

1. Number of pages. 18
2. Date of repair. 12.11.36
3. Initials of Referencer

M.R.O. 1-50,000-10-10-20.

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	504	Press
		~~Mis.~~
Dated	23-4-1968.	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
23rd April 1868.*

Read again letter from the Protector of Emigrants, dated 11th March 1868, No. 10 W, recorded in Proceedings, dated 18th March, No. 354.

No. 144. Read also the following letter from His Excellency the Governor of the French Settlements in India, to His Excellency the Right Honorable the Governor of the Presidency of Fort Saint George; dated Pondicherry, 5th April 1868, No. 5.

TRANSLATION.

By your letter of the 18th March last, you did me the honor to address to me a copy of a Despatch from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, directing the discontinuance of

On the subject of advances given to emigrants by the French Government.

advances, which up to the present time have been made to the emigrants proceeding to French Colonies, and you request my co-operation for carrying out this prohibition.

2. The measure in question bears an exceptional character, the gravity of which cannot escape your Excellency. It was before this submitted for the opinion of the Administration of Pondicherry, and gave rise to some observations which emanated from the functionary who carried on the administration *ad interim* of this Government, and which are recorded in the letter, which he had the honor to address your Excellency, under date the 17th April 1867. I share in the opinions entertained by Mr. Trillard, and in the apprehensions that he expressed of seeing the recruiting for the French Antilles affected at its very source, just as it has happened at Madras according to Mr. Franklin, the Protector of Emigrant's own avowal.

3. The principle of advances was admitted by the French Government from the commencement of the Asiatic emigration. This principle was perpetuated by the Resolution of the 3rd July 1862, which was communicated to Pondicherry for the execution of the International Convention, and which drew forth no objection from the British Authorities. If, of late, some complaints have been made about the use of these advances, and their embezzlement by the Recruiting Maistries, the French Administration has not remained indifferent to these complaints, and the letter, which I had the honor to address you on the 14th February 1867 on this subject, shows the extent of the solicitude with which my Government wishes to surround the interests of the British Subjects who enter into our depôts. Since these measures have been taken, no representation that I know of has been made to the Consuls of Her Britannic Majesty at the ports of destination of the coolies, nor even to the Consular Agent appointed at Pondicherry for the protection of the emigrants.

4. The question of advances seems to me for another reason to be connected with the measures of Police which are required for the recruitment, and which ought to bind the French Government to the terms of Article III. It enters more directly, in my opinion, into the instructions, relative to the making of contracts of engagement, which direct that, in these documents, all the advantages promised to the emigrant should be stated, without any restriction on their meaning. By the terms of Article VI. it is sufficient to be satisfied that the cooly

(contractant) has a full understanding of these advantages, and that he acts of his own accord. Now, it is indisputable, that these advances, which there exists no means of recovering in case of death, and which can be stopped by deductions of one twelfth, constitute an advantage, which the French Government has the right of offering, and the emigrant that of accepting. Nothing can be more just or more legitimate than for the British Government to bestir itself to prevent the perversion of these advances to the benefit of the local Recruiters, and I repeat to your Excellency that my Administration will always be disposed to afford the most absolute co-operation for this purpose. My letter of the 14th February attests this. But from this to the suppression of the principle of advances, there is the distance which exists between the control of the emigration operations and the cessation of those operations, for such cessation, according to the statement of Mr. Franklin, has been at Madras the consequence of the measure in question.

5. From the foregoing considerations, you will perceive, Monsieur le Gouverneur, that it is not possible for me to acquiesce in this measure without first referring it to my Government. The delay will be the less inconvenient, as at this moment the emigration is suspended as much at Pondicherry as at Karikal, and it will not be resumed until the month of August next. By that time, I shall very probably receive the instructions of His Excellency the Minister of Marine on this subject.

(True Translation).

(Signed) J. W. LYONS,
French Translator.

8th April 1868.

No. 145. ORDER THEREON, 23rd April 1868, No. 504.

Ordered that copies of this correspondence be sent to the Secretary of State for India.

2. The Governor in Council observes that although it is not at present possible to conform to the instructions received from the Secretary of State for discontinuing the system of advances to coolies recruited for the French Colonies, much of the evil resulting from that system, and of the extortion practised by the recruiting Maistries, would be prevented if the British Consular Agents at the French Settlements were to be in more constant communication with the intending emigrants while at the emigration depôts. The coolies would then acquire confidence in the protection afforded to them, and would make known their grievances which they are not likely to do if they are only visited, as described by Mr. Norfor in his letter to the Protector of Emigrants, dated 21st May 1867, No. 172, "generally once a week, and when called up at the time of embarkation when they receive their engagement pass-ports."

3. The Consular Agents are informed that the Governor in Council attaches the greatest importance to the performance by them of this portion of their duties, and that should it appear that the system of extortion, which has prevailed at Pondicherry, on the part of the Maistries, continues, it will be necessary to remove the Consular Agent at the Settlement where such extortion is practised, and to nominate in his stead an Officer who is better able to perform the duties required of him.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Protector of Emigrants.
Exd. F. B. Gentleman.

Administration
de l'Ordonnateur.

Pondicherry, le 5 Avril 1868.

Monsieur le Gouverneur,

Sur le sujet des avances faites
aux émigrants par le
Gouvernement Français.

Par votre lettre du 18 du mois
de Mars dernier, vous m'avez fait
l'honneur de m'adresser copie d'une
dépêche du Cris-Honorable Secrétaire
d'Etat pour l'Inde prescrivant
la suppression des avances jus-
qu'à présent faites aux émigrants
destinés aux Colonies Françaises,
et vous me demandez mon concours
pour l'exécution de cette défense.

La mesure dont il s'agit
revêt un caractère exceptionnel
dont la gravité ne peut manquer
d'échapper à Votre Excellence.

A Son Excellence le Cris-Honorable Gouverneur de
la Présidence du Port Saint Georges,
à Madras.

Déjà soumise à l'appréciation de
l'administration de Pondichéry, elle
a donné lieu à des observations éma-
nant du fonctionnaire qui faisait
l'intérieur de mon Gouvernement
et qui ont été consignées dans la
lettre qu'il a eu l'honneur d'adresser
à Votre Excellence à la date du 17
avril 1867. Je partage toutes les
appréciations de M^e C. Brillard
et la crainte qu'il a exprimée de
voir ainsi atteindre dans sa source
même le recrutement pour les Antilles
françaises, ainsi que cela a eu lieu
à Madras du propre aveu de M^e
Franklin, Protecteur des émi-
grants.

Le principe des avances est
admis par le Gouvernement français
depuis l'origine de l'émigration
asiatique.

asiatique. Ce principe est consacré
par l'arrêté du 3 Juillet 1862 rendu
à Pondichéry pour l'exécution de la
Convention internationale et qui n'a
donné lieu à aucune observation de
l'autorité anglaise. Si en ces derniers
temps des plaintes se sont élevées
sur l'application de ces avances et
leur détournement par les mestres
recruteurs, l'Administration française
n'est pas restée indifférente à ces
plaintes et la lettre que j'ai eu
l'honneur de vous adresser le 14
février 1867 à ce sujet, donne la
mesure de la sollicitude dont
mon Gouvernement entend entourer
les intérêts des sujets anglais qui
passent dans nos dépôts. Depuis
que ces mesures ont été prises, aucune
réclamation, que je sache, n'a
été

été faite aux Consuls de S. M.
Britannique dans les ports de
destination des Coolis pas plus
qu'à l'agent consulaire préposé
à Pondichéry à la protection
des Emigrants.

La question des avances ne
me semble pas d'ailleurs se
rattacher aux mesures de police
spéciales au recrutement et qui
doivent obliger le Gouvernement
français aux termes de l'article 3.
Elle rentre plus directement, à mon
avis, dans les stipulations relatives
à l'établissement des contrats
d'engagement, lesquelles prescrivent
de relater dans ces documents tous
les avantages promis à l'émigré
sans en restreindre la portée. Il
suffit aux termes de l'article 6
de s'assurer que le contractant

a une parfaite connaissance de ces
avantages et qu'il agit librement.
Or, il est incontestable que des
avances pour lesquelles il n'existe
aucun recours en cas de décès et qui
ne doivent ^{être} ~~être~~ ^{que} par dou-
zièmes constituent un avantage
réel que le Gouvernement français
a le droit d'offrir et l'émigrant
celui d'accepter. Que la sollici-
tude de l'Administration anglaise
s'éveille pour prévenir le détour-
nement de ces avances au profit
des recruteurs locaux, rien de plus
juste et de plus légitime et, je le
répète à Votre Excellence, mon
Administration sera toujours
disposée à lui prêter dans ce but
son concours le plus absolu; ma
lettre du 14 février en fait foi.
Mais de là à la suppression du
principe,

principe des avances, il y a la distance qui existe entre le commencement des opérations d'émigration et la cessation de ces opérations. Jusqu'à cette cessation, au dire de M. Franklin, a été à Madras la conséquence de la mesure dont il s'agit.

D'après les considérations qui précèdent, vous reconnaîtrez Monsieur le Gouverneur, qu'il ne m'est pas possible d'acquiescer à cette mesure sans en avoir préalablement référé à mon Gouvernement. Ce sursis a d'autant moins d'inconvénient qu'en ce moment l'émigration se trouve suspendue tant à Pondichéry qu'à Karikal qu'elle ne reprendra qu'en mois d'août prochain. De

Memo for orders.

In his despatch d/ 18th Jan 1868 No 4. The Secretary of State for India desires this Govt. to issue the necessary instructions for discontinuing all advances of money to the emigrants recruited for the French colonies and embarked from Pondichéry & other French settlements in India, is meant before their departure from India.

This despatch has been communicated to the French Governor of Pondichéry who refuses to enter into this arrange-

without a previous reference to the Govt.

mem. for the Govt.

2nd year old male cat

The Maistrics - in the
presence of their Immigration Agent & on Comberland
~~presence~~ of money advanced

convention see Act XVI. of 1860

I submit that the letter from the Gov^t of Pondichery may be left unanswered and that his letter be sent to the Gov^t of India &

to the Secretary of State
 for such action on it as
 may seem necessary.
 At the same time I
 cannot help thinking
 that if our Consular Agents
 at Pondichery is really
 vigilant & keeps himself
 in constant communication
 with the Emigrants, while
 they are at the depot, the
 fraudulent exactions
 would, in a great measure
 cease, and I ^{submit that} Mr.
 Norfor should be told
 so, and that a recur-
 rence of complaints will
 render it necessary for
 the Govt to consider the
 necessity of appointing
 a more successful Consular Agent. A.C.

I should Mr. Norfor may with propriety and
 advantage be urged to to his best able more
 zealous & systematic. In his letter recorded in this
 of 18th Feb. 1846 by the order that he generally visit the
 depot once & that the Emigrant books must have
 been kept. - Drawing an annual allowance for work
 at one occasion and present itself brought before a much
 about the only Sarason or the French officials and
 would be able to find a more distinct answer than that
 received from him. I should say that most of the con-
 siderable answer from Mr. Norfor's superiors. He stated
 he would consider as proposed the 1st. Circular -
 as a basis for the Correspondence of the Consulate with
 the Govt. I agree with Mr. Norfor
 by A.

I see nothing for it but
 to send the correspondence
 to the Supreme Govt. and
 to the Secretary of
 State.

The local Govt. can do nothing but
 refer the matter to the Secy of State &c.
 A.C.

la j'aurai très-probablement reçu
 des instructions de S. E. le Ministre
 de la Marine à ce sujet.

Je vous prie, Monsieur
 le Gouverneur, l'assurance de
 la haute considération avec
 laquelle j'ai l'honneur d'être,

De Votre Excellence,

Le très-obéissant serviteur,
 Le Commissaire Général de la Marine
 Gouverneur des Etablissements Français de l'Inde.

Drouin

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

again
Read the following letter from the

Protector of Emigrants of 11th March 1868 No 10 W. recorded
in Proc. of 18th March No 354.

Read also the following letter
from H.E. the Governor of the French Settlements
in India.

Here enters 5 April 1868 No 5.

Order thereon 23rd April 1868 No 524.

Ordered that copies
of this correspondence be
sent to the Secretary of
State for India
2. The Governor in Council
observes that although it
is not at present possible
to conform to the instruc-
tions received from the
Secretary of State for dis-
continuing the system of
advances to coolies re-
cruited for the French
colonies.

WON

WHL

1868 March 18th 1310133
22 July 168-169
1 July 169 7487
26 June 1948237
3rd May 25-27
17 April 74-75
21 March 1400143
22 Jan 1400162

Public 1868 Dec
The Governor of the
French Settlements in
India. No 5-
142524

1868 April

No 666.

400,956

Flow of information and
on the description of
State directing the dis-
-tinuance of the system
of giving advances to
-coolies, as proposed by
the French Govt.

Recd. 24-68.
Sund. 8/5/68.

Colonies, much of the evil
resulting from that
system and of the extortions
practised by the recruiting
Maistries would be pre-
vented if the British
Consular Agents at the
French Settlements were to
be in more constant com-
munication with the in-
tending Emigrants while
at the Emigration depots.

2 The coolies would then
acquire confidence in the
protection afforded to them
and would make known
their grievances which they
are not likely to do if they
are only visited as described
by Mr. Nispor in his letter
to the Protector of Emigrants

dt. 21st May 1867 No. 172.
"generally once a week and
when called up at the time
of embarkation when they
receive their engagement papers."

3. The Consular Agents
are informed that the
Governor in Council attaches
the greatest importance
to the performance by them
of this portion of their duties
and that should it appear
that the system of extortion,
which has prevailed at
Pondicherry, on the part of
Maistries continues, it will
be necessary to remove the
Consular Agent at the
Settlement where such
extortion is practised, and
to nominate in his stead
an officer who is better
able to perform the duties
required of him.

166

To the Protector of Emigrants des 29/6

Sub. Lehigh 28th
April 1868 p. 11
Volume 5 p. 9 Vol. 11 p. 29
of 1868

Vol. 1868... Department.

No. 504.

PROCEEDINGS OF GOVERNMENT.

Dated 23rd April 1868.

742956-1078-
" " 2118 of 1869