Scott. II-48—22,303—17-1-18.

Home (1918) Department.

(Mis)

(Secy) SERIES.

G.O. No. 755

DATED 9-11-18

13. 9111 00

[Despatch Abstract.]

Passports:

Informing the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur S. Arunachalam Mudaliar Avl. that the Govt. are advised that --- are freely issued to all persons travelling to the Far East on grounds of legitimate livelihood.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Sectt. 17-47—1-17.

A. / B. / N.P. } (a) **DEPARTMENT.** ORDINARY ROUTINE SERIES.

CIRCULATED. / NOT CIRCULATED. / NOT SEEN BY C.S.

† G.O. No. 755, dated 9-11 191 .

Receipt numbers ..

Number and date of previous proceedings.

Tabling Abstract.

Passports

Informing the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur S.R.M. Annamalai Chettiar that the Govt. are advised that — are freely issued to all persons travelling outside India on grounds of legitimate livelihood

(b) **Index Headings.**

MAIN HEADING Passports

CROSS REFERENCES. ~~The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur S.R.M. Annamalai Chettiar~~

SPECIAL INDEX.

DO NOT SPECIAL INDEX.

(a) and (b) not to be filled in for 'Routine' Series.

Kanadukathan.

5th September, 1918.

7-SEP.1918 MADRAS GOVT.

CURRENT No. 2738

From,

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur,

S.R.M. Annamalai Chettiar,

Kanadukathan.

To,

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras,

"Stone House Hill"

Ootacamund.

REGISTRAR HOME DEPARTMENT 14 SEP-1918 UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS

Sir,

I have the honour to address you on what I consider to be an important matter affecting the trade facilities for the members of the Nattukottai Chetty Community carrying on business for a very long time in Penang, Singapore, Malacca, Kuala Lumpur and other places in the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States and Saigon, Camboja and other places in French Cochin China.

2. I enclose herewith copies of two endorsements (R.O.C. No. 1378 P. dated 22nd July 1918, and R.O.C. No. 1379 dated 26th July 1918) granted by the District Magistrate of Ramnad to two persons who applied to him for passports for proceeding to Saigon for purposes of trade as I understand from enquiries made locally. Of the two applicants one is R.M.S. Lakshmanan Chetty of Karaikudi and the other is Ramaswamy Ambalam of Iluppakudi Mathur, both situated in the Ramnad District. In reply to the application of the former, the District Magistrate of Ramnad says that as he is not satisfied that the applicant has a cogent necessity to emigrate, his application will not be forwarded to Government; and in the case of the latter applicant, the District Magistrate merely says "Refused" without assigning any reason for his refusal.

3. The summary manner in which the District Magistrate has chosen to refuse the requests of the abovenamed two bona fide applicants for passports to Saigon, naturally suggests only one of the two conclusions, - either the District Magistrate has not taken the trouble of making the necessary enquiries regarding the

bona fides of the applicants or that he is not disposed to grant such requests apparently in the view that the granting of passports generally would send out of the country male adults who may be recruited to augment the Indian Defence Force. In any case, the negative result of such applications has caused great discontent in the Chettynad where people have commenced to view with much apprehension and grave concern the attitude of the District Magistrate of Ramnad who is obviously ignorant of the difficulties and losses to which the members of my Community are subject.

4. The Nattukottai Chetties are well known as an out and out trading community. They do not belong to the martial races of South India. Their trade abroad necessitates, according to their immemorial custom, a change every three years in the personnel of their agents who are mostly Nattukottai Chet-ties and their oversea staff consisting of both members of my community and other Sudras who do not belong to the martial races. This system of a triennial change of agents and staff, and the necessity to send over substitutes for such members of their oversea staff who are recalled or obliged to return to this country owing to illness and domestic affairs, surely constrain the principals to send across other men to continue their business operations abroad. There are also not a few members of my community who go across themselves for carrying on their business, taking with them clerks and cooks from this country. In all these cases, the refusal of passports would certainly cause great hardship and loss to us, while the detention in the country of men of non-martial South Indian races would not help recruitment to the army, which is still on the voluntary basis in India.

5. The refusal of passports by the District Magistrate may also be in the view that owing to want of steamer accomodation, the number of passengers should be reduced as much as possible. I do not think that there is much of shipping difficulty. If passports are granted freely to intending passengers, they would embark whenever they could get their

passages from the Agents of the Shipping companies. To refuse passports to bona fide applicants on the supposition that there may be transport difficulties is not sound or fair proceedure.

6. In the above circumstances, it has become my duty in the business interests of my community to represent these facts for the prompt and sympathetic consideration of Government and I request His Excellency-in-Council to be graciously pleased to issue the necessary instructions to the Collector and District Magistrate of Ramnad and to all other District Magistrates in this Presidency, that when applications for passports are made to them by the Nattukottai Chetties either on their own behalf or on behalf of the staff engaged by them to be sent over to places outside British India for business purposes, the District Magistrate should invariably grant them, unless they satisfy themselves by competent medical opinion that the applicants are physically unfit for voyage or are suffering from any contagious disease, and thereby remove the panic that has been caused in my Community by the present official attitude in this direction.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Enclosure

4

6

Copy of the two endorsements

1. Majesterial Department,

Office of the District Magistrate of

Ramnad.

Camp Madura.

To,

Ramaswami,

Son of Palaniappan Ambalam,

Iluppakudi Mathur.

MEMORANDUM

R.O.C. No. 1378 P. dated 22nd July 1918.

Reference -- His application dated 9-7-18 for a passport to go to Saigon.

REFUSED

(Signed)

For District Magistrate.

2. Revenue Department,

Office of the District Magistrate of Ramnad.

Camp Madura.

To,

R.M.S Lakshmanan Chetty,

Son of Chockalingam Chetty,

Karaikudi.

MEMORANDUM

R.O.C. No. 1379 P. of 18 dated 26th July 1918-

Reference-- His application dated 9-7-18. for a passport to go to Saigon.

The application will not be forwarded to Government as the District Magistrate is not satisfied that applicant has a cogent necessity to emigrate.

(Signed)

For District Magistrate

DIRECTOR'S BASUET
27 SEP 1918
DELHI.

Home (Misc) Deptt

Endt No 2556-19/18 9.18

Referred to the D. M., Rawalpindi, for remarks.

H.D.R. 12.9.18

2. In cases similar to those referred to and cited in para 4, Govt have decided to issue passports as the applicants proceed for legitimate livelihood which may be held to constitute cogent private reasons.

W 17/9/18

3. The D.C. has acted in accordance with the instructions given him in reply to a reference to us. I don't think it is quite fair to allow representations against his judgment to be made by L.C. members. The power has been delegated to the D.Cs. & it is to be presumed that he will exercise a proper discretion. May we not tell the Hon. member that we are not prepared to interfere with the D.C.'s decisions? Govt's

To The D.M. Rawalpindi with applcn. in original to be returned with reply)

Reminder to issue on 18.10.18

put up this (A)
Endt. 1965-1
16-7-18

This will lead to unnecessary agitation, especially as we have issued passports ourselves in such cases

W 17/9/18

3—16.

C.F.—29.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

REGISTRY HOME DEPARTMENT
12 OCT 1918
GOVT OF MADRAS

Received ..... 191 . Registered 191 8

Subject.

Reporting on the grant of passports to certain classes of persons.

ENCLOSURES.
No. one petition of Hon. Rao Bahadur Annamalai Chettiar to Government —
Spare copies —
5. 9. 18

D.Dis. No. 1010 Magl. of 18.

Station Madura, Dated the 7th October 1918

From (Name) A.F.G. Moscardi Esquire, I.C.S.,

(Designation) District Magistrate of Ramnad.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Home (Miscellaneous). Department.

Sir,

In reply to Government Endorsement No.2556-1, dated 18th September 1918, I have the honour to report that until the receipt of G.O.No.431 Home Misc., dated 9th May 1918, I issued passports freely to all applicants except unskilled labourers. After that Government Order, I restricted the issue of passports to people who had some cogent private necessity for the journey. Since the receipt of Government Memorandum No.1980-2, dated 30th August 1918, I have begun again to issue passports freely to all who apply except unskilled labourers and persons

-who-

who cannot prove that they have any business abroad.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

DESPATCHED
10 OCT 1918

Dt. Magistrate.

ss.8-10.

Sept. II—8 (a)—160,004—16-1-17.

NOTES.

Home (Misc) Dept.

Passports

(C1 No 2558) From Mr Annamalai Chettiar dt 5.9.18

U.S's remarks

Endt. 1965-1 (A)
16.9.18.

The District Magistrate was acting in accordance with the instructions given him in reply to a reference to us. I don't think it is quite fair to allow representations against his judgment to be made by Legve Council members. The power has been delegated to the D.M. and it is presumed that he will exercise a proper discretion. May we not tell the Honble member we are not prepared to interfere with the D.M's decisions?

H.B.
17.9.18

Extracts for remarks as pars 5 C.F.

This will lead to unnecessary agitation, especially as we have issued passports ourselves in such cases.

R.R.R.

(Endt. 2556-1 dt 18.9.18)

(Civil. 2878) From the D.M. Ramnad dt 7.10.18.

The D.M. explains that after the reissue of G.O. 431 dt 9.5.18, he restricted the issue of passports to people who had some cogent private necessity for the journey, but that since

B the receipt of Memo. 1980-2 & 30.8.18 he has begun again to issue passports freely to all who apply except unskilled labourers and persons who cannot prove that they have any business abroad. It will appear that this procedure ~~is~~ is in general accord with the principle laid down in para 2 (ii) of Foreign Deptt. Memo

D & 22.5.18. on page 3 of G.O. 4928 & 7-6-18, according to which passports may be given to all persons travelling on grounds of legitimate livelihood. The two cases pointed out by the Hon'ble Mr. Annamalai Chettiar in para 2 of his letter are cases which arose and were disposed of in July 1918, i.e. previous to Memo. 1980-2

(B) & 30.8.18. Then the D.M. was apparently not ~~then~~ ~~possible~~ acting on the principle that grounds of legitimate livelihood could be considered to be of sufficient cogent private necessity. To a certain extent, the D.M. might also have been guided by the instructions

A in Endt. No 1965-1 & 16.7.18. However, as he has now adopted the proper procedure, it may be expected that there will be no ground for further complaints.

No special instructions to the D. M. Rammad or to the other D. M. S, as requested in para 6 of the petition on page 5 C.F. would therefore seem necessary.

For orders whether Mr. Annamalai Chettiar may be informed that Govt. are advised that passports are issued in all cases of persons travelling abroad on grounds of legitimate livelihood; and that they hope there will be no more complaints in future.

Draft order is submd. The case may be sent to C. S. for perusal before issue, as it is understood that the C. S. has a confidential paper bearing on the subject.

MDR 23.10.18

Recd 25.10.18

Laflerwards to Leg

S. [illegible]

30/10/18

Home (Min) 2556-2 30.4.18

Chief Secretary (Mr)

The confidential file has been separately disposed of by His Excellency.

As the D.M. was obeying orders I would suggest that the draft should be amended so as to remove any suggestion that he was in the wrong. Cf. the Hon'ble Mr

13

12

Annamalai Chettiar is informed that under the latest orders governing the question passports are freely issued to persons travelling to the Far East on genuine & legitimate business.

1.11.18

4-NOV-1918

Home Dept no.

Home (Misc) Dept

For orders whether the draft ~~as revised~~ may be amended as suggested by the C.S, and issued.

MDR
5.11.18

5.11.

Amend the draft as suggested in pencil. Then to S.

May come as amended. Then to Leg

6/11/18

H.M.

For orders whether the draft may issue. The H.M. requires the file at the Legve. Council Meeting in connection with the Resolution on the subject.

MDR
9.11.18

-8-NOV-1918
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

vide linked file

(Issued G.O. 7558 8.11.18)

Sectt. II—10 (a)—7-2-16.

Passports

14

~~Home~~ (Misc.) DEPARTMENT.

13

Informing the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur S. R. M. Annamalai Chettiar that the Govt are advised that ____ are freely issued to all persons travelling outside India on grounds of legitimate livelihood.

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

" " " " ....., " ..... 191 .

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 2557, From the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur S. R. M. Annamalai Chettiar, No. ....., dated 5. 8. 191 8.

" " ....., " " ....., " ....., " ..... 191 .

" " ....., " " ....., " ....., " ..... 191 .

ORDER.

No. 755, dated 5—11 191 8

Mis

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur S. R. M. Annamalai Chettiar is informed that ~~the Govt are advised that~~ under the latest orders governing the question passports are freely issued to all persons travelling to the ~~outside India~~ far East on grounds of legitimate livelihood. ~~They therefore trust that there will be no occasion for any complaint in future.~~

MDR
23.10.18

Read
28.10.18

Read 15.8.18
11.11.18.

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur S. R. M. Annamalai Chettiar Avl. (Exo, copy to Dh. Rajnee) with reference to his letter No 1070 dated 27.10.18

When given for copying 29/1/18
When copied 29
When examined
When signed
} 191

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

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
LETTER OF GOVERNMENT							
STATEMENT WITH DITTO.							
PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.							

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