[Poll. / 8]
500—25-7-95

Political (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 758, 759

DATED 12th Nov. 1895.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN FRENCH SETTLEMENTS IN INDIA.

Addressing His Excellency the Governor of French Settlements in India in regard to discontinuing the practice of registering official correspondence at the Pondicherry Post office without paying the usual fee.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
G.6	224/5		30/3/96				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	999		96				
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CURRENT NO. 1525-

Political Dept

1217 of 27-8-73 Incl
1128 " 8-8-73 "
1001 " 17-7-73 "
734 " 27-5-73 "
760 " 11-6-72 "

From

The Govt of India

Foreign Dept

No. 3498 I.

Dl: 22 } Oct. 1895
Rl: 27 }
Repd 29
Encls. 1.

Right of franking official correspondence by the Govts of the various French settlements in India.

(Copy)

Post Office.

From

The Director General of the
Post Office of India,

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Department of Finance,
Simla

No 1140 C
Finance No 1

Simla, the 13th September 1875.

Sir,

The Governors of the European Settlements in India enjoy the right of sending their official correspondence by inland post free of postage under the franking system. The continuance of this right, which is of old standing, was the subject of some correspondence with Government in 1866 and subsequent years and it was finally decided in 1873* that the privilege of franking official correspondence should be retained by the Governor of the French possessions and by

* Financial Dept to Dir Genl. No 2135, dated 8th August 1873.
Financial Dept to Dir Genl. No: 3870, dated 25th October 1873

by the Governor of Goa.

2. It has lately been brought to notice that the Government of Pondicherry is also in enjoyment of the privilege of registering its official correspondence at the Pondicherry Post Office without paying the usual registration fee. Nothing, apparently was known about this when the question of retaining the franking system was under discussion, and it has been ascertained that no similar privelege, in respect of registration, is enjoyed by the French Government at Chandernagore or by the Portuguese Government of Goa.

3. It seems clear that the privilege of franking official correspondence, as expressly sanctioned by Government in 1873, does not properly include the further privilege of having such correspondence registered free of charge, and it is inconvenient that the Government of one settlement should enjoy this privilege while the Government of the other settlements do not. In point of fact the existence of the practice at the Pondicherry post office was brought to light by the action of the post master of Chandernagore who has been in the habit of charging the registered letters received from Pondicherry for French officials at Chandernagore with the amount of the registration fee. I have, therefore, the honour to suggest that the Government of Madras should be asked to place the matter before the Governor of Pondicherry with a view to obtain his concurrence in the discontinuance of the practice of the Pondicherry post office.

4. The whole system of franking correspondence by the Governments of these settlements is anomalous and out of date now that both France and India are members of the Postal Union, but I do not wish to recommend a general departure from the policy adopted by Government in the past with regard to postal concessions in favour of these

Settlements

settlements. The privilege now in question stands on a separate footing of its own, and I believe that the Governor of Pondicherry will raise no objection to its discontinuance when the case has been explained to him.

I have, &c,
(sd) A. U. Fanshawe,
Director General

(True Copy)
F. E. D'Silva
Superintendent Foreign Department

5
Pol
1
1525

CURRENT NO. 1525

CHIEF SECRETARY
27 OCT. 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

No. 3498-I

From

The Secretary to the
Government of India

To

The Chief Secretary to the
Government of Fort St. George

Foreign Department

Dated, Simla, the 22nd October 1895

Sir,

I am directed to invite a reference to the correspondence ending with the marginally-cited letter, sanctioning the retention by the Governor of Pondicherry and the Chefs de Service, of the minor French Settlements in India, of the privilege of franking official correspondence between those Settlements.

* From the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No. 1618-G., dated the 25th July 1873.

2. I am now to enclose a copy of a letter from the Director General of the Post Office of India, in which he brings to notice that the Government of Pondicherry also enjoy the privilege of registering official correspondence at the Pondicherry Post Office without paying the usual registration fee.

x No. 140. C. Francatel, dated the 13th September 1895

3. I am, accordingly, to request that

that, if the Governor in Council sees no objection, the facts may be explained to His Excellency the Governor of Pondicherry with a view to obtaining his concurrence in the discontinuance of the practice.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

W. Cunningham
Secretary to the
Government of India

[G./24.]
200—5-10-95.

Political DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O, dated 189, No.
Again G.O., dated 189, No.
Current No. 1525 of 1895, dated 22 Oct, from Govt of India
" " " 189, " , "
" " " 189, " , "

ORDER. 12 Nov 1895, No. 758

His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India will be addressed.

LETTER No. 759.

To
H.E. the Governor of the French Settlements in India, Pondicherry

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer your Excellency to the correspondence ending with M. Faron's letter of the 12th August 1873, No. 22 from which your Excellency will observe that the privilege of franking official correspondence between the French Settlements in India was continued ~~in 1875~~ to H.E. the Governor of Pondicherry and the Chefs-de-Service of the minor settlements.

2. It has recently been brought to the notice of H.E. the Viceroy and Governor General in Council

Settlements in India

that it is customary with your Excellency's Administration to register official correspondence at the Pondicherry post office without paying the usual registration fee.

3. I feel convinced that after a perusal of the correspondence on the subject Your Excellency will agree with me that the concession referred to in para.1 did not properly include the right of free registration. No similar privilege in respect of registration is enjoyed by your Govt. at Chandernagore or by the Portuguese Government of Goa and Your Excellency will doubtless acknowledge the inconvenience likely to arise from the enjoyment by the Government of one Settlement of a privilege which is not shared by the Government of others Settlements. In point of fact the existence of the practice at the Pondicherry post office was brought to light by the action of the postmaster of Chandernagore who has been in the habit of charging the registered letters received from Pondicherry for French officials at Chandernagore with the amount of the registration fee.

4. In view of the above circumstances I trust Your Excellency will concur with me in considering that the practice at the Pondicherry Post office as to the registry should be discontinued.

Be pleased &c

C.S. 4/XI/95

HP 5/11/95

~~FROM ORDERS.~~

H.E. the Governor
~~C.S.~~

C 5/1
P 7/4

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

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189 , DATED

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