spelt as "Narasayya". I did not at once take action in this matter because such communications, and notifications concerning me, are rare, and I thought it may be due to inadvertence and would not happen again. But I find that this is being systematically done, the last instance being the gazette notification appointing me Lay Trustee of all Souls Church, Coimbatore, wherein my name is again spelt as ^{the} "Narasayya". The Bishop's Chaplain states that when my name was sent up to Government it was spelt as "Narasiah", and that the alteration in the spelling must have been made after his papers left his office. I therefore presume that the spelling was altered to "Narasayya" in the Government offices, and that somebody there is anxious that my name should be spelt, as he thinks it ought to be spelt, and not as I want to spell and have spelt. It seems to be overlooked that I am a Christian, and that my children have been baptized and confirmed as "Narasiah's", and that to spell my name in a different way in official communications may lead to complications. I shall therefore be grateful, if orders are issued, that in future, in official matters, my name is to be spelt as "Narasiah". I have to apologize for troubling you about a matter like this, and pray to be excused; but I feel very strongly about it and would like that this should not happen hereafter. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant, C. V. Narasiah

Coimbatore
22nd May 1917

From C. V. Narasiah Esq.
Barrister at Law
Coimbatore

For 9 Ed
25-17

908?

C-364.

Mr. J. V. Narasayya
From Mr. J. V. Narasayya, 22-5-17
in the G.O. of Mr. Narasayya
is not prepared to adopt the
Govt spelling in Public Dept.
that Govt should adopt (Eel)
of spelling

Mr. Narasayya's complaint
is that "in communications from
the Govt and in the Gazette
notifications his name is
being spelt as Narasayya" and
not 'Narasiah' as he himself spells
it.

The immediate cause
which made him address Govt
is that in the notification ^{re-}appointing
him lay trustee of All Souls Church
his name was spelt as "Narasayya".
The name was ^{so} spelt ~~intentionally~~ ^{advisedly}
firstly because it is ~~spelt~~ ^{in the same way}
~~in the same way~~ in the Quarterly civil list
and, secondly, ^{because it is the form given} in the list of
Indian personal names transliterated

in G.O. 659 Pub. d. 26-5-1913, ~~the~~
~~correct form of the name~~
~~entering in the above is spelt~~

~~"Narasayya"~~ Attention is invited
to para 6 of G.O. 659 Pub. d. 26-5-13,
directing that in all official
publications

G.O. R. 980 (C)
2-5-17

in the preceding
volume
Vide pp 20 et seq of
the G.O. M

in the preceding
volume

and correspondence Indian names should be spell as in the G.O. If Mr. Narasayya is not prepared to adopt the Govt. spelling, it does not follow that Govt. should adopt his way of spelling.

It may also be observed that Sir P.S. Sivaswami Ayyar was spelling ^{Ayyar} as "Aiyer", but in all official publications, the form "Ayyar" is used. Similarly the Hon. Mr. Rajagopal Acharian writes his name as Rajagopala. Submitted that

Mr. Narasayya's letter may be forwarded to Home (Mis) for remarks. Mr. Narasayya's complaint is not confined to Govt. notifications but to all communications from Govt.

25.5.17

I quite agree.
Please inform
him accordingly
25.5.17

be right surely it
can be Mr. Narasayya's wish
a Brown is entitled to
call himself Brown if he
wishes. It is not for Govt.
to lay down how a man
should spell his name.

28.5.17

158.

5

A draft order is submitted
It may go to Home (Mis.) for
acceptance. It will be observed
that Mr. Narasiah's complaint is
that all communications from
Govt. his name is mis-spelt. A
copy of the order may, therefore,
be sent to all depts. of the
Secretariat

2. The order should, perhaps,
issue in Home (Mis.)

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2.6.17

2.6.17

2.6.17

Aug
5/6
Pouuo: 94-1
2.6.17

Mis C
1920

Regd 567

1467

Home (Mis) 10

Home (mis) Dept

Home Dept
(Kis)

For the Regt

The proposal of Pub
(^{Encl} Political) to spell the name of
'Navasa Syga' in official publications
according to the wishes of the petitioner
is quite contrary to the principles
followed by Govt in the matter.
Attention is invited to the following
papers which set out the need
for a uniform method of
treatment in the spelling of
Indian personal names in official
publications :-

- 1) Paras 1, 4 & 6 of the Secretary
of State's despatch, No 35
& Public & (Records) & the 5.12.02
in G.O. No 44 Pub & the
16.1.1904.
- 2) Paragraph 3 of India's
letter Nos 1450-57, & the
5.7.04 at page 2 of
G.O. 282 Pub & the 12.4.05
- 3) Paras ~~2000~~ ^{2,3 & 7} of the G.O. &
Home (Dept) Resolution
No 3842/3874 & the 30.11.05
at pages 2 & 4 of G.O. 976 Pub

Press volume.
for January 1904
put up.
Page 74 & 75.

F

S

to the 19.12.05.

* 4) Para 6 of G.O. 659 Pub.

to the 26.5.13.

It will be seen that the Secretary of State & the Govt laid stress on the importance of adopting a uniform method of spelling of Indian personal names in official publications and that this Govt agreed with the suggestions in the

Para 4 & 5 of S. despatch at p 757 Volume for January (put up)

matter. It was stated by the Secretary of State that if an example of systematic spelling be given by the Govt publications it might be anticipated it would be followed at any rate by servants of Govt.

2 The arguments advanced by Pub (Political) for agreeing to the request of Mr. Narasa are more or less those put forward by the Hon Mr. H. H. Winterbottom in his note to the 8.10.03 at page 3 of no. 16.1.04. It will be seen that the views expressed there were not accepted by the Govt.

Proc volume (put up)

3 The question of a uniform mode of spelling of personal names was under consideration for more than 9 years and the published as annexures to G.O. 659 of

M

90 808 V
15.10.09

The 26.5.13 are the result of the deliberations of a committee appointed for the purpose in the year 1909. The correct vernacular form of Indian personal names was adopted as far as possible.

4 Submitted that if the request of Mr Navara Deyya is now acceded to, it ~~will~~^{may} open the door to similar requests from persons who are as conservative as the petitioners in spelling ~~their~~ names and the result will be the recurrence of the old anomalies to which the Secretary of State took exception in 1902.

Secretary of State's despatch
in
90 44 Pub
16.1.04
(Proc volume)

5 In the circumstances it is for consideration whether a Pub ^{Real} (Political) may be requested w.o to inform the petitioners that the Govt see no reason to accede to his request.

7/4

18.6.17.
18.6.17.
18.6.17.

Attention is particularly invited to para. 7 of the Resol. of the Govt. of India on page 4 of G.O. 976 Public of 19.12.

in which was anticipated individual attempts to retain the particular form of spelling and which also indicated more or less the attitude that should be taken in such cases, viz. ~~at~~ stern adherence to the accepted system of spelling in all official publications until people see their way to adopt it. It is on this principle the Govt. are systematically declining to accede to the ^{persistent request} ~~desires~~ of some of the artisan class to alter the suffix to their names from 'Achari' to 'Achari'.

Mr. Narasayya is at liberty to adopt any form of spelling he likes, but the official notifications should conform to the authorized spelling as in the case of other Indian names.

Q
19.6.17
L

M/ This is an entirely different matter; it deals with a generic name (almost a common noun in grammar),

Mr. C. V. Narasiah is a Christian. In the case of some

at Kanchi turned
Xian
W.P.

Christian families, they do not adopt surnames & every child gets a X'tian name, which is all its name. A few Christian families however wish to adopt surnames after the fashion of Europeans. Mr. Narasiah is one of them. It was open to him to select any name, even an unmeaning collection of letters. Suppose he had adopted the name "Coim". It would be absurd on our part to criticize his spelling of Coim. "Narasiah" is not the transliterated equivalent of his name but a surname deliberately adopted.

I think the draft put up in the Publ Dept may be accepted ~~as is~~

Wm 20/6/17

H. M.

Wm 21/6/17

Wm 22/6/17

Wm 22/6/17



Issue

Wm 22/6/17

It is his original name

Wm

Box 3
Circ 21.6.17
Wd 22.6.17

Spelling of personal names

(Eclt) 11
Home (Mis)

Directing that in official publications and correspondence the name of Mr C. V.

READ AGAIN G.O. No., dated 191
" " " " Navasiah, Barrister-at-Law, Coimbatore
be spelt as 'Navasiah'.

READ ALSO:-

● No. 361, From the C.V. Navasiah, No., dated 22-5-1917.

By Barrister-at-Law, Coimbatore
" " " " Requesting that his name 191
may be spelt as Navasiah
" " " " in official correspondence 191

ORDER.

No. 626, dated 22.6.1917.

His

In official publications & correspondence the name of Mr C.V. Navasiah, Barrister-at-Law, Coimbatore, will be spelt 'Navasiah' as requested by him

1/6/17

26/7

C.V. Navasiah Esq
Barrister-at-Law
Coimbatore.

The Rt Rev the Bishop
The Home (Mis) Dept

Copy left the Sect

When given for copying

When copied

When examined

When signed

191

25/6

READ AGAIN G.O. No.
191

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.

B = Not to be copied.

P = Copy abstract only.

Q = Copy heading only.