

Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (MISCELLANEOUS)

G.O. No. 854, 3rd December 1918

Holiday

Stating that Monday the 23rd December 1918 will be a general — for all public offices at the Presidency town and in the mufassal in view of the cessation of hostilities.

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NUMBER OF COPIES { Letter.
Order.

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READ — the following paper :—

Petition—from M.R. Ry. P. M. SIVAGNANA MUDALIYAR and other practitioners of the Madras City Civil Court and the Court of Small Causes.

To—the Chief Secretary to Government.

Dated—the 19th November 1918.

We, the practitioners in the Madras City Civil Court and the Presidency Small Cause Courts, venture to represent that the Christmas holidays in the High Court are from 23rd December (Monday) to 3rd January (Friday) (inclusive) so that though the offices re-open on 4th January (Saturday) the Judges sit only on 6th January; thus the Judges do not sit for sixteen days while in the Madras City Civil Court and the Presidency Small Cause Courts the holidays are from 24th December (Tuesday) to 2nd January (Thursday) thus necessitating the sitting of the Judges on 23rd December and 3rd January; hence the Judges do not sit for ten days, i.e., the holidays are for ten days only.

In consideration of the fact that the ensuing Christmas holidays will be enjoyed with greater joy and enthusiasm than ever before, we venture to suggest that 23rd December and 3rd January may also be included as holidays as is being done in the High Court so that we may not be deprived of the benefit of sixteen days holidays which we have in the High Court.

We request therefore that the Government will be pleased to sanction 23rd December and 3rd January as holidays for the Madras City Civil Court and the Presidency Small Cause Courts.

Order—No. 854, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 3rd December 1918.

In view of the cessation of hostilities, the Governor in Council hereby notifies that in addition to the public holidays already notified as such for the ensuing Christmas, Monday the 23rd December 1918 will be a general holiday for all public offices at the Presidency town and in the mufassal with the exception of (1) the Sea Customs office, (2) the Reserve Treasury and Paper Currency office and (3) the General Stamp office (which will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

(True extract)

L. D. SWAMIKANNU,
Acting Secretary to Government.

To all heads of departments under Home Department including Collectors and District Judges.
" the Departments of the Secretariat.
" the Hon'ble the Chief Justice (with C.L.).
" the Superintendent, Government Press, for publication in the gazette.

2

3

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 854, HOME (MISCELLANEOUS),
DATED 3RD DECEMBER 1918

[SUBJECT.—*Additional holidays during the Christmas 1918.*]

Memorial from the vakils of the Small Cause Court and the City Civil Court.

HOME (JUDICIAL) DEPARTMENT.

The vakils of the Madras Small Cause Court and the City Civil Court request that the 23rd December 1918 and 3rd January 1919 may be declared also as holidays for Christmas. It may be noted that these two courts were closed for twelve days during the year on account of the prevalence of influenza (G.Os. Nos. 2360, Home (Judicial), dated 22nd October 1918 and No. 2385, Home (Judicial), dated 25th October 1918). It is submitted for consideration and orders whether any additional holidays should be granted to the courts on account of the Christmas. The courts' work is likely to fall into arrears.

2. A cutting from the *Mail*, dated 22nd November 1918, regarding the extension of Christmas holidays is put up as directed by the Under Secretary. This is a general question and should be considered in Home (Miscellaneous) Department. If, as a result of this extension, the Christmas holidays are extended generally for all offices, submitted that the Small Cause Courts and City Civil Courts may then have the benefit of the concession.

B.R.—26-11-18.

P.S.R.—26-11-18.

This case may be taken over by the Miscellaneous section as it raises the general question of the Christmas holidays, which may perhaps be taken up now.

2. There seems to be a general feeling that the cessation of hostilities should be made an occasion for an extension of the period of the Christmas holidays sufficient to give all concerned a real rest and change. The petition in the current file is an instance of this, and there have been numerous letters and suggestions in the news papers. In the press these have taken two main forms :—

In 1902, the Christmas holidays were extended by one week in view of the Coronation of King Edward VII at Delhi—vide G.O. No. 1181-A, dated 11th November 1902.

Notes copy not put up. The extension was probably an all-India business.

L.D.—26-11-18.

I. The extension of the Christmas holidays by one week—i.e., the holidays to cover the period 24th December to 9th January inclusive or a total of 17 days.

II. That put forward by the *Madras Mail's* correspondent in the cutting which, if suggestion I is considered extravagant, may receive consideration. The calendar runs :—

G.O. 1221, Home (Miscellaneous), 3rd December 1917.	Friday 20th	December.	
	Saturday 21st	"	Penultimate Saturday—mufassal holiday.
	Sunday 22nd	"	Holiday.
	Monday 23rd	"	Working day.
	Tuesday 24th	"	} Xmas holidays.
	1st January		
	Thursday 2nd	"	

The suggestion is that the 23rd should be added to the Xmas holidays thus allowing advantage to be taken of the 21st and 22nd and making the holidays practically extend from 21st December 1918 to 2nd January 1919 inclusive or a total of 13 days. To unify the holidays all over the Presidency, the 21st may be declared a holiday for offices in Madras, granting them for once the penultimate Saturday instead of the last, which is swallowed up in the Xmas holidays. In the case of Madras offices it is further to be urged (and this applies

specially to the Secretariat) that owing to the Legislative Council and Executive Council meetings the majority of clerks and their superiors got no benefit of the declared holidays on 13th and 16th instant at all.

3. I do not know how far Government will be prepared to consider the question of adopting either of the above suggestions or any other scheme for extending the Xmas holidays, but as there seems to be a widespread idea that something should be done I venture to submit this note. A number of people have asked me about it just lately, and it is clear that if any extension is to be given the announcement should be made betimes.

C. H. BROWN—26-11-18.

Home (Miscellaneous) will please note on the question.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU—26-11-18.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

The restrictions imposed by the Government of India on the powers of the Local Governments to grant as many holidays as they desired, statutory or otherwise, were withdrawn by their letter No. 3225, dated 23rd August 1909, printed in G.O. No. 691, Public, dated 11th September 1909, and in view of this order, this Government are now free to fix as many holidays as they like whether notified under the Negotiable Instruments Act or by executive authority—letter No. 5232, dated 16th September 1901, in G.O. No. 924, Public, 16th September 1902. The only points for consideration in the proposed extension of Christmas holidays are the probable dislocation of work in public offices and the likelihood of an invidious distinction being made between public offices and mercantile firms unless the proposed holidays are to be notified under the Act.

2. The suggestions at B on page 1 ante adequately meet the case of the public offices in the mufassal and Madras. But they would not meet the prayer of the practitioners of the City Civil Court and the Presidency Small Cause Court for the grant of a holiday on the 3rd January also.

Of the Christmas holidays (24th to 2nd) the marginally-noted holidays are the only days on which the mercantile firms will have holidays, as these days alone are the holidays either declared as such by the Act, or notified by the Government under the Act—page 3 of G.O. No. 1221, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 3rd December 1917. If any holidays are proposed to be notified

Wednesday 25th Christmas day.	
Thursday 26th	
Friday 27th	
Saturday 28th	
Tuesday 31st	
Wednesday 1st January 1919, New Year's day.	

under the Act so as to benefit the mercantile public, the Chamber of Commerce may be asked to suggest suitable days for such notification, as will not dislocate their business transactions.

A.V.S.—28-11-18.

P.D.R.—29-11-18.

The occasion is unique. There is nothing to prevent the grant of additional holidays if the Government so desire. If these holidays are granted, the Chamber of Commerce may be asked to state whether they would recommend that some additional days during Christmas week should be declared holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act on this special occasion.

Attention is invited to the statement printed on page 2 of G.O. No. 774, Public, dated 4th July 1914, which compares the number of holidays enjoyed in each province in 1914. It will be seen therefrom that even including the holidays sanctioned in that Order Madras has the shortest list

* It is not known whether Bombay has since increased its Christmas or other holidays.

next to Bombay*.

The Reforms Committees have postponed their date of visit to Madras from the 3rd to 13th of January.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—29-11-18.

Under Secretary's suggestions at B on page 1 are submitted for orders. But presumably the Government of India will initiate any special action.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU—2-12-18.

The old time Christmas holidays in Madras usually covered a period of 15 days including three Sundays so far as I remember. Whether my recollection is accurate or not as to the day of commencement (Sunday), that is the arrangement I should be disposed to advocate on this occasion.

2. According to this scheme the Christmas holidays would for effective purposes

begin on—

Sunday 22nd December

and end on—

Sunday 5th January.

3. As to declaring additional holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act, we must consult the Chamber of Commerce, Madras (and any other body whom it is customary to consult on such points). The banks and shops cannot remain closed for a fortnight on end.

4. We are not bound to await the initiative of the Government of India or to follow their example blindly; but in order to avoid undesirable divergence I would telegraph the inquiry whether they propose to suggest or do any thing on the matter either of holidays for Government servants or of holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

5. Urgent work must go on and I am afraid we should have plenty of it.

6. I suggest that the question be mentioned in Council tomorrow.

L. D. [AVIDSON]—2-12-18.

Order in Council.

That in view of the cessation of hostilities the 23rd December be added to the Christmas holidays for Government offices.

P[ENTLAND]—3-12-18.

L.D.S.—3-12-18.

A draft order is submitted for approval.

A.V.S.—3-12-18.

P.D.R.—3-12-18.

C.R.—3-12-18.

L.D.S.—4-12-18.

[G.O. No. 854, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 3rd December 1918.]

Read

Friday

DEPARTMENT

Stating that Monday the 23rd inst
Dec. 1918 will be a general holiday for all
public offices at the Post⁺ town and in the
—unusually in view of the cessation of hostilities

” ” ” ” ” 191

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Perthshire & Orkney

" " " " T. Day Court " 191

" " , " " , "

191

No. 854, dated 3 . 12 . 1918

P.S.

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Please compare
 page 29 p. 124.
 3.12.17 (I)

To
All heads of Depts. under Home Dept
including Collrs. & Dt. Judges.
The Depts. of the Sectt.
,, Hon'ble C.J. with C.I.
,, S.G.P. for publication in the
gazette. *Gazetted on 3.12*

~~copy to Mr Simpson~~

W. H. R. T.

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 3.12.28

Ca
3.12.44

LWS
3.12.18

Read

To



Home dept.
21-11-18
21-11-18

The Chief Secretary to Government,

MADRAS.

Home (misc) 3418
22-11-18

Sir,

We the practitioners in the Madras City Civil Court and the Presidency Small Cause Courts venture to represent that the Christmas holidays in the High Court are from 23rd December (Monday) to 3rd January (Friday) (inclusive) so that though the offices re-open on 4th January (Saturday) the judges sit only on 6th January; thus the judges do not sit for 16 days while in the Madras City Civil Court and the Presidency Small Cause Courts the holidays are from 24th December (Tuesday) to 2nd January (Thursday) thus necessitating the sitting of the judges on 23rd December and 3rd January; hence the judges do not sit for 10 days only. *the holidays are for 10 days only.*

In consideration of the fact that the ensuing Christmas holidays will be enjoyed with greater joy and enthusiasm than ever before we venture to suggest that 23rd December and 3rd January may also be included as holidays as is being done in the High Court so that we may not be deprived of the benefit of 16 days holidays which we have in the High Court.

We request therefore that the Government will be pleased to sanction 23rd December and 3rd January as holidays for the Madras City Civil Court and the Presidency Small Cause Courts.

We have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servants.

Home Judd
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23-11-18

21-11-18
22-11-18

20-11-18

Shivaprasanna
Shallabhinanarayana
Saraswathi, etc.

Bank and am
H. Swaminatha Rao

Viswanathan

I. Chakrapani

E. S. Nageswara

T. Ananthakrishna Rao

P. Venkatesan

S. Pannaswami

H. Rama Rao

P. Sankaranarayana

V. V. Sivanathan

M. S. Srinivasan

A. Dhanu

P. Ramachandran

A. Raja Babu

A. S. Srinivasan

M. S. Srinivasan

K. V. Srinivasan

R. S. Srinivasan

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Angamalai Aiyangar

T. Srinivasan

S. Ramachandra Aiyar

M. S. Srinivasan

C. Srinivasan

P. Chinnaiyandi

C. Srinivasan

S. Srinivasan

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of November 1871
 at New York
 Wm. L. Garrison
 Wm. L. Garrison

dated 7/2/

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L.D.S.—4-12-18.

[G.O. No. 854, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 3rd December 1918.]

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H. S. DEPART

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Brief subject..... Holidays

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† Copies distributed on ‡(Press Despatcher).

‡ To be initialled and dated.

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12/12/18

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