

Political (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 32

DATED 16th Jan 1895

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

INDIAN ARMS ACT, 1878.

Communicating to the Political officers, for information and guidance, Proceedings, Judicial Department, approving of the suggestions of the Government of India regarding the grant of licenses to go armed on a journey in Form IX: of the forms proscribed by the rules issued under the --.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	102		95				
	143		95				
	1416		95				

33
Govt. of {1895} Madras.
JUDICIAL.

CS.
1/10/95

order dt 16 Jan 1895 N^o 32

Communicated to
the Political officers for
information and guidance

Issued

Recd.

12/1/95

Encl.

G.O., 2nd January 1895, No. 4.

CS.
14.1.95

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JANUARY.

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to the Pol officers.

M.S.

Indian Arms Act, 1878.

Approving the suggestions of the Government of India regarding the grant of licenses to go armed on a journey in Form IX of the forms prescribed by the rules issued under the —, and communicating the above to all officers concerned.

W.O.

W.O.

2ND JANUARY 1895, No. 4, JUDICIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From L. M. THORNTON, Esq., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Public), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Calcutta, the 28th November 1894, No. 24-Pub.—1938.

Some instances have recently been brought to the notice of the Government of India in which licenses to go armed on a journey in Form IX of the forms prescribed in the rules issued under the Indian Arms Act have been given to Pathans living on, or beyond, the external frontier of the Punjab by magistrates in other provinces, under cover of which breech-loading and repeating rifles could easily have been smuggled across the frontier. It has been represented, in view of these occurrences, that, now that railways have so largely superseded the old method of travelling long distances by road, it is unnecessary and inexpedient to give licenses to go armed on a journey as freely as hitherto, and that some restrictions might be placed on the grant of such licenses.

2. It appears that the requirements of the existing rules are not always carefully observed. The license form requires a description of the arms covered by the license to be given in its third column. In Rule VI (22) of the Rules under the Act it is provided that licenses granted in a Presidency town or for use beyond the district where they are issued shall be in English, and may be in the vernacular as well. The cases brought to notice show that both the above directions are often neglected, and I am to request that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council, instructions may be issued enjoining on District Magistrates to follow strictly the rules regarding the preparation of licenses in Form IX. The description of the weapon licensed should be recorded in the license with reasonable fulness, so that there may be no doubt that the license was intended for a weapon such as the traveller has in his possession. It should also be impressed on District Magistrates that licenses in Form IX to cover rifles should be very sparingly, if at all, granted.

3. As a further precaution it has been suggested that, when a District officer receives an application for a license in Form IX from a person who is not a resident of his district and is not personally known to him, he should, before granting the license, ascertain from the magistrate of the district in which the applicant resides, or, if the applicant is a resident of foreign territory, from the Political officer for that territory, whether there is any objection to the grant of the license; and that particular care should be taken in regard to the grant of such a license when the place to which the applicant wishes to travel is on, or near, the frontier.

Before taking any action on this suggestion, the Government of India would be glad to be favoured with an expression of the views of His Excellency the Governor in Council on it.

ORDER—dated 2nd January 1895, No. 4, Judicial.

The foregoing letter from the Government of India will be communicated to all District Magistrates, the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of Police, Madras, for information and guidance.

2. The Government of India will be informed that this Government approves of the suggestions appearing in paragraph 3 of the letter.

[Here enter No. 5, dated 2nd January 1895.]

(True Extract.)

L. Wilson.
Chief Secretary.

To all District Magistrates.
" the Inspector-General of Police.
" the Commissioner of Police, Madras.
" the Political Department.
Copy to the Revenue Department.

Exd. A. Raitt.

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____ } 189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189 .

DATED

CURRY NO.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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