

Political (1896) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 830.31

DATED 2-12-96

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Customs facilities to Indian Chiefs visiting England.
Informing the Govt of India that the proposed
grant of — would be regarded as an honor
by the Chiefs concerned in this Presidency
and that the rules suggested appear to be
suitable.

Political (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 1496

From The Govt of India
Foreign Dept

Order

No. 3407-I.A

Dated 2/11
Received 13/11
Registered 13/11

96

Enclosures

Spare copies. 6

SUBJECT.

Swiring opinion of
his Govt on certain
suggestions made by the
Secretary of State on the
subject of Customs
facilities granted to
all Indian Chiefs visiting
England who may be
entitled to a salute
of more than 10 guns.

1496
No. 3407-I.A. 3a

FROM

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

CHIEF SECRETARY
13 NOV. 1896
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

TO

*The Chief Secretary to the
Government of Fort St George.*

Simla, the 2nd November 1896.

FOREIGN DEPT. SIR,

Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India has recently enquired whether customs facilities, which in England are generally restricted to very exceptional cases, should be granted to all Indian Chiefs or personages, visiting England, who may be entitled to a salute of more than 10 guns, or should be otherwise regulated.

2. His Lordship has also suggested the institution of regulations requiring that when an Indian Chief, for whom customs facilities are sought, is about to visit Europe, a timely communication should be sent to the India Office stating the route by which the Chief proposes to travel, the time at which he expects to arrive and in particular the terminus at which customs facilities are desired. It would be necessary for such communications to reach the India Office at least a week before the Chief's expected arrival.

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3. In the marginally cited letter* to the Bombay Government it was decided that exemption from Indian custom duties when arriving in India by sea should be accorded, as a matter of courtesy, in regard to their personal baggage to all Ruling Chiefs of Feudatory States in India who are entitled to be called His Highness, that is to say, who are in receipt of a salute of 10 or more guns. It might be convenient if the rule to be adopted in England were the same.

I am to invite an expression of the opinion of the Governor in Council on the foregoing suggestions.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

M. J. P. [Signature]

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 812 F. D.—4-11-96.—153.

with 6 share copies

C. No. 1496

SUBJECT.

Exemption from Custom Duties

(1) H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

THE HON'BLE MR. BLISS, C.I.E.

866(2) THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

FOR ORDERS.

The Govt. of India forwards for an expression of the opinion of this Govt. a suggestion that all Ruling Chiefs of Feudatory States in India who are in receipt of a salute of 10 or more guns should be exempted from custom duties in England ^{in regard to their personal luggage,} when visiting that country. It points out that under the orders contained in G.O. No. 440 Political, dated 2nd July 1883, such exemption exists in the case of Ruling Chiefs of the above standing arriving in India by sea.

2. It does not appear to be necessary to refer the communication to Political Officers ^{as the exemption is one} which would be viewed as an honour by the Chiefs in question [in this Presy, The Maharaja of Travancore - 19 guns, Raja of Cochin - 17, and the Raja of Padukottai - 11 guns - would be the only Chiefs fall within the category] and the losses to British revenue would, owing to the very infrequent

Reply may be sent to the effect that the proposed exemption would be ^{as an honour}, and that it might be well to grant it. If it be decided to grant the exemption, the rules suggested in paras. 2 & 3 were suitable.

4.11 18.11.96

23/11/96

visits of these Chiefs, be very small.

3. Paragraph 2 of the Govt. of India letter indicates the orders which would have to be issued if customs facilities are granted to such Chiefs and no action appears to be necessary on ^{that para} ~~it~~ until the point now sent for opinion is decided.

Cub 16.11.96 The complaint
we took little in
this body, even if the
Chiefs should go to England
This in the case of Travancore
Cochin is in the highest
degree improbable.

HL 17.11.96

EXEMPTION FROM CUSTOM DUTIES

(From Orders)

Political dept:

C.No.1496

CS
ORDER N^o 830 of 2-12-96

The following letter will be despatched to the Govt. of India.

Cub 15/11
LETTER

To

The Secy. to the Govt. of India,
Foreign Dept:

HE the Governor

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of ^{Foreign Dept} ~~the~~ letter No. 5407-I.

A., dated the 2nd instant, regarding the proposal to grant customs facilities in England to Indian Chiefs or personages.

2. In that letter it is suggested that all Ruling Chiefs of Feudatory States in India who are in receipt of a salute of 10 or more guns should when visiting England be exempted from custom duties in regard to their personal luggage and that regulations should be instituted requiring that when a Chief for whom customs facilities are sought is about to visit Europe, ^{intim} timely communication should be afforded to the India Office as regards the route by which the Chief proposes to travel, the time at which he expects to arrive and the terminus at which customs facilities are desired.