

Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (MISCELLANEOUS)

G.O. No. 1176, 9th July 1920

Census

The recording of Sunni and Shiah sects ordered.

INDEXED

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ORIGINAL.

Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (MISCELLANEOUS)

G.O. No. 1176, 9th July 1920

Census

The recording of Sunni and Shiah sects ordered.

READ—the following papers :—

I

Letter—from M.R. Ry. Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO Avargal, Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.
To—the Census Commissioner for India.
Dated—the 10th June 1920.
No.—2789-1.

I am directed to invite attention to the enclosed extract from press telegram, G.P. Z. K., Bombay No. 75, dated the 19th May 1920, and to enquire whether any steps are being taken to distinguish Sunnis and Shiahs in the forthcoming census.

In paragraph 8 of your notes on your visit to Madras in January last, you wrote "it was thought that detailed statistics of religious sects need not be taken out, except as usual in the case of Christians." I am however to observe that the necessity to discriminate between Sunnis and Shiahs has become important in view of the recent Khilafat agitation.

II

Letter—from J. T. MARTEN, Esq., I.C.S., Census Commissioner for India.
To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Miscellaneous) Department.
Dated—Simla, the 23rd June 1920.
No.—406.

With reference to your letter No. 2789-1, dated the 10th June 1920, I have the honour to refer you to paragraph 4 of the Government of India, Department of Education Resolution No. 48, dated the 14th June 1920, which lays down that the question of distinguishing between the Muhammadan divisions of Sunni and Shiah is left to the discretion of Local Governments.

Order—No. 1176, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 9th July 1920.

The Government consider it desirable to distinguish between the Muhammadan divisions of Sunni and Shiah at the forthcoming census. The Superintendent of Census Operations, Madras, is accordingly directed to make the necessary arrangements.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent, Census Operations, Madras.
Copy to the Census Commissioner for India (with C.L.).
Publicity Officer.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 1176, HOME (MISCELLANEOUS),
DATED 9TH JULY 1920

[SUBJECT.—*Census—Sunni and Shiah sects.*]

PRESS TELEGRAM DATED LONDON, THE 17TH MAY 1920.

A London, May 17th. In Commons to-day Yate drew attention to resolution of All-India Shiah Conference on April 3rd. He asked proportion of Shiahs to whole Moslem population of India. Montagu replying regretted that Indian census did not distinguish between Sunnis and Shiahs.

Please see A in the telegram. We had better ask the Census Commissioner whether any steps are being taken to distinguish Sunnis and Shiahs in this census.

C. G. T[ODHUNTER]—19-5-20.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

A draft letter to the Census Commissioner is submitted. It may issue after perusal by the Superintendent; Census Operations, Madras.

A.R.—24-5-20.

W. S. BROWN—26-5-20.

OFFICE OF THE CENSUS SUPERINTENDENT.

Please see G.O. No. 1624, Revenue, dated 17th May 1910. In spite of a special request by the Shiahs for the separate tabulation of their sect, the Madras Government in paragraph 3 of their order decided to record sects only in the case of Christians. See also paragraph 4 of the Government of India's resolution on page 3 of the Government Order, in which the question was left to Local Governments to settle.

In his notes on his visit to Madras in January last, the Census Commissioner has mentioned the matter; in paragraph 8 he writes, "it was thought that detailed statistics of religious sects need not be taken out, except as usual in the case of Christians." And the specimen schedules which I have received from the Commissioner make no provision for the recording of sect except for Christians.

I conclude that it is for the Local Government to decide whether sects should be recorded or not; and from the Census Commissioner's note it appears that he discussed the question in Madras last January, when it was agreed that this inquiry was unnecessary.

G. T. BOAG—28-5-20.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

In the circumstances explained in the Census Superintendent's note above it does not seem necessary to address the Census Commissioner on the subject. It is for orders whether the papers may be 'recorded' after perusal by Honourable Member (Census).

A.R.—3-6-20. S.A.—5-6-20.

W.S.B.—7-6-20.

O, no. The necessity to discriminate between Sunnis and Shiahs has become paramount only recently in view of the Khalifat agitation.

Home (miscellaneous) Department

G.O. No. 1176, 9th July 1920

Census

The recording of Sunni and Shiah sects ordered.

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Dated—the 10th June 1920.

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

Dated—Simla, the 23rd June 1920.

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The Government consider it desirable to distinguish between the Muhammadan divisions of Sunni and Shiah at the forthcoming census. The Superintendent of Census Operations, Madras, is accordingly directed to make the necessary arrangements.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent, Census Operations, Madras.
Copy to the Census Commissioner for India (with C.L.).
" Publicity Officer.

Home Misc Dept

For the Supdt

Proof of G.O. submitted for

Approval.

15.9.20

17.8.20

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.
NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 1176, HOME (MISCELLANEOUS),
DATED 9TH JULY 1920

[SUBJECT.]

PRESS TELEGRAM DATED LONDON, THE 17TH MAY 1920.

London May 17th. In Commons to-day Yate drew attention to resolution of All India Shiah Conference on April 3rd. He asked proportion of Shiabs to whole Moslem population of India. Montagu replying regretted that Indian census did not distinguish between Sunnis and Shiabs.

Please see A in the telegram. We had better ask the Census Commissioner whether any steps are being taken to distinguish Sunnis and Shiabs in this census.

C. G. T[ODHUNTER]—19-5-20.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

A draft letter to the Census Commissioner is submitted. It may issue after perusal by the Superintendent, Census Operations, Madras.

A.R.—24-5-20.

Census Superintendent u.o.

W. S. BROWN—26-5-20.

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I conclude that it is for the Local Government to decide whether sects should be recorded or not; and from the Census Commissioner's note it appears that he discussed the question in Madras last January, when it was agreed that this inquiry was unnecessary.

G. T. BOAG—28-5-20.

HOME (MISCELLANEOUS) DEPARTMENT.

In the circumstances explained in the Census Superintendent's note above it does not seem necessary to address the Census Commissioner on the subject. It is for orders whether the papers may be 'recorded' after perusal by Honourable Member (Census).

A.R.—3-6-20. S.A.—5-6-20.

W.S.B.—7-6-20.

O, no. The necessity to discriminate between Sunnis and Shiabs has become aramount only recently in view of the Khalifat agitation.

For the Superintendent

Proof of notes submitted for

approval.

CAR.
21.9.20

22/9/20

G.O. No. 1176, 9th July 1920

The following is the substance of the notes submitted to the Census Commissioner for his consideration.

Read the following report:—

Letter from Mr. E. R. Dixon, Secretary to the Census Commissioner, dated 10th June 1920, to the Government, Home (Miscellaneous) Department, dated 10th June 1920.

I am directed to draw attention to the enclosed extract from the Census Commissioner's report, dated 10th June 1920, and to inform you that the Census Commissioner has been asked to distinguish between Sunnis and Shiabs in the forthcoming census. It was thought that detailed statistics of religious sects need not be taken out, except as usual in the case of Christians. I am however to observe that the necessity to discriminate between Sunnis and Shiabs has become important in view of the recent Khalifat agitation.

Letter from Mr. E. R. Dixon, Secretary to the Census Commissioner, dated 10th June 1920, to the Government, Home (Miscellaneous) Department, dated 10th June 1920.

With reference to your letter No. 2133-1, dated 10th June 1920, I have the honour to refer you to paragraph 4 of the Government of India's resolution on page 3 of the Government Order, in which the question was left to Local Governments to settle.

Order No. 1176, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 9th July 1920. The Government have decided to record sects only in the case of Christians. The Superintendent of Census Operations, Madras, is accordingly directed to make the necessary arrangements.

(The extract)

In Madras, 10th June 1920.

Secretary to Government

To the Secretary, Home (Miscellaneous) Department, Government of India, Delhi.

For the Superintendent

Proof of notes submitted for approval.

21.9.20

21.9.20

21.9.20

21.9.20

2 NOTES TO G.O. No. 1176, HOME (MISCELLANEOUS), 29TH JULY 1920
I would address the Census Commissioner.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—8-6-20.
A draft letter to the Census Commissioner is submitted for approval.
S.A.—9-6-20.

Issue.

W. S. BROWN—10-6-20.
[Letter to the Census Commissioner for India, No. 2789-1, Home (Miscellaneous),
dated 10th June 1920.]

From the Census Commissioner for India, No. 406, dated 23rd June 1920.

If the Government decide that special attention should be given in the forthcoming census to distinguish between the Sunni and Shiah sects, the draft order submitted below may issue. The Government of India seem to be in favour of the proposal—paragraph 4 of Resolution No. 48, Home (Education) (Census), dated 14th June 1920.

A.R.—5-7-20. S.A.—6-7-20.

W.S.B.—7-7-20.

R.R.—8-7-20.

We should certainly distinguish. It is very stupid of the Government of India to leave a matter like this to Local Governments. The practice ought to be uniform.

C. G. T[ODHUNTER]—8-7-20.
[G.O. No. 1176, Home (Miscellaneous), dated 9th July 1920.]

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not attending to the

of the

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DEPARTMENT.

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Number of MS. pages sent

(b) Correspondence..... 2 + 1 (draft)

(b¹) Notes..... 5

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