Sectt. II-48—22,303—17-1-18.

Home (1918) Department.

Miscellaneous

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 837

DATED 2. 12. 18

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council question.

Recording papers relating to a question asked by the Honourable Rao Bahadur S. R. M. Annamalai Chettiyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th November 1918 and the answer given thereto on the subject of passports.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

L. C. Q. 1 .8

L. & M. (iv) 8—1.000—1-2-18.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

Passport 2

UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
-9 NOV 1918

Rev (Spl) U.O. No. 200. II
11-11-18

QUESTION.—No. 135 for the meeting of the Legislative Council to be held on ~~the~~ 25 . 11 . 1918.

SUBMITTED that two copies of this Question may be forwarded to the Rev (Spl) and Home (Judl) Department~~s~~ with reference to Nos. (1) and (4) of the rules regulating Secretariat procedure in dealing with these Questions in the Legislative Council. Orders regarding admission will be communicated in due course.

L.A.C.
9.11.18

Leg U.O. No. 2402-L dated 9-11-18

To

The Rev (Spl) Department with Q. 135

Rev. (Special) Dept.

Home (mis) 3274
11-11-18.

US.

Rev (Spl) U.O. No. (U.O.) 200-II-16-1
11-11-18

The question is one for considera
in ~~the~~ Home (mis). Submitted
it may be transferred U.O. to th
Dept.

Home (misc)
U.O.

11.11.18

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11.11.18

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al and Municipal (Legislative) Department.

en'ble Mr.Rao Bahadur S.R.M. Annamalai Chettiyar.

Revenue (Special) Department.

Home (Judicial) Department.

Q. 135. (a) Will the Government be pleased to make a statement regarding their object in introducing the passport system and the policy pursued by them in the matter of issuing passports to enable persons engaged in oversea trade to go over themselves or send their agents and clerks engaged in this Province for carrying on their trade in Penang, Singapore and other places in the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States and in French Cochin China?

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state wether they have issued any definite instructions to Collectors and District Magistrates to be carried out by them in disposing of the applications made to them for passports for voyaging to the above places for trade purposes?

(c) If the answer to (b) is in the affirmative will the Government be pleased to lay a copy of such instructions on the table of this House?

(d) Will the Government be pleased to issue the necessary instructions to the District Magistrates to grant freely all bona-fide applications for such passports except i[illegible] cases persons ~~persons~~ who are certified by the District Medical and Sanitary officers to be unfit for undertaking the voyage on account of ill-health or disease?

Home (Misc) Dept.

The four points raised by the addl. member in his Question on pages 2 & 3 ante are examined below:.

31 / 5.18 U

(a) As pointed out by the Govt. of India in para 1 of their Foreign Dept. Memo. 507 G of 1-5-18, the object of the passport system is to restrict journeyings both for unnecessary and undesirable objects. The System was made compulsory by the Defence of India (Passport) Rules, 1917, issued* in pursuance of section 2 of the Defence of India (Criminal Law Amendment) Act, 1915, under which the Gov. Genl. in Council is authorised to make rules for the purpose of securing the public safety and the defence of British India. The policy pursued by Govt. in the matter of issuing passports to persons engaged in overseas trade is based on the general principle not to interfere unnecessarily with legitimate livelihood, unless there are special

G.O.* 493 Pub (11) / 26.4.17

p 3 of Legn. & Orders relating to War. (put up) reasons to the contrary. Please see para 2(ii)

H. of Foreign Dept. memo. on p3 of G.O. 492 d 7-6-18

(b) The general instructions governing the issue of passports, contained in G.O. Nos.

U 431 d 9-5-18
Z 438 d 17-5-18 and
H 492 d 7-6-18

have been communicated to all Collectors & D.Ms for guidance. The instructions ~~are~~ contain the general principles to be observed in disposing of applications, and no supplementary instructions seem necessary. The D.M. Ramnad has reported that he is issuing passports freely to all who apply except unskilled labourers and persons who cannot prove that they have any business abroad. The report was called for from him on receipt of a memorial from the addl. member, alleging that the D.M. is placing obstacles in the way of Nattukottai chetties going abroad in connection with their business, by not freely issuing them passports. In reply to this memorial, the addl. member has been informed that ~~k~~ under the latest orders governing the question, passports are freely issued to all persons travelling to the Far East on grounds of legitimate livelihood.

(c) It is for orders whether a copy

of each of the above three G.Os may be placed on the Council table. The G.Os. have not been placed on E.T.

(d) No ~~separate~~ additional instructions to the D.M.s seem called for.

The addl. member has ~~moved~~ given notice of a Resolution also to be moved at the forthcoming meeting. A copy of the notes on the Resolution is put up.

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2. The following draft answer is for approval:-

(a) The main object of the passport system is to restrict journeyings both for unnecessary and undesirable objects., ~~with a view to securing the public safety and the defence of British India~~.

The policy pursued in the matter of issuing passports to persons engaged in overseas trade is based on the general principle not to interfere unnecessarily with legitimate livelihood, unless there are special reasons to the contrary.

(b)

(b) Instructions have been issued to all Collectors & D.Ms, regarding ~~containing~~ the principles to be observed in disposing of applications for passports.

(d) Govt. do not consider any such additional instructions called for.

The reply to clause (c) is for orders.

MDR
13.11.18

(c) The Govt. do not consider it necessary to publish these instructions

Rack.
13.11.18

Mry
13/11/18

HM

I have made the answer rather more general — intentionally see below for revised draft

L.D.
14.11.18

Desp to Leg
14.11.18

3
18/4

Ty to Legis

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT MADRAS HOME DEPARTMENT
14 NOV 1918

8/ Answer

Draft

The passport system, which is based on the orders of the Govt. of India and the ~~[illegible]~~ expressed wishes of the Home Govt., has for its main ~~object~~ purpose the "restriction of journeyings both for un-"necessary and undesirable objects. ~~and~~ ~~instructions have from time to time~~ ~~been issued.~~ Instructions have ~~from time~~ ~~to time~~ from time to time been issued to Collectors in accordance with the ~~[illegible]~~ rules originally laid down by the Govt. of India in this matter and modifications therein ~~as directed~~ subsequently directed ~~subsequently from time to time~~. According to the latest orders, which have been duly communicated to Collectors, the principle governing the issue of passports to persons engaged in oversea trade is to avoid unnecessary interference with legitimate livelihood. Passports are now freely issued to all persons who have *bonâ fide* reasons of business for journeys to the countries mentioned in the question & the Govt. believe there is no longer any legitimate ground for grievance.

14. 11. 18

SECRETARIAT TO GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
14 NOV 1918
HOME DEPARTMENT

(a)—160,004—16-1-17.

NOTES.

Page 9

138 Q.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to make a statement regarding their object in introducing the passport system and the policy pursued by them in the matter of issuing passports to enable persons engaged in oversea trade to go over themselves or send their agents and clerks engaged in this Province for carrying on their trade in Penang, Singapore and other places in the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States and in French Cochin China?

Issue of passports to persons engaged in oversea trade.

(b) Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have issued any definite instructions to Collectors and District Magistrates to be carried out by them in disposing of the applications made to them for passports for voyaging to the above places for trade purposes?

(c) If the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to lay a copy of such instructions on the table of this House?

(d) Will the Government be pleased to issue the necessary instructions to the District Magistrates to grant freely all bona fide applications for such passports except in the cases of persons who are certified by the District Medical and Sanitary Officers to be unfit for undertaking the voyage on account of ill-health or disease?

138 A.—The passport system, which is based on the orders of the Government of India and the expressed wishes of the Home Government, has for its main purpose the 'restriction of journeyings, both for unnecessary and undesirable objects.' Instructions have from time to time been issued to Collectors in accordance with the rules originally laid down by the Government of India in this matter and modifications therein subsequently directed. According to the latest orders, which have been duly communicated to Collectors, the principle governing the issue of passports to persons engaged in oversea trade is to avoid unnecessary interference with legitimate livelihood. Passports are now freely issued to all persons who have bona fide reasons of business for journeys to the countries mentioned in the question and the Government believe there is no longer any legitimate ground for grievance.

The answer given is identical with that proposed by the H.M. It has had no alteration in the Executive Council. There was no supplementary question on this. May be recorded.

Order 837 / Mis d/ 2-12-18

Recorded.

Cir. / 28/11/18

Pdd 29.11.18

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191

READ AGA G.O. No. 191 , DATED

RRENT No.

LOSURES TO C. No.

OVERNMENT .. .. .. A A A A A A A

R OF GOVERNMENT

ATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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