(1) பக்கங்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 30—60

(2) புதுக்கித் திருப்பிய நாள் _____

(3) ஆதாரங் குறிப்பவர் சுருக்கொப்பம் _____

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பகம்.

தமிழ்நாடு அரசு

பொது துறை

அரசாணை எண்: 790-791-792	அச்சகம்
மு. கோப்புத் தாள் எண்.	பலவகை
நாள் : 21—11—1890	1990

மடிக்கவோ கண்டபடி கையாளவோ கூடாது.

ஆவண. கா. 1—18,006—6-9-90.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

No. 53.

MEMORANDUM.

The attention of the District Magistrate, Tanjore, and the Commissioner of Police, Madras, is drawn to an article headed "The Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon," published in the *Madras Times* of the 3rd instant, and they will report regarding the traffic therein referred to. The police should communicate with those of Rangoon in view to ascertaining whether any information can be obtained as to the persons engaged in the traffic in the Madras Presidency, and it should be ascertained whether the Port officer, Negapatam, can supply any information in the matter.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

13*th March* 1890.

To the District Magistrate, Tanjore.
,, Commissioner of Police.

THE "SLAVE TRADE" BETWEEN MADRAS AND RANGOON.

A man of the name of Veeraragoo, who had been under arrest in Rangoon for some time, and charged with engaging in what is known as the Madras slave trade, has been committed by the Assistant Magistrate of Rangoon to the next Criminal Sessions. The Magistrate, in giving the reasons for the committal, stated that three women were induced by the prisoner, on different grounds, to leave Negapatam. One said she was told she would be the wife or mistress of the prisoner; the second was informed she would lead a much happier life in Rangoon than in her own country, and the third was induced to proceed to Burma by similar representations. The three women were taken to the prisoner's house on their arrival in Rangoon, and there locked up. Two or three days afterwards they were sold for various prices. Two of them were purchased by men who seemed well pleased with their bargains, but, notwithstanding this, it appeared that the women were sold as so much property belonging to the prisoner.

A woman named Tellagunny stated that she went up from Madras about two months ago in company with two other women. They left from Negapatam, and she was put forcibly on board the steamer. About four or five men accompanied her. She was alone in Madras, her husband being away, and she was told that Rangoon was a fine place to live in and plenty of money to be found. She did not know the fate that awaited her on arrival. The accused went on board the steamer on her arrival in Rangoon, she was taken to a house for two or three days. She was not allowed to go out of the house without a man being in attendance, and she was always watched. One day a man came and asked the accused if he had any girls. He replied in the affirmative and the man paid Rs. 80 for her, and she was taken away. The money was to pay her passage, she thought. The Agent at Negapatam, Ravoota, told her that the accused would board the ship, and take possession of her on reaching Rangoon, and she could work and pay him her passage money. She did not come to Rangoon with the intention of getting a husband, and although she was unwilling she was compelled to go with the man who bought her. She did not get a pice of the Rs. 80, and was living with her purchaser right up to the present time. She was very comfortable in her new position.

Her purchaser was then called into Court, and she identified him, describing him as her husband.

Another Madrassi girl was called, who said that her name was Mooneamah. She now lived at Poozoondaung, and not long ago lived in one of the districts of Madras. Ravoota came to her at her home and told her he would take her to her husband in Rangoon, and as her parents had been very unkind to her, she proceeded with him to Negapatam, and was placed on board the steamer. She made arrangements for the loan of her passage-money, Rs. 10-4-0, to be repaid on her arrival in Rangoon. Four men came as passengers with her, and when the boat reached the Rangoon wharf the accused came and took her to a house where she remained three days, she was not allowed to go out to seek for her husband and she was not even permitted to leave the room. If she wanted to wash her face a man would enter the room with her. After three days a cultivator came and paid Rs. 90 for her and took her away.

A disreputable-looking individual was called into Court and the witness identified him as her husband.

The witness stated that she was not sorry she was sold, for she was happy with her new husband. She had, however, a sneaking regard for her proposed husband, and had looked for him without any result.

The purchaser of the last witness was called. He stated that the girl had been living with him for about a month and he bought her from the accused. It came about in this way. He was at a Chetty's house when the accused entered the building and said to him "I've got a girl for sale. I want Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 for her." He asked to see the girl and the accused took him to his present wife. He bargained for Rs. 90, cash, and after paying the money took the girl home. He had not got any other wife, and during the transaction he agreed to the price without the interference of any third party. It did not occur to him that he was acting contrary to law.

The purchaser of the first witness then entered the box. He said the girl had been living with him for about a month, and he paid Rs. 80 to the accused for her. He knew the accused had been living by importing girls, and one day he was met with the remark "Do you want a good girl." He replied in the affirmative, and was taken to a room where the girl was confined.

A Madrassi who crossed the Bay with the girls, deposed that he was paid one rupee to cook for them on the voyage, and was promised Rs. 2 when he reached Rangoon. The girls went willingly.

From Colonel T. WELDON, C.I.E., Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 12th April 1890, No. 40.

In accordance with the instructions conveyed by your memorandum, dated 13th March 1890, I have the honor to report the result of inquiries regarding the traffic referred to in an article headed "The Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon," published in the *Madras Times* of 3rd March.

2. So far as the Presidency town and port is concerned there is no ground to suppose that any such traffic exists, the bulk of deck passengers from this coast to Rangoon embark at Negapatam and, at certain seasons I believe, from some of the Northern ports—very few from Madras. Two cases of alleged kidnapping or abduction came to our notice last year; one on telegraphic advice from the Port officer at Negapatam, to whom it appears complaint had been made of the unlawful abduction of three women by one *Allay Pitchay* on board the S.S. *Sirsa*. On arrival here our police boarded the vessel and brought off the man *Allay Pitchay* and the females who alleged that they had been drugged and put on board by one *Shaik Mohidin* and a woman, whose name was not known to them, and in that state they were made over to the man *Allay Pitchay* to be taken to Rangoon.

3. The women stated here that two of them, *Nayagum* and *Alamaloo*, were sisters, the former married but deserted by her husband, the latter unmarried and under 16 years of age. They alleged that the unknown woman induced them to go to Negapatam whence they would be provided with free passage to Rangoon where possibly the married woman might find her husband. At Negapatam they were taken before a gentleman, probably the Port officer, whom they informed they were not willing to go to Rangoon and were thereupon allowed to depart, but on their way back to their homes they were overtaken by the same (unknown) woman who frightened them into returning to Negapatam where they were put on board the *Sirsa* and given into the charge of *Allay Pitchay*.

4. In the course of the inquiry here it was elicited that *Seethay*, one of the three women, was by no means the artless decoyed female pretended but was in fact the

mistress of the man *Allay Pitchay*, her *rôle* being to encourage the other women. The whole party was sent to the Magistrate at Negapatam. There the hitherto unknown woman was pointed out. She was then wearing a gold nose-screw taken from one of the sisters when latter were being put on board. The City Police officers were examined but returned here before the case was concluded. The police at Negapatam have been twice written to for information as to the result of the trial but no reply has been received.

5. In the second case, on the 3rd December 1889, when the City Police, as usual, boarded the S.S. *Booldana*, bound from Negapatam to Rangoon with coolies, two young women, named *Ungamah* and *Rungamah*, who said they were sisters, complained that they were being taken to Rangoon against their will by a Lubbay named *Pitchay Rowther* who was also on board. This man and the women were brought ashore. The women stated that they were married but lived with their parents at Trichinopoly. *Ungamah* said she was at variance with her husband and that she had an infant which she left at Trichinopoly with her mother. *Rungamah* said she had not yet consummated her marriage having only lately attained puberty. Their story was that a woman named *Perriah* induced them to go to Negapatam to see the ships and when there they were kept during the night in a godown and next day taken on board the steamer, where they were made over to the man *Pitchay Rowther*, their jewels being taken from them.

6. This case was sent to the Magistrate at Trichinopoly where it was discovered that the women had been lying. They were not sisters but were of different caste. They had both been abandoned by their husbands and were in fact prostitutes. There is no doubt they embarked voluntarily at the instigation of the woman *Perriah* whom they believed was also going to Rangoon but when she held back they repented, the experience of a sea voyage also probably being unpleasant.

7. The first case mentioned in paragraph 2 seems, however, to have had some foundation for the charge made. The man *Allay Pitchay* said that these women and other coolies—with their passage tickets and about 20 promissory notes for sums from 70 to 90 rupees said to have been executed by them, but which the alleged makers repudiated—were made over to him on board at Negapatam by *Shaik Mohidin* and one *Nyna Mahommed* to be delivered to a certain person at Rangoon. *Allay Pitchay* had certain letters to an addressee at Rangoon which were sent with him to Negapatam. *Nyna Mahommed*, mentioned by *Allay Pitchay* as one of the men who made over the women to him at Negapatam, was at the time in Rangoon and is said to be there still; probably he is the consignee at Rangoon, *Shaik Mohidin* the consignor at Negapatam, and *Allay Pitchay* the travelling conductor.

8. As remarked before, I do not think there is any such traffic as alluded to from this port, but there probably is something of the kind from Negapatam, although the subjects of it are not all the innocent, unsophisticated creatures they would pretend when they wish to repudiate their bargains. It would probably be found that many, if not most, of them are runaway wives and discarded mistresses—that they have been dazzled by bright promises and advances freely made for passage-money and other expenses, which sums are recovered with large profit from any person willing to take over the debtor and her debt on cash terms, to which most likely all parties fully agree.

9. The Police authorities at Rangoon have been asked to furnish any statements of facts or names of persons on this side of the Bay which might lead to the detection and suppression of any such traffic, if it exists.

From Colonel T. WELDON, C.I.E., Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 28th April 1890, No. 45.

In continuation of my report, No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, on reference No. 53, dated 13th March 1890, Judicial, concerning the alleged traffic in females between this Presidency and Rangoon, I have the honor to submit the following reply

to a letter addressed by me to the District Superintendent of Police at Rangoon which confirms my opinion that no such traffic exists as between this port and Rangoon :—

"From the Superintendent of Police, Rangoon, to the Commissioner of Police, Madras, dated Rangoon, 18th April 1890.

"SIR,—With reference to your No. 417, of 7th instant, I have the honor to inform you that I know of no instances where females were abducted from the town of Madras. At the very early part of this year I sent some persons to trial for unlawfully detaining, &c., some women who were abducted from Negapatam."

From E. GIBSON, Esq., District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Kumbakónam, 14th April 1890, No. 38-C.

Referring to your memorandum, No. 53, dated 13th March 1890, I have the honor to forward a letter from the Port officer, Negapatam, on the subject of the so-called "Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon." This letter gives information regarding the persons who are engaged in recruiting for Burma, and it shows that, so far as is possible, precautions are taken to prevent females being allowed to embark otherwise than of their own free will.

2. I have just been in Negapatam and was informed by one of the principal merchants there that he had received information from a correspondent at Rangoon that the supply of labor from Negapatam had diminished owing, as it was supposed, to the interference of our police.

3. So far as the port of Negapatam is concerned, it would seem that all reasonable safe-guards are observed to prevent illicit practices, but of course if adult women express their willingness to go to Burma, we cannot prevent them.

4. That the recruitors of laborers for Burma and other places are mostly a disreputable crew is well known; they drive unfair bargains with the laborers and deceive them with false promises, but they manage to keep within the law.

5. The issue of the *Madras Times* received with G.O., No. 406-R., dated 28th March 1890, is herewith returned.

ENCLOSURES.

From P. JAMES, Esq., Port Officer, Negapatam, to the District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 20th March 1890, No. 133-M.

With reference to G.O., No. 53, Judicial Department, dated 13th March, forwarded with your No. 522-M., dated 19th March 1890, I have the honor to report that I have little doubt that there is a traffic between this port and Rangoon in labor.

2. The exporters are for the most part Muhammadans, and their procedure seems to be as follows:—They have touts who go about in the districts telling ryots what large wages are to be had in Burma, and offering to pay their passage if they will sign a pro-note for the amount with interest; the pro-note, I am informed, being for Rs. 22-8-0, whereas the passage-money and boat-hire only amount to Rs. 10-4-0.

3. I have frequently had parties of men and women who, I found were going over on these terms, in my office, explained to them what they are doing and telling them what they may expect on the other side, but in every case they have declared they would take their chance. No women are allowed to embark at this port without first getting a pass in my office from the Emigration clerk who carefully inquires into the circumstances under which each female is going, and enters the age, marks, village, father's name, &c., in a book kept for the purpose. The pass has to be delivered up to the jetty peon before a woman gets into a boat, and if any appear without the pass, they are sent back to the office. All suspicious cases are brought before me for inquiry and if I am not satisfied I immediately hand the matter over to the police for investigation. Since my arrival here in July last, 820 females have been registered in my office, of whom only nine failed to embark at the last moment, and I have sent four cases to the police for investigation.

4. I beg to enclose the names of nineteen men who are known to be exporters of labor and there are several others I believe. I also enclose blank form of boat pass issued to females only after being registered in this office.

NAMES of Headmen who send coolies to Burma.

1. Sackarai Rowthen.
2. Sekunder Cossim Rowthen.
3. Seeni Rowthen.
4. Naina Mahomed.
5. Sagoosa.
6. Madarsa.
7. Gulam Mohidin Rowthen.
8. Esoof Rowthen.
9. Packri Rowthen.
10. Kadersa Rowthen.
11. Levvy.
12. Appatha Rowthen.
13. Mahomed Naina Rowthen.
14. Sathasiva Valléy.
15. Sasoomalevvy.
16. Moulasa.
17. Hassanar.
18. Sekender.
19. Sackaray Bava.

From J. THOMSON, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Negapatam, 16th June 1890, No. 995.

With reference to endorsement, dated 5th May 1890, on letter No. 1440, dated 12th April 1890, from the Commissioner of Police, Madras, to you, reporting the result of inquiries regarding "the so-called Slave Trade" between Madras and Rangoon, I have the honor to forward a letter* from the Port officer, Negapatam, remarking with special reference to paragraphs 3 and 7 of the said letter.

* No. 22-182, dated 5th June 1890 (copy).

2. The Port officer states that the three women alluded to in paragraph 3 were registered for Rangoon as they were willing to go there and that no telegraphic communication of the abduction of these females appears to have been sent as stated in paragraph 2.

3. Referring to the two women mentioned in paragraph 5, the Port officer reports that there is no entry in his register of a Rengammal having embarked in the *Booldana* but that an Angammal and her cousin, Meenatchi, aged 27 and 21, respectively, were the only two females from Trichinopoly who left by that steamer—one to join her husband and the other her parents.

4. As regards paragraph 7, Naina Mahomed referred to is reported to be an exporter of laborers, Alla Pitchai a maistry apparently employed under the former, and Sheik Mohidin one of his touts.

5. As observed by Mr. Gibson in his letter No. 38-C, dated 14th April 1890, to you, all reasonable safe-guards seem to have been observed at Negapatam against illicit practices but adult females cannot be prevented from going to Burma when they express their desire to go there.

ENCLOSURES.

From P. JAMES, Esq., Port Officer, Negapatam, to the District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 5th June 1890, No. 22-182.

Replying to your endorsement, No. 937, dated 3rd June 1890, on letter (herewith returned) from the Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, I have the honor to state that I have no further information on the subject beyond that contained in my No. 133 M., dated 20th March 1890, to your address.

2. Referring to paragraph 3 of the Commissioner's letter, I was not here at the time the occurrence took place, but the Emigration clerk informs me that, during the inspection of the Emigration depôts by my predecessor, the three women referred to were found in a depôt kept by one "Sagoo." They stated that they had been brought there to go to Penang, but were unwilling to go, so were immediately permitted to leave the depôt. They were afterwards brought to the office saying they were willing to proceed to Rangoon; an extract from the register is appended. The Emigration clerk informs me that no telegram was sent from this office to the Commissioner of Police, Madras. The S.S. *Sirsa* left here on June 30th.

3. Regarding paragraph 7, there is no entry of any woman named Rungammal having embarked in the *Booldana*. A woman named Angammal, aged 27, is entered as proceeding to

join her husband, Pitchaykaren, at Rangoon, accompanied by her cousin, Munichee, aged 21, who was going to join her parents. This is probably the woman who afterwards gave her name as Rungammal, these two being the only females from Trichinopoly who left by that steamer.

4. The labor traffic in men is exactly the same as in women, ignorant coolies signing bonds for their free passage, but probably they are able to take care of themselves and are not quite so openly sold, although until their debt is paid off they remain in a state of semi-slavery.

5. I have frequently explained to them what they had to expect, but they always say they are willing to take the risk.

6. Of the three men named in paragraph 7, only one, Naina Mahomed, appears in my list of exporters of labor sent to you with my letter above quoted, and I am inclined to believe that the one named Allapitchay is a sort of maistry and "Shaik Mohidin," is one of the touts of "Naina Mahomed."

7. On March 23rd I wrote to the Inspector of Police at Rangoon informing him that two women and one man had been shipped here by one Goolam Mohidin, consigned either to Secunder or Meerapillai at Rangoon. They had signed bonds and said they knew what they were about, but I thought it might be a case for the police to keep an eye on. One of the women was middle-aged, and the other about 20, accompanying the man, who, she said, was her father.

8. I am informed that the man Naina Mahomed has returned here from Rangoon.

An extract from the register of females proceeding to Burma.

No.	Name of vessel.	Name.	Father's name.	Age.	Caste.	Village and District.	Marks.	Remarks.
368	S.S. *Sirsa.*	Nayagam.	Vythy	23	Pallar.	Thandavalam, Tanjore	Mole on left shoulder.	To join her husband, Coondan.
369	Do.	Alamaloo.	Do.	18	Do.	Do. do.	Scar on centre back.	Accompanying her sister Nayagam.
•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
371	S.S. *Sirsa.*	Seethay.	Govinda Pillai.	33	Vellalah.	Amoor, Tanjore.	Face pitted with small-pox (a little white spot on right eye by small-pox).	Widow. She is going with her own free will to join her relatives.

From W. A. WILLOCK, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vizagapatam, 22nd June 1890, No. 2037.

In reply to the Government official memorandum, dated 10th May 1890, Judicial, I have the honor state that I fear cases in which females are enticed across to Rangoon, and practically sold there for immoral purposes, are not unknown here. In 1886 a gang was caught in the act of bringing a consignment of five girls across to Rangoon for the purpose, and the parties implicated were tried by the Temporary Deputy Magistrate in cases Nos. 29, 30, 31 and 32 on his file. The result was that the following sentences were imposed:—

—	Case No. 29.	Case No. 30.	Case No. 31.	Case No. 32.	Total imprisonment.
1. Lal Mahomed	2 years' rigorous imprisonment.	..	1 year's rigorous imprisonment.	1 year's rigorous imprisonment.	4 years.
2. Lenka Suramma	Do.	..	Do.	Do.	4 do.
3. Puli Kunchamma	Do.	2 years' R.I.	..	..	4 do.
4. Garugubilli Gaddi	Do.	..	1 year's R.I.	1 year's R.I.	4 do.
5. Inapasappi Murti	Do.	..	..	..	2 do.
6. Silam Atchemma	..	..	1 year's R.I.	1 year's R.I.	4 do.
7. Do. Pentamma	..	..	Do.	..	1 year.
8. Vempada Kanakamma	..	2 years' R.I.	..	..	2 years.
9. Davvu Appalamma	..	..	..	1 year.	1 year.

Nos. (1), (2) and (3) were from Rangoon and were prostitutes and brothel-keepers there; Nos. (4), (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9) were their accomplices here, and kidnapped

or induced the girls (who were minors) to come to Vizagapatam for the purpose of embarking for Rangoon. The usual price paid to the latter was about Rs. 10. The manner in which these cases were disposed of must have inculcated the necessity of extreme caution on those engaged in this trade, and renders detection very difficult; but I believe that it is still occasionally carried on. One case, which will probably turn out to be similar to the above, is now under inquiry and I have heard of the following occurrence:—A Brahmin woman left her husband and resided for some time with a paramour who took to ill-treating her when the funds derived from the sale of her jewels began to fall short. She therefore left him and allowed herself to be embarked for Rangoon by a man whose acquaintance she had made and who promised her prosperous times there. On arriving at Rangoon he sold her on board the steamer to a Pariah for 60 or 70 rupees, much to her horror, and her lamentations attracted the attention of the Captain, who, on ascertaining what had been done, refused to give her up and brought her back to Vizagapatam.

2. It is hard to know what remedy to suggest. Detection of such cases on shore is very difficult as the females are easily tutored as to what to say and have their heads filled with great expectations of the future to be enjoyed in Rangoon, and with their aid their abductors are almost sure to escape detection. In most cases they look forward to engaging in immoral pursuits and have no idea that they will not be free agents in the matter, so that they carefully avoid betraying their companions. I fear that in the hurry of disembarkation at Rangoon also most such cases must escape notice, besides which there is no reason why the dealers should disclose their ultimate intentions until after they get their victims safe ashore. Inspection on board-ship during the voyage, when sea-sickness and general discomfort have thrown some doubts on the promises of the dealers, seems to me to be the only remedy, and were it not for the disorder and confusion which prevails on board the ships, it would be very effective. I have no doubt but that the B.I.S.N. Company would willingly find free accommodation for an inspecting officer or two selected from the Rangoon police and conversant with Telugu. It would not be necessary that one should go in every steamer. If systematic inspection during the voyage was carried out occasionally it would go far to check the evil.

3. In connection with this question, I beg to call the attention of Government to the fact that a terrible disaster will take place ere long between this and Rangoon. Until lately the B.I.S.N. Company have carried on this trade in large and roomy steamers, but they have now put on a new class of vessel, such as the *Kistna* and *Comilla*, which, I believe, is specially designed to carry the maximum number of coolies with the minimum expenditure of space and tonnage. The first time one of these vessels encounters one of the cyclonic storms common in the Bay a catastrophe will occur. I should be sorry to see any restraints placed on passenger traffic with Rangoon, as it has been most advantageous to the East Coast, but I think that matters are going too far at present. It is a most profitable undertaking to the B.I.S.N. Company and one which can well afford to pay the cost of reasonable safety from disasters. I would suggest the advisability of the Presidency Port Officer being called on to report what would be the probable result of a vessel like the *Kistna* being caught in a moderate cyclonic storm of three or four days, duration with a full load of coolies on board. It will be remembered that the early part of the north-east monsoon—the most dangerous in the Bay—is the chief season for cooly emigration.

From J. THOMSON, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vallam, 13th July 1890, No. 1155.

In reply to reference on No. 2380 of 1890 from Government, directing me to report the result of the trial of the case of kidnapping referred to in paragraph 4 of letter No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, from the Commissioner of Police, returned herewith, I have the honor to state that the accused concerned were discharged under section 253, I.P.C. A copy of the judgment in the case sent me by the Head Assistant Magistrate, after seeing the file of correspondence, is herewith submitted. Though the women's names are different, I conclude the case is the same.

2. The Negapatam police say they received no call for information from the Madras police.

From M.R.Ry. K. SUBBAROYUDU, Garu, Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury, Godávari district, to the Collector, Godávari district, dated Cocanada, 14th July 1890, No. 1236.

With reference to your endorsement No. 198, dated 15th May 1890, and No. 229, dated 16th June 1890, on Government Official Memoranda, dated 10th May and 9th June last (herewith returned with enclosures), I have the honor to report on the supposed slave trade.

2. I have consulted the Port Officer, Cocanada, the three Sea Custom Superintendents in the district, and the Tahsildar of Narsápur on the subject. All of them, except the Superintendents of Sea Customs, Cocanada and Coringa, report, after due inquiry, that there are no reasons for believing that a regular slave trade exists between the ports in this district and Rangoon, and that there may, however, be isolated cases in which discontented women find easy inducement to go over to Burma.

3. The Superintendent of Sea Customs, Cocanada, reports a case which he suspects to fall under the category of slave trade. He states that Pullapudesu Appalaswami and a female named Gudimatta Mahalakshmi, both of Rámachandrapuram taluk, came to the Port office on the 7th ultimo to embark for Rangoon, after all the passengers had been examined by the Port Officer; that in his inquiry Appalaswami denied all acquaintance with the female and subsequently acknowledged that he lent her Rs. 30 on condition of her repaying the same at Rangoon; and that the female said that she borrowed the money promising to repay it at Rangoon out of her earnings from prostitution and that the loan was not given for the purpose of taking her to Rangoon for sale. As there was no evidence on the point they were let off. The Superintendent of Sea Customs, Coringa, states that a few females are occasionally taken to Burma and Straits Settlements from Coringa, Tallarevu, Nilapalli and other places either for sale or for earning money for their owners by prostitution, and gives a list of persons who are engaged in this profession.

4. On my personal inquiry the following facts have come to light.

5. Prostitutes who return from Burma bedecked, as they are, with jewels go into the interior, relate to young widows and other females in flattering terms as to the facilities for earning money and jewels, setting themselves as examples, and generally succeeded in alluring a few females for each trip, which is annual or biennial. The victims are advanced a few rupees an account of passage money and for purchasing cloths and other necessaries and are made to execute bonds for double or trible the amounts actually advanced. They are consigned to Cocanada, where they are harboured by certain men of low castes who are paid for their duty. They are taken to Rangoon where they are let loose after the debts as per bonds are paid up.

6. The agents who give shelter to women of this description are also said to entice females through the agency of prostitutes, but no evidence can be adduced to test the accuracy of these statements.

From M.R.Ry. K. SUBBAROYUDU, Garu, Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury, Cocanada, to the Collector, Godávari district, dated Cocanada, 18th August 1890, No. 1306.

Referring to your Official Memorandum No. 276, dated 26th ultimo, I have the honor to state that the Sea Custom Superintendent, Cocanada, reports that the specific cases referred to in the "Madras Times" cannot be traced.

2. The article does not give sufficient details to enable us to detect the agents or their victims.

3. The papers received by me are herewith returned.

No. 39.

Submitted to Government in the Judicial Department, in reference to its Official Memoranda Nos. —— dated 16th May 1890, and No. 94, dated 9th June 1890.

The Deputy Collector's reports contain all the information I have been able to obtain on the subject. The number of coolies who go to Rangoon from all parts of this district is so large that it is practically impossible to prevent any one with a complaint to make from communicating with his friends if he wishes to do so. The women taken away are all, or almost all, prostitutes already, and go over to better their condition.

COCANADA,
5th September 1890.

(Signed) W. A. HAPPELL,
District Magistrate.

From E. C. JOHNSON, Esq., District Magistrate, Ganjam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Chatrapur, 1st August 1890, No. 5321.

Adverting to the Government Official Memorandum, dated 10th May 1890, I have the honor to state that I see no ground for believing that any slave trade exists between the ports in this district and Rangoon. I learn that a man from Gopálpur was convicted by the Rangoon authorities more than a year ago for such dealing in respect of certain women whom he had taken there; but nothing of the kind has occurred since, at least careful inquiry has failed to elicit any instance.

2. A number of women of loose character go from this district to Rangoon, but they do so of their own free will, and knowing what they have before them; it is well known that there is a profitable opening for them there.

3. Copy of the "Madras Times," dated 3rd March 1890, is returned herewith.

Exd. P. L. Pereira.

230
Jan 1 Sept
21st November SEPTEMBER 1890, No. 1, JUDICIAL. Public
791
791
791
792

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

No. 53.

MEMORANDUM.

The attention of the District Magistrate, Tanjore, and the Commissioner of Police, Madras, is drawn to an article headed "The Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon," published in the *Madras Times* of the 3rd instant, and they will report regarding the traffic therein referred to. The police should communicate with those of Rangoon in view to ascertaining whether any information can be obtained as to the persons engaged in the traffic in the Madras Presidency, and it should be ascertained whether the Port officer, Negapatam, can supply any information in the matter.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

13*th March* 1890.

To the District Magistrate, Tanjore.
" Commissioner of Police.

THE "SLAVE TRADE" BETWEEN MADRAS AND RANGOON.

A man of the name of Veeraragoo, who had been under arrest in Rangoon for some time, and charged with engaging in what is known as the Madras slave trade, has been committed by the Assistant Magistrate of Rangoon to the next Criminal Sessions. The Magistrate, in giving the reasons for the committal, stated that three women were induced by the prisoner, on different grounds, to leave Negapatam. One said she was told she would be the wife or mistress of the prisoner; the second was informed she would lead a much happier life in Rangoon than in her own country, and the third was induced to proceed to Burma by similar representations. The three women were taken to the prisoner's house on their arrival in Rangoon, and there locked up. Two or three days afterwards they were sold for various prices. Two of them were purchased by men who seemed well pleased with their bargains, but, notwithstanding this, it appeared that the women were sold as so much property belonging to the prisoner.

A woman named Tellagunny stated that she went up from Madras about two months ago in company with two other women. They left from Negapatam, and she was put forcibly on board the steamer. About four or five men accompanied her. She was alone in Madras, her husband being away, and she was told that Rangoon was a fine place to live in and plenty of money to be found. She did not know the fate that awaited her on arrival. The accused went on board the steamer on her arrival in Rangoon, she was taken to a house for two or three days. She was not allowed to go out of the house without a man being in attendance, and she was always watched. One day a man came and asked the accused if he had any girls. He replied in the affirmative and the man paid Rs. 80 for her, and she was taken away. The money was to pay her passage, she thought. The Agent at Negapatam, Ravoota, told her that the accused would board the ship, and take possession of her on reaching Rangoon, and she could work and pay him her passage money. She did not come to Rangoon with the intention of getting a husband, and although she was unwilling she was compelled to go with the man who bought her. She did not get a pice of the Rs. 80, and was living with her purchaser right up to the present time. She was very comfortable in her new position.

Her purchaser was then called into Court, and she identified him, describing him as her husband.

Another Madrassi girl was called, who said that her name was Mooneamah. She now lived at Poozoondaung, and not long ago lived in one of the districts of Madras. Ravoota came to her at her home and told her he would take her to her husband in Rangoon, and as her parents had been very unkind to her, she proceeded with him to Negapatam, and was placed on board the steamer. She made arrangements for the loan of her passage-money, Rs. 10-4-0, to be repaid on her arrival in Rangoon. Four men came as passengers with her, and when the boat reached the Rangoon wharf the accused came and took her to a house where she remained three days, she was not allowed to go out to seek for her husband and she was not even permitted to leave the room. If she wanted to wash her face a man would enter the room with her. After three days a cultivator came and paid Rs. 90 for her and took her away.

A disreputable-looking individual was called into Court and the witness identified him as her husband.

The witness stated that she was not sorry she was sold, for she was happy with her new husband. She had, however, a sneaking regard for her proposed husband, and had looked for him without any result.

The purchaser of the last witness was called. He stated that the girl had been living with him for about a month and he bought her from the accused. It came about in this way. He was at a Chetty's house when the accused entered the building and said to him "I've got a girl for sale. I want Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 for her." He asked to see the girl and the accused took him to his present wife. He bargained for Rs. 90, cash, and after paying the money took the girl home. He had not got any other wife, and during the transaction he agreed to the price without the interference of any third party. It did not occur to him that he was acting contrary to law.

The purchaser of the first witness then entered the box. He said the girl had been living with him for about a month, and he paid Rs. 80 to the accused for her. He knew the accused had been living by importing girls, and one day he was met with the remark "Do you want a good girl." He replied in the affirmative, and was taken to a room where the girl was confined.

A Madrassi who crossed the Bay with the girls, deposed that he was paid one rupee to cook for them on the voyage, and was promised Rs. 2 when he reached Rangoon. The girls went willingly.

From Colonel T. WELDON, C.I.E., Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 12th April 1890, No. 40.

In accordance with the instructions conveyed by your memorandum, dated 13th March 1890, I have the honor to report the result of inquiries regarding the traffic referred to in an article headed "The Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon," published in the *Madras Times* of 3rd March.

2. So far as the Presidency town and port is concerned there is no ground to suppose that any such traffic exists, the bulk of deck passengers from this coast to Rangoon embark at Negapatam and, at certain seasons I believe, from some of the Northern ports—very few from Madras. Two cases of alleged kidnapping or abduction came to our notice last year; one on telegraphic advice from the Port officer at Negapatam, to whom it appears complaint had been made of the unlawful abduction of three women by one *Allay Pitchay* on board the S.S. *Sirsa*. On arrival here our police boarded the vessel and brought off the man *Allay Pitchay* and the females who alleged that they had been drugged and put on board by one *Shaik Mohidin* and a woman, whose name was not known to them, and in that state they were made over to the man *Allay Pitchay* to be taken to Rangoon.

3. The women stated here that two of them, *Nayagum* and *Alamalou*, were sisters, the former married but deserted by her husband, the latter unmarried and under 16 years of age. They alleged that the unknown woman induced them to go to Negapatam whence they would be provided with free passage to Rangoon where possibly the married woman might find her husband. At Negapatam they were taken before a gentleman, probably the Port officer, whom they informed they were not willing to go to Rangoon and were thereupon allowed to depart, but on their way back to their homes they were overtaken by the same (unknown) woman who frightened them into returning to Negapatam where they were put on board the *Sirsa* and given into the charge of *Allay Pitchay*.

4. In the course of the inquiry here it was elicited that *Seethay*, one of the three women, was by no means the artless decoyed female pretended but was in fact the

mistress of the man *Allay Pitchay*, her *rôle* being to encourage the other women. The whole party was sent to the Magistrate at Negapatam. There the hitherto unknown woman was pointed out. She was then wearing a gold nose-screw taken from one of the sisters when latter were being put on board. The City Police officers were examined but returned here before the case was concluded. The police at Negapatam have been twice written to for information as to the result of the trial but no reply has been received.

5. In the second case, on the 3rd December 1889, when the City Police, as usual, boarded the S.S. *Booldana*, bound from Negapatam to Rangoon with coolies, two young women, named *Ungamah* and *Rungamah*, who said they were sisters, complained that they were being taken to Rangoon against their will by a Lubbay named *Pitchay Rowther* who was also on board. This man and the women were brought ashore. The women stated that they were married but lived with their parents at Trichinopoly. *Ungamah* said she was at variance with her husband and that she had an infant which she left at Trichinopoly with her mother. *Rungamah* said she had not yet consummated her marriage having only lately attained puberty. Their story was that a woman named *Perriah* induced them to go to Negapatam to see the ships and when there they were kept during the night in a godown and next day taken on board the steamer, where they were made over to the man *Pitchay Rowther*, their jewels being taken from them.

6. This case was sent to the Magistrate at Trichinopoly where it was discovered that the women had been lying. They were not sisters but were of different caste. They had both been abandoned by their husbands and were in fact prostitutes. There is no doubt they embarked voluntarily at the instigation of the woman *Perriah* whom they believed was also going to Rangoon but when she held back they repented, the experience of a sea voyage also probably being unpleasant.

7. The first case mentioned in paragraph 2 seems, however, to have had some foundation for the charge made. The man *Allay Pitchay* said that these women and other coolies—with their passage tickets and about 20 promissory notes for sums from 70 to 90 rupees said to have been executed by them, but which the alleged makers repudiated—were made over to him on board at Negapatam by *Shaik Mohidin* and one *Nyna Mahommed* to be delivered to a certain person at Rangoon. *Allay Pitchay* had certain letters to an addressee at Rangoon which were sent with him to Negapatam. *Nyna Mahommed*, mentioned by *Allay Pitchay* as one of the men who made over the women to him at Negapatam, was at the time in Rangoon and is said to be there still; probably he is the consignee at Rangoon, *Shaik Mohidin* the consignor at Negapatam, and *Allay Pitchay* the travelling conductor.

8. As remarked before, I do not think there is any such traffic as alluded to from this port, but there probably is something of the kind from Negapatam, although the subjects of it are not all the innocent, unsophisticated creatures they would pretend when they wish to repudiate their bargains. It would probably be found that many, if not most, of them are runaway wives and discarded mistresses—that they have been dazzled by bright promises and advances freely made for passage-money and other expenses, which sums are recovered with large profit from any person willing to take over the debtor and her debt on cash terms, to which most likely all parties fully agree.

9. The Police authorities at Rangoon have been asked to furnish any statements of facts or names of persons on this side of the Bay which might lead to the detection and suppression of any such traffic, if it exists.

From Colonel T. WELDON, C.I.E., Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 28th April 1890, No. 45.

In continuation of my report, No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, on reference No. 53, dated 13th March 1890, Judicial, concerning the alleged traffic in females between this Presidency and Rangoon, I have the honor to submit the following reply

to a letter addressed by me to the District Superintendent of Police at Rangoon which confirms my opinion that no such traffic exists as between this port and Rangoon:—

"From the Superintendent of Police, Rangoon, to the Commissioner of Police, Madras, dated Rangoon, 18th April 1890.

"SIR,—With reference to your No. 417, of 7th instant, I have the honor to inform you that I know of no instances where females were abducted from the town of Madras. At the very early part of this year I sent some persons to trial for unlawfully detaining, &c., some women who were abducted from Negapatam."

From E. GIBSON, Esq., District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Kumbakónam, 14th April 1890, No. 38-C.

Referring to your memorandum, No. 53, dated 13th March 1890, I have the honor to forward a letter from the Port officer, Negapatam, on the subject of the so-called "Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon." This letter gives information regarding the persons who are engaged in recruiting for Burma, and it shows that, so far as is possible, precautions are taken to prevent females being allowed to embark otherwise than of their own free will.

2. I have just been in Negapatam and was informed by one of the principal merchants there that he had received information from a correspondent at Rangoon that the supply of labor from Negapatam had diminished owing, as it was supposed, to the interference of our police.

3. So far as the port of Negapatam is concerned, it would seem that all reasonable safe-guards are observed to prevent illicit practices, but of course if adult women express their willingness to go to Burma, we cannot prevent them.

4. That the recruitors of laborers for Burma and other places are mostly a disreputable crew is well known; they drive unfair bargains with the laborers and deceive them with false promises, but they manage to keep within the law.

5. The issue of the *Madras Times* received with G.O., No. 406-R., dated 28th March 1890, is herewith returned.

ENCLOSURES.

From P. JAMES, Esq., Port Officer, Negapatam, to the District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 20th March 1890, No. 133-M.

With reference to G.O., No. 53, Judicial Department, dated 13th March, forwarded with your No. 522-M., dated 19th March 1890, I have the honor to report that I have little doubt that there is a traffic between this port and Rangoon in labor.

2. The exporters are for the most part Muhammadans, and their procedure seems to be as follows:—They have touts who go about in the districts telling ryots what large wages are to be had in Burma, and offering to pay their passage if they will sign a pro-note for the amount with interest; the pro-note, I am informed, being for Rs. 22-8-0, whereas the passage-money and boat-hire only amount to Rs. 10-4-0.

3. I have frequently had parties of men and women who, I found were going over on these terms, in my office, explained to them what they are doing and telling them what they may expect on the other side, but in every case they have declared they would take their chance. No women are allowed to embark at this port without first getting a pass in my office from the Emigration clerk who carefully inquires into the circumstances under which each female is going, and enters the age, marks, village, father's name, &c., in a book kept for the purpose. The pass has to be delivered up to the jetty peon before a woman gets into a boat, and if any appear without the pass, they are sent back to the office. All suspicious cases are brought before me for inquiry and if I am not satisfied I immediately hand the matter over to the police for investigation. Since my arrival here in July last, 820 females have been registered in my office, of whom only nine failed to embark at the last moment, and I have sent four cases to the police for investigation.

4. I beg to enclose the names of nineteen men who are known to be exporters of labor and there are several others I believe. I also enclose blank form of boat pass issued to females only after being registered in this office.

NAMES of Headmen who send coolies to Burma.

1. Sackarai Rowthen.
2. Sekunder Cossim Rowthen.
3. Seeni Rowthen.
4. Naina Mahomed.
5. Sagoosa.
6. Madarsa.
7. Gulam Mohidin Rowthen.
8. Esoof Rowthen.
9. Packri Rowthen.
10. Kadersa Rowthen.
11. Levvy.
12. Appatha Rowthen.
13. Mahomed Naina Rowthen.
14. Sathasiva Valléy.
15. Sasoomalevvy.
16. Moulasa.
17. Hassanar.
18. Sekender.
19. Sackaray Bava.

From J. THOMSON, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Negapatam, 16th June 1890, No. 995.

With reference to endorsement, dated 5th May 1890, on letter No. 1440, dated 12th April 1890, from the Commissioner of Police, Madras, to you, reporting the result of inquiries regarding "the so-called Slave Trade" between Madras and Rangoon, I have the honor to forward a letter* from the Port officer, Negapatam, remarking with special reference to paragraphs 3 and 7 of the said letter.

* No. 22-182, dated 5th June 1890 (copy).

2. The Port officer states that the three women alluded to in paragraph 3 were registered for Rangoon as they were willing to go there and that no telegraphic communication of the abduction of these females appears to have been sent as stated in paragraph 2.

3. Referring to the two women mentioned in paragraph 5, the Port officer reports that there is no entry in his register of a Rengammal having embarked in the *Booldana* but that an Angammal and her cousin, Meenatchi, aged 27 and 21, respectively, were the only two females from Trichinopoly who left by that steamer—one to join her husband and the other her parents.

4. As regards paragraph 7, Naina Mahomed referred to is reported to be an exporter of laborers, Alla Pitchai a maistry apparently employed under the former, and Sheik Mohidin one of his touts.

5. As observed by Mr. Gibson in his letter No. 38-C, dated 14th April 1890, to you, all reasonable safe-guards seem to have been observed at Negapatam against illicit practices but adult females cannot be prevented from going to Burma when they express their desire to go there.

ENCLOSURES.

From P. JAMES, Esq., Port Officer, Negapatam, to the District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 5th June 1890, No. 22-182.

Replying to your endorsement, No. 937, dated 3rd June 1890, on letter (herewith returned) from the Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, I have the honor to state that I have no further information on the subject beyond that contained in my No. 133 M., dated 20th March 1890, to your address.

2. Referring to paragraph 3 of the Commissioner's letter, I was not here at the time the occurrence took place, but the Emigration clerk informs me that, during the inspection of the Emigration depôts by my predecessor, the three women referred to were found in a depôt kept by one "Sagoo." They stated that they had been brought there to go to Penang, but were unwilling to go, so were immediately permitted to leave the depôt. They were afterwards brought to the office saying they were willing to proceed to Rangoon; an extract from the register is appended. The Emigration clerk informs me that no telegram was sent from this office to the Commissioner of Police, Madras. The S.S. *Sirsa* left here on June 30th.

3. Regarding paragraph 7, there is no entry of any woman named Rungammal having embarked in the *Booldana*. A woman named Angammal, aged 27, is entered as proceeding to

join her husband, Pitchaykaren, at Rangoon, accompanied by her cousin, Munichee, aged 21, who was going to join her parents. This is probably the woman who afterwards gave her name as Rungammal, these two being the only females from Trichinopoly who left by that steamer.

4. The labor traffic in men is exactly the same as in women, ignorant coolies signing bonds for their free passage, but probably they are able to take care of themselves and are not quite so openly sold, although until their debt is paid off they remain in a state of semi-slavery.

5. I have frequently explained to them what they had to expect, but they always say they are willing to take the risk.

6. Of the three men named in paragraph 7, only one, Naina Mahomed, appears in my list of exporters of labor sent to you with my letter above quoted, and I am inclined to believe that the one named Allapitchay is a sort of maistry and "Shaik Mohidin," is one of the touts of "Naina Mahomed."

7. On March 23rd I wrote to the Inspector of Police at Rangoon informing him that two women and one man had been shipped here by one Goolam Mohidin, consigned either to Secunder or Meerapillai at Rangoon. They had signed bonds and said they knew what they were about, but I thought it might be a case for the police to keep an eye on. One of the women was middle-aged, and the other about 20, accompanying the man, who, she said, was her father.

8. I am informed that the man Naina Mahomed has returned here from Rangoon.

An extract from the register of females proceeding to Burma.

No.	Name of vessel.	Name.	Father's name.	Age.	Caste.	Village and District.	Marks.	Remarks.
368	S.S. *Sirsa.*	Nayagam.	Vythy	23	Pullar.	Thandavalam, Tanjore	Mole on left shoulder.	To join her husband, Coondan.
369	Do.	Alamaloo.	Do.	18	Do.	Do. do.	Scar on centre back.	Accompanying her sister Nayagam.
*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
371	S.S. *Sirsa.*	Seethay.	Govinda Pillai.	33	Vellalah.	Amoor, Tanjore.	Face pitted with small-pox (a little white spot on right eye by small-pox).	Widow. She is going with her own free will to join her relatives.

From W. A. WILLOCK, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vizagapatam, 22nd June 1890, No. 2037.

In reply to the Government official memorandum, dated 10th May 1890, Judicial, I have the honor state that I fear cases in which females are enticed across to Rangoon, and practically sold there for immoral purposes, are not unknown here. In 1886 a gang was caught in the act of bringing a consignment of five girls across to Rangoon for the purpose, and the parties implicated were tried by the Temporary Deputy Magistrate in cases Nos. 29, 30, 31 and 32 on his file. The result was that the following sentences were imposed:—

—	Case No. 29.	Case No. 30.	Case No. 31.	Case No. 32.	Total imprisonment.
1. Lal Mahomed	2 years' rigorous imprisonment.	..	1 year's rigorous imprisonment.	1 year's rigorous imprisonment.	4 years.
2. Lenka Suramma	Do.	..	Do.	Do.	4 do.
3. Puli Kunchamma	Do.	2 years' R.I.	..	..	4 do.
4. Garugubilli Gaddi	Do.	..	1 year's R.I.	1 year's R.I.	4 do.
5. Inapasappi Murti	Do.	..	..	..	2 do.
6. Silam Atchemma	Do.	..	1 year's R.I.	1 year's R.I.	4 do.
7. Do. Pentamma	..	..	Do.	..	1 year.
8. Vempada Kunakamma	..	2 years' R.I.	..	..	2 years.
9. Davvu Appalamma	...	..	..	1 year.	1 year.

Nos. (1). (2) and (3) were from Rangoon and were prostitutes and brothel-keepers there; Nos. (4), (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9) were their accomplices here, and kidnapped

or induced the girls (who were minors) to come to Vizagapatam for the purpose of embarking for Rangoon. The usual price paid to the latter was about Rs. 10. The manner in which these cases were disposed of must have inculcated the necessity of extreme caution on those engaged in this trade, and renders detection very difficult; but I believe that it is still occasionally carried on. One case, which will probably turn out to be similar to the above, is now under inquiry and I have heard of the following occurrence:—A Brahmin woman left her husband and resided for some time with a paramour who took to ill-treating her when the funds derived from the sale of her jewels began to fall short. She therefore left him and allowed herself to be embarked for Rangoon by a man whose acquaintance she had made and who promised her prosperous times there. On arriving at Rangoon he sold her on board the steamer to a Pariah for 60 or 70 rupees, much to her horror, and her lamentations attracted the attention of the Captain, who, on ascertaining what had been done, refused to give her up and brought her back to Vizagapatam.

2. It is hard to know what remedy to suggest. Detection of such cases on shore is very difficult as the females are easily tutored as to what to say and have their heads filled with great expectations of the future to be enjoyed in Rangoon, and with their aid their abductors are almost sure to escape detection. In most cases they look forward to engaging in immoral pursuits and have no idea that they will not be free agents in the matter, so that they carefully avoid betraying their companions. I fear that in the hurry of disembarkation at Rangoon also most such cases must escape notice, besides which there is no reason why the dealers should disclose their ultimate intentions until after they get their victims safe ashore. Inspection on board-ship during the voyage, when sea-sickness and general discomfort have thrown some doubts on the promises of the dealers, seems to me to be the only remedy, and were it not for the disorder and confusion which prevails on board the ships, it would be very effective. I have no doubt but that the B.I.S.N. Company would willingly find free accommodation for an inspecting officer or two selected from the Rangoon police and conversant with Telugu. It would not be necessary that one should go in every steamer. If systematic inspection during the voyage was carried out occasionally it would go far to check the evil.

3. In connection with this question, I beg to call the attention of Government to the fact that a terrible disaster will take place ere long between this and Rangoon. Until lately the B.I.S.N. Company have carried on this trade in large and roomy steamers, but they have now put on a new class of vessel, such as the *Kistna* and *Comilla*, which, I believe, is specially designed to carry the maximum number of coolies with the minimum expenditure of space and tonnage. The first time one of these vessels encounters one of the cyclonic storms common in the Bay a catastrophe will occur. I should be sorry to see any restraints placed on passenger traffic with Rangoon, as it has been most advantageous to the East Coast, but I think that matters are going too far at present. It is a most profitable undertaking to the B.I.S.N. Company and one which can well afford to pay the cost of reasonable safety from disasters. I would suggest the advisability of the Presidency Port Officer being called on to report what would be the probable result of a vessel like the *Kistna* being caught in a moderate cyclonic storm of three or four days, duration with a full load of coolies on board. It will be remembered that the early part of the north-east monsoon—the most dangerous in the Bay—is the chief season for cooly emigration.

From J. THOMSON, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vallam, 13th July 1890, No. 1155.

In reply to reference on No. 2380 of 1890 from Government, directing me to report the result of the trial of the case of kidnapping referred to in paragraph 4 of letter No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, from the Commissioner of Police, returned herewith, I have the honor to state that the accused concerned were discharged under section 253, I.P.C. A copy of the judgment in the case sent me by the Head Assistant Magistrate, after seeing the file of correspondence, is herewith submitted. Though the women's names are different, I conclude the case is the same.

2. The Negapatam police say they received no call for information from the Madras police.

From M.R.Ry. K. SUBBAROYUDU, Garu, Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury, Godávari district, to the Collector, Godávari district, dated Cocanada, 14th July 1890, No. 1236.

With reference to your endorsement No. 198, dated 15th May 1890, and No. 229, dated 16th June 1890, on Government Official Memoranda, dated 10th May and 9th June last (herewith returned with enclosures), I have the honor to report on the supposed slave trade.

2. I have consulted the Port Officer, Cocanada, the three Sea Custom Superintendents in the district, and the Tahsildar of Narsápur on the subject. All of them, except the Superintendents of Sea Customs, Cocanada and Coringa, report, after due inquiry, that there are no reasons for believing that a regular slave trade exists between the ports in this district and Rangoon, and that there may, however, be isolated cases in which discontented women find easy inducement to go over to Burma.

3. The Superintendent of Sea Customs, Cocanada, reports a case which he suspects to fall under the category of slave trade. He states that Pullapudesu Appalaswami and a female named Gudimatta Mahalakshmi, both of Rámachandrapuram taluk, came to the Port office on the 7th ultimo to embark for Rangoon, after all the passengers had been examined by the Port Officer; that in his inquiry Appalaswami denied all acquaintance with the female and subsequently acknowledged that he lent her Rs. 30 on condition of her repaying the same at Rangoon; and that the female said that she borrowed the money promising to repay it at Rangoon out of her earnings from prostitution and that the loan was not given for the purpose of taking her to Rangoon for sale. As there was no evidence on the point they were let off. The Superintendent of Sea Customs, Coringa, states that a few females are occasionally taken to Burma and Straits Settlements from Coringa, Tallarevu, Nilapalli and other places either for sale or for earning money for their owners by prostitution, and gives a list of persons who are engaged in this profession.

4. On my personal inquiry the following facts have come to light.

5. Prostitutes who return from Burma bedecked, as they are, with jewels go into the interior, relate to young widows and other females in flattering terms as to the facilities for earning money and jewels, setting themselves as examples, and generally succeeded in alluring a few females for each trip, which is annual or biennial. The victims are advanced a few rupees an account of passage money and for purchasing cloths and other necessaries and are made to execute bonds for double or trible the amounts actually advanced. They are consigned to Cocanada, where they are harboured by certain men of low castes who are paid for their duty. They are taken to Rangoon where they are let loose after the debts as per bonds are paid up.

6. The agents who give shelter to women of this description are also said to entice females through the agency of prostitutes, but no evidence can be adduced to test the accuracy of these statements.

From M.R.Ry. K. SUBBAROYUDU, Garu, Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury, Cocanada, to the Collector, Godávari district, dated Cocanada, 18th August 1890, No. 1306.

Referring to your Official Memorandum No. 276, dated 26th ultimo, I have the honor to state that the Sea Custom Superintendent, Cocanada, reports that the specific cases referred to in the "Madras Times" cannot be traced.

2. The article does not give sufficient details to enable us to detect the agents or their victims.

3. The papers received by me are herewith returned.

No. 39.

Submitted to Government in the Judicial Department, in reference to its Official Memoranda Nos. ~~1111~~ dated 16th May 1890, and No. 94, dated 9th June 1890.

The Deputy Collector's reports contain all the information I have been able to obtain on the subject. The number of coolies who go to Rangoon from all parts of this district is so large that it is practically impossible to prevent any one with a complaint to make from communicating with his friends if he wishes to do so. The women taken away are all, or almost all, prostitutes already, and go over to better their condition.

COCANADA,
5th September 1890.

(Signed) W. A. HAPPELL,
District Magistrate.

From E. C. JOHNSON, Esq., District Magistrate, Ganjam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Chatrapur, 1st August 1890, No. 5321.

Adverting to the Government Official Memorandum, dated 10th May 1890, I have the honor to state that I see no ground for believing that any slave trade exists between the ports in this district and Rangoon. I learn that a man from Gopálpur was convicted by the Rangoon authorities more than a year ago for such dealing in respect of certain women whom he had taken there; but nothing of the kind has occurred since, at least careful inquiry has failed to elicit any instance.

2. A number of women of loose character go from this district to Rangoon, but they do so of their own free will, and knowing what they have before them; it is well known that there is a profitable opening for them there.

3. Copy of the "Madras Times," dated 3rd March 1890, is returned herewith.

Exd. P. L. Pereira.

Mr. Hunt:

Looks like wrong file

H.V.C
13 May

The letter from the Town of Police which contains particulars of two cases has been referred to the D.M. Tanjore. It is therefore not clear whether any of the cases referred to in the Madras Times of 9th inst. is referred to in that letter or in a case received the Commandant case was not referred to.

CA
15/5

H.V.C.
16 May

V.11.C
21/7/19.

Reminder sent 11-8.
2nd Reminder 6-9-19

Note for A.S.

These two cases referred to in the Madras Times are not those referred to in the Commissioner's report.

CA
3/5

Submitted.
H.V.C
3 May

Replies to the alleged Rice Traffic are still due from Tanjore & Trichy D. Magts. The present carried 2475 Can be seen pending their receipt. As regards para 3 of 2475 let it be transferred to Marine Dept. at once.
H.V.C.
2/VII

Submitted
Ch. 3726 & 3800 may be put in type along with the others already pointed, & the whole question taken up at Madras.
22/9.

Yes, as pointed the connected cases have been put in print.
22/9

Rep. put up 1/10

NOTE FOR THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

Attention is invited to the 1st leader in the issue of the Madras Times for Friday headed "The Madras Rice Trade".
H.V.C.
10 May

1890, No. 791, Public, Judicial.

21st October / Nov.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

LETTER—to

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF BURMA.

SIR,

I am directed to forward for any copy of the proceedings of this Government, No. 790, of this date, and to express the hope that ~~may be considered necessary to take~~ any illegal traffic in human beings that may exist between the East Coast of India and ~~Burma~~ Burma may be taken at an early date.

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

Chief Secretary.

ENDORSEMENT—dated 21 October / Nov. 1890, No. 792, Public, Judicial.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, for information, with reference to No. 1454, Public, dated 12th July 1886, and subsequent correspondence.

Chief Secretary.

Exd. P. L. Pereira.

3

5. With reference to th[illegible]ncluding clause of paragraph 4 of his letter No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, the a[illegible]ntion of the Commissioner of Police will be ~~invited~~ to letter No. 1155, dated 13th J[illegible]y 1890, from the District Magistrate of Tanjore. The remarks of the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, in paragraph 3 of his letter No. 2037, dated 22nd June 1890, have already * received attention.

* G.O., No. 300, dated 1-90.

6. His Excellency the G[illegible]overnor in Council desires to take this opportunity of again * impressing on the Inspector-General of Police, the Magistrates of Coast Districts, the Protector of Emigrants at Madras, and the British Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal, [illegible]he necessity for watchfulness on their part in view to frustrate any attempt that ma[illegible] be made to take unwilling emigrants from this Presidency to Rangoon.

* See paragraph 8 of G.O., N[illegible]452, dated 12th July 1886.

7. The following letter [illegible]ill be despatched to the Chief Commissioner of Burma.

(Here enter No. 741 Public, Judicial, dated 21 Nov: October 1890.)

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Police.
" Magistrates of Coast Districts.
" Protector of Emigrants.
" British Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal.
" Commissioner of Police.

Dept
27/11/90.

4 DB
11/12/90.

Exd. P. L. Pereira.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Public.—JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

ORDER—dated 21st Nov: October 1890, No. 790, Judicial. Public.

In March last the attention of Government was called to an article in the *Madras Times*, headed "The Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon," and containing particulars of the committal to the Rangoon Sessions of an Indian named Veeraragoo for the sale of certain Madrassi females.

2. A copy of the article was sent to officers concerned for report, and from the replies received the Government learn that—

Town of Madras.—There is no ground to suppose that any traffic in slaves exists.

Negapatam.—Precautions are taken to prevent females being allowed to embark otherwise than of their own free will.

Vizagapatam.—Cases are not unknown in which females are enticed to Rangoon and practically sold there for immoral purposes.

Godávari.—There are no reasons for believing that a regular slave trade exists between the ports in the district and Rangoon, but there may be isolated cases in which discontented women are ~~easily~~ induced to go over to Burma.

Ganjam.—There is no ground for believing that any slave trade exists between the ports of the district and Rangoon. A number of women of loose character go over of their own free will.

3. From the reports received, the Government is of opinion that the state of affairs at present is much the same as that described in G.O., No. 1452, Public, dated 12th July 1886, and that the only way of meeting the evil is that mentioned at the ~~end~~ close of paragraph 8 of that order. Emigration from the Madras Presidency to Burma is—as then—wholly unregulated, and as long as women embark of their own free will there is nothing to prevent their doing so. It seems very improbable that any female could be forcibly placed on board a vessel without the matter attracting attention, and the papers read above show that precautions are taken at East Coast ports against any such attempt being made, and that offenders are rigorously dealt with.

4. The suggestion of the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, in paragraph 2 of his letter No. 2037, dated 22nd June 1890, that an inspecting officer or two selected from the Rangoon Police should travel to and fro in the B. I. S. N. Co.'s vessels that carry the emigrants, will be remitted for the consideration of the Chief Commissioner of Burma. This would, perhaps, not be necessary if vessels were boarded by an inspector on arrival at Rangoon, and any complaints inquired into at once. Probably this is now done, but in any case this Government is of opinion that whatever further action is necessary in view to stopping the traffic in women, must be taken by the authorities in Burma.

Pub Dep No. 790
dy 21/11/90.

~~The Collectors of~~

The District Magistrates of
Coast Dists.

Dep^t 21/11/90.

~~Anantapur.~~

~~North Arcot, Chittoor.~~

South Arcot, Cuddalore. 8

~~Bellary.~~

South Canara, Mangalore. 8

Chingleput, Saidapet. 8

~~Coimbatore.~~

~~Cuddapah.~~

Ganjam, Chatrapur. 8

Godavari, Cocanada. 8

Kistna, Masulipatam. 8

~~Kurnool.~~

~~Madras (when necessary).~~

Madura. 8

Malabar, Calicut. 10

~~Nilgiris, Ootacamund.~~

Nellore. 8

~~Salem.~~

Tanjore. 9

Tinnevelly. 8

~~Trichinopoly.~~

Vizagapatam. 8

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers :—

No. 53.

Memorandum.

The attention of the District Magistrate, Tanjore, and the Commissioner of Police, Madras, is drawn to an article headed "The Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon," published in the *Madras Times* of the 3rd instant, and they will report regarding the traffic therein referred to. The police should communicate with those of Rangoon in view to ascertaining whether any information can be obtained as to the persons engaged in the traffic in the Madras Presidency, and it should be ascertained whether the Port officer, Negapatam, can supply any information in the matter.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

13*th March* 1890.

To the District Magistrate, Tanjore.
„ Commissioner of Police.

THE "SLAVE TRADE" BETWEEN MADRAS AND RANGOON.

A man of the name of Veeraragoo, who had been under arrest in Rangoon for some time, and charged with engaging in what is known as the Madras slave trade, has been committed by the Assistant Magistrate of Rangoon to the next Criminal Sessions. The Magistrate, in giving the reasons for the committal, stated that three women were induced by the prisoner, on different grounds, to leave Negapatam. One said she was told she would be the wife or mistress of the prisoner; the second was informed she would lead a much happier life in Rangoon than in her own country, and the third was induced to proceed to Burma by similar representations. The three women were taken to the prisoner's house on their arrival in Rangoon, and there locked up. Two or three days afterwards they were sold for various prices. Two of them were purchased by men who seemed well pleased with their bargains, but, notwithstanding this, it appeared that the women were sold as so much property belonging to the prisoner.

A woman named Tellagunny stated that she went up from Madras about two months ago in company with two other women. They left from Negapatam, and she was put forcibly on board the steamer. About four or five men accompanied her. She was alone in Madras, her husband being away, and she was told that Rangoon was a fine place to live in and plenty of money to be found. She did not know the fate that awaited her on arrival. The accused went on board the steamer on her arrival in Rangoon, she was taken to a house for two or three days. She was not allowed to go out of the house without a man being in attendance, and she was always watched. One day a man came and asked the accused if he had any girls. He replied in the affirmative and the man paid Rs. 80 for her, and she was taken away. The money was to pay her passage, she thought. The Agent at Negapatam, Ravoota, told her that the accused would board the ship, and take possession of her on reaching Rangoon, and she could work and pay him her passage money. She did not come to Rangoon with the intention of getting a husband, and although she was unwilling she was compelled to go with the man who bought her. She did not get a pice of the Rs. 80, and was living with her purchaser right up to the present time. She was very comfortable in her new position.

Her purchaser was then called into Court, and she identified him, describing him as her husband.

Another Madrassi girl was called, who said that her name was Mooneamah. She now lived at Poozoondaung, and not long ago lived in one of the districts of Madras. Ravoota came to her at her home and told her he would take her to her husband in Rangoon, and as her parents had been very unkind to her, she proceeded with him to Negapatam, and was placed on board the steamer. She made arrangements for the loan of her passage-money, Rs. 10-4-0, to be repaid on her arrival in Rangoon. Four men came as passengers with her, and when the boat reached the Rangoon wharf the accused came and took her to a house where she remained three days, she was not allowed to go out to seek for her husband and she was not even permitted to leave the room. If she wanted to wash her face a man would enter the room with her. After three days a cultivator came and paid Rs. 90 for her and took her away.

A disreputable-looking individual was called into Court and the witness identified him as her husband.

The witness stated that she was not sorry she was sold, for she was happy with her new husband. She had, however, a sneaking regard for her proposed husband, and had looked for him without any result.

The purchaser of the last witness was called. He stated that the girl had been living with him for about a month and he bought her from the accused. It came about in this way. He was at a Chetty's house when the accused entered the building and said to him "I've got a girl for sale. I want Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 for her." He asked to see the girl and the accused took him to his present wife. He bargained for Rs. 90, cash, and after paying the money took the girl home. He had not got any other wife, and during the transaction he agreed to the price without the interference of any third party. It did not occur to him that he was acting contrary to law.

The purchaser of the first witness then entered the box. He said the girl had been living with him for about a month, and he paid Rs. 80 to the accused for her. He knew the accused had been living by importing girls, and one day he was met with the remark "Do you want a good girl." He replied in the affirmative, and was taken to a room where the girl was confined.

A Madrassi who crossed the Bay with the girls, deposed that he was paid one rupee to cook for them on the voyage, and was promised Rs. 2 when he reached Rangoon. The girls went willingly.

From Colonel T. WELDON, C.I.E., Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 12th April 1890, No. 40.

In accordance with the instructions conveyed by your memorandum, dated 13th March 1890, I have the honor to report the result of inquiries regarding the traffic referred to in an article headed "The Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon," published in the *Madras Times* of 3rd March.

2. So far as the Presidency town and port is concerned there is no ground to suppose that any such traffic exists, the bulk of deck passengers from this coast to Rangoon embark at Negapatam and, at certain seasons I believe, from some of the Northern ports—very few from Madras. Two cases of alleged kidnapping or abduction came to our notice last year; one on telegraphic advice from the Port officer at Negapatam, to whom it appears complaint had been made of the unlawful abduction of three women by one *Allay Pitchay* on board the S.S. *Sirsa*. On arrival here our police boarded the vessel and brought off the man *Allay Pitchay* and the females who alleged that they had been drugged and put on board by one *Shaik Mohidin* and a woman, whose name was not known to them, and in that state they were made over to the man *Allay Pitchay* to be taken to Rangoon.

3. The women stated here that two of them, *Nayagum* and *Alamalov*, were sisters, the former married but deserted by her husband, the latter unmarried and under 16 years of age. They alleged that the unknown woman induced them to go to Negapatam whence they would be provided with free passage to Rangoon where possibly the married woman might find her husband. At Negapatam they were taken before a gentleman, probably the Port officer, whom they informed they were not willing to go to Rangoon and were thereupon allowed to depart, but on their way back to their homes they were overtaken by the same (unknown) woman who frightened them into returning to Negapatam where they were put on board the *Sirsa* and given into the charge of *Allay Pitchay*.

4. In the course of the inquiry here it was elicited that *Seethay*, one of the three women, was by no means the artless decoyed female pretended but was in fact the

mistress of the man *Allay Pitchay*, her *rôle* being to encourage the other women. The whole party was sent to the Magistrate at Negapatam. There the hitherto unknown woman was pointed out. She was then wearing a gold nose-screw taken from one of the sisters when latter were being put on board. The City Police officers were examined but returned here before the case was concluded. The police at Negapatam have been twice written to for information as to the result of the trial but no reply has been received.

5. In the second case, on the 3rd December 1889, when the City Police, as usual, boarded the S.S. *Booldana*, bound from Negapatam to Rangoon with coolies, two young women, named *Ungamah* and *Rungamah*, who said they were sisters, complained that they were being taken to Rangoon against their will by a Lubbay named *Pitchay Rowther* who was also on board. This man and the women were brought ashore. The women stated that they were married but lived with their parents at Trichinopoly. *Ungamah* said she was at variance with her husband and that she had an infant which she left at Trichinopoly with her mother. *Rungamah* said she had not yet consummated her marriage having only lately attained puberty. Their story was that a woman named *Perriah* induced them to go to Negapatam to see the ships and when there they were kept during the night in a godown and next day taken on board the steamer, where they were made over to the man *Pitchay Rowther*, their jewels being taken from them.

6. This case was sent to the Magistrate at Trichinopoly where it was discovered that the women had been lying. They were not sisters but were of different caste. They had both been abandoned by their husbands and were in fact prostitutes. There is no doubt they embarked voluntarily at the instigation of the woman *Perriah* whom they believed was also going to Rangoon but when she held back they repented, the experience of a sea voyage also probably being unpleasant.

7. The first case mentioned in paragraph 2 seems, however, to have had some foundation for the charge made. The man *Allay Pitchay* said that these women and other coolies—with their passage tickets and about 20 promissory notes for sums from 70 to 90 rupees said to have been executed by them, but which the alleged makers repudiated—were made over to him on board at Negapatam by *Shaik Mohidin* and one *Nyna Mahommed* to be delivered to a certain person at Rangoon. *Allay Pitchay* had certain letters to an addressee at Rangoon which were sent with him to Negapatam. *Nyna Mahommed*, mentioned by *Allay Pitchay* as one of the men who made over the women to him at Negapatam, was at the time in Rangoon and is said to be there still; probably he is the consignee at Rangoon, *Shaik Mohidin* the consignor at Negapatam, and *Allay Pitchay* the travelling conductor.

8. As remarked before, I do not think there is any such traffic as alluded to from this port, but there probably is something of the kind from Negapatam, although the subjects of it are not all the innocent, unsophisticated creatures they would pretend when they wish to repudiate their bargains. It would probably be found that many, if not most, of them are runaway wives and discarded mistresses—that they have been dazzled by bright promises and advances freely made for passage-money and other expenses, which sums are recovered with large profit from any person willing to take over the debtor and her debt on cash terms, to which most likely all parties fully agree.

9. The Police authorities at Rangoon have been asked to furnish any statements of facts or names of persons on this side of the Bay which might lead to the detection and suppression of any such traffic, if it exists.

From Colonel T. WELDON, C.I.E., Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 28th April 1890, No. 45.

In continuation of my report, No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, on reference No. 53, dated 13th March 1890, Judicial, concerning the alleged traffic in females between this Presidency and Rangoon, I have the honor to submit the following reply

to a letter addressed by me to the District Superintendent of Police at Rangoon which confirms my opinion that no such traffic exists as between this port and Rangoon:—

"From the Superintendent of Police, Rangoon, to the Commissioner of Police, Madras, dated Rangoon, 18th April 1890.

"Sir,—With reference to your No. 417, of 7th instant, I have the honor to inform you that I know of no instances where females were abducted from the town of Madras. At the very early part of this year I sent some persons to trial for unlawfully detaining, &c., some women who were abducted from Negapatam."

From E. GIBSON, Esq., District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Kumbakónam, 14th April 1890, No. 38-C.

Referring to your memorandum, No. 53, dated 13th March 1890, I have the honor to forward a letter from the Port officer, Negapatam, on the subject of the so-called "Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon." This letter gives information regarding the persons who are engaged in recruiting for Burma, and it shows that, so far as is possible, precautions are taken to prevent females being allowed to embark otherwise than of their own free will.

2. I have just been in Negapatam and was informed by one of the principal merchants there that he had received information from a correspondent at Rangoon that the supply of labor from Negapatam had diminished owing, as it was supposed, to the interference of our police.

3. So far as the port of Negapatam is concerned, it would seem that all reasonable safe-guards are observed to prevent illicit practices, but of course if adult women express their willingness to go to Burma, we cannot prevent them.

4. That the recruitors of laborers for Burma and other places are mostly a disreputable crew is well known; they drive unfair bargains with the laborers and deceive them with false promises, but they manage to keep within the law.

5. The issue of the *Madras Times* received with G.O., No. 406-R., dated 28th March 1890, is herewith returned.

Enclosures.

From P. JAMES, Esq., Port Officer, Negapatam, to the District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 20th March 1890, No. 133-M.

With reference to G.O., No. 53, Judicial Department, dated 13th March, forwarded with your No. 522-M., dated 19th March 1890, I have the honor to report that I have little doubt that there is a traffic between this port and Rangoon in labor.

2. The exporters are for the most part Muhammadans, and their procedure seems to be as follows:—They have touts who go about in the districts telling ryots what large wages are to be had in Burma, and offering to pay their passage if they will sign a pro-note for the amount with interest; the pro-note, I am informed, being for Rs. 22-8-0, whereas the passage-money and boat-hire only amount to Rs. 10-4-0.

3. I have frequently had parties of men and women who, I found were going over on these terms, in my office, explained to them what they are doing and telling them what they may expect on the other side, but in every case they have declared they would take their chance. No women are allowed to embark at this port without first getting a pass in my office from the Emigration clerk who carefully inquires into the circumstances under which each female is going, and enters the age, marks, village, father's name, &c., in a book kept for the purpose. The pass has to be delivered up to the jetty peon before a woman gets into a boat, and if any appear without the pass, they are sent back to the office. All suspicious cases are brought before me for inquiry and if I am not satisfied I immediately hand the matter over to the police for investigation. Since my arrival here in July last, 820 females have been registered in my office, of whom only nine failed to embark at the last moment, and I have sent four cases to the police for investigation.

4. I beg to enclose the names of nineteen men who are known to be exporters of labor and there are several others I believe. I also enclose blank form of boat pass issued to females only after being registered in this office.

Names of Headmen who send coolies to Burma.

1. Sackarai Rowthen.
2. Sekunder Cossim Rowthen.
3. Seeni Rowthen.
4. Naina Mahomed.
5. Sagoosa.
6. Madarsa.
7. Gulam Mohidin Rowthen.
8. Esoof Rowthen.
9. Packri Rowthen.
10. Kadersa Rowthen.
11. Levvy.
12. Appatha Rowthen.
13. Mahomed Naina Rowthen.
14. Sathasiva Valléy.
15. Sasoomalevvy.
16. Moulasa.
17. Hassanar.
18. Sekender.
19. Sackaray Bava.

From J. THOMSON, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Negapatam, 16th June 1890, No. 995.

With reference to endorsement, dated 5th May 1890, on letter No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, from the Commissioner of Police, Madras, to you, reporting the result of inquiries regarding "the so-called Slave Trade" between Madras and Rangoon, I have the honor to forward a letter* from the Port officer, Negapatam, remarking with special reference to paragraphs 3 and 7 of the said letter.

* No. 22-182, dated 5th June 1890 (copy).

2. The Port officer states that the three women alluded to in paragraph 3 were registered for Rangoon as they were willing to go there and that no telegraphic communication of the abduction of these females appears to have been sent as stated in paragraph 2.

3. Referring to the two women mentioned in paragraph 5, the Port officer reports that there is no entry in his register of a Rengammal having embarked in the *Booldana* but that an Angammal and her cousin, Meenatchi, aged 27 and 21, respectively, were the only two females from Trichinopoly who left by that steamer—one to join her husband and the other her parents.

4. As regards paragraph 7, Naina Mahomed referred to is reported to be an exporter of laborers, Alla Pitchai a maistry apparently employed under the former, and Sheik Mohidin one of his touts.

5. As observed by Mr. Gibson in his letter No. 38-C, dated 14th April 1890, to you, all reasonable safe-guards seem to have been observed at Negapatam against illicit practices but adult females cannot be prevented from going to Burma when they express their desire to go there.

Enclosures.

From P. JAMES, Esq., Port Officer, Negapatam, to the District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 5th June 1890, No. 22-182.

Replying to your endorsement, No. 937, dated 3rd June 1890, on letter (herewith returned) from the Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, I have the honor to state that I have no further information on the subject beyond that contained in my No. 133 M., dated 20th March 1890, to your address.

2. Referring to paragraph 3 of the Commissioner's letter, I was not here at the time the occurrence took place, but the Emigration clerk informs me that, during the inspection of the Emigration depôts by my predecessor, the three women referred to were found in a depôt kept by one "Sagoo." They stated that they had been brought there to go to Penang, but were unwilling to go, so were immediately permitted to leave the depôt. They were afterwards brought to the office saying they were willing to proceed to Rangoon; an extract from the register is appended. The Emigration clerk informs me that no telegram was sent from this office to the Commissioner of Police, Madras. The S.S. *Sirsa* left here on June 30th.

3. Regarding paragraph 7, there is no entry of any woman named Rungammal having embarked in the *Booldana*. A woman named Angammal, aged 27, is entered as proceeding to

join her husband, Pitchaykaren, at Rangoon, accompanied by her cousin, Munichee, aged 21, who was going to join her parents. This is probably the woman who afterwards gave her name as Rungammal, these two being the only females from Trichinopoly who left by that steamer.

4. The labor traffic in men is exactly the same as in women, ignorant coolies signing bonds for their free passage, but probably they are able to take care of themselves and are not quite so openly sold, although until their debt is paid off they remain in a state of semi-slavery.

5. I have frequently explained to them what they had to expect, but they always say they are willing to take the risk.

6. Of the three men named in paragraph 7, only one, Naina Mahomed, appears in my list of exporters of labor sent to you with my letter above quoted, and I am inclined to believe that the one named Allapitchay is a sort of maistry and "Shaik Mohidin," is one of the touts of "Naina Mahomed."

7. On March 23rd I wrote to the Inspector of Police at Rangoon informing him that two women and one man had been shipped here by one Goolam Mohidin, consigned either to Secunder or Meerapillai at Rangoon. They had signed bonds and said they knew what they were about, but I thought it might be a case for the police to keep an eye on. One of the women was middle-aged, and the other about 20, accompanying the man, who, she said, was her father.

8. I am informed that the man Naina Mahomed has returned here from Rangoon.

An extract from the register of females proceeding to Burma.

No.	Name of vessel.	Name.	Father's name.	Age.	Caste.	Village and District.	Marks.	Remarks.
368	S.S. *Sirsa*.	Nayagam.	Vythy	23	Pullar.	Thandavalam, Tanjore	Mole on left shoulder.	To join her husband, Coondan.
369	Do.	Alamaloo.	Do.	18	Do.	Do. do.	Scar on centre back.	Accompanying her sister Nayagam.
*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*
371	S.S. *Sirsa*.	Seethay.	Govinda Pillai.	33	Vellalah.	Amoor, Tanjore.	Face pitted with small-pox (a little white spot on right eye by small-pox).	Widow. She is going with her own free will to join her relatives.

From W. A. WILLOCK, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vizagapatam, 22nd June 1890, No. 2037.

In reply to the Government official memorandum, dated 10th May 1890, Judicial, I have the honor to state that I fear cases in which females are enticed across to Rangoon, and practically sold there for immoral purposes, are not unknown here. In 1886 a gang was caught in the act of bringing a consignment of five girls across to Rangoon for the purpose, and the parties implicated were tried by the Temporary Deputy Magistrate in cases Nos. 29, 30, 31 and 32 on his file. The result was that the following sentences were imposed:—

—	Case No. 29.	Case No. 30.	Case No. 31.	Case No. 32.	Total imprisonment.
1. Lal Mahomed	2 years' rigorous imprisonment.	..	1 year's rigorous imprisonment.	1 year's rigorous imprisonment.	4 years.
2. Lenka Suramma	Do.	..	Do.	Do.	4 do.
3. Puli Kunchamma	Do.	2 years' R.I.	..	..	4 do.
4. Garugubilli Gaddi	Do.	..	1 year's R.I.	1 year's R.I.	4 do.
5. Inapasappi Murti	Do.	..	..	..	2 do.
6. Silam Atchemma	Do.	..	1 year's R.I.	1 year's R.I.	4 do.
7. Do. Pentamma	..	..	Do.	..	1 year.
8. Vempada Kanakamma	..	2 years' R.I.	..	..	2 years.
9. Davvu Appalamma	..	..	..	1 year.	1 year.

Nos. (1), (2) and (3) were from Rangoon and were prostitutes and brothel-keepers there; Nos. (4), (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9) were their accomplices here, and kidnapped

or induced the girls (who were minors) to come to Vizagapatam for the purpose of embarking for Rangoon. The usual price paid to the latter was about Rs. 10. The manner in which these cases were disposed of must have inculcated the necessity of extreme caution on those engaged in this trade, and renders detection very difficult; but I believe that it is still occasionally carried on. One case, which will probably turn out to be similar to the above, is now under inquiry and I have heard of the following occurrence:—A Brahmin woman left her husband and resided for some time with a paramour who took to ill-treating her when the funds derived from the sale of her jewels began to fall short. She therefore left him and allowed herself to be embarked for Rangoon by a man whose acquaintance she had made and who promised her prosperous times there. On arriving at Rangoon he sold her on board the steamer to a Pariah for 60 or 70 rupees, much to her horror, and her lamentations attracted the attention of the Captain, who, on ascertaining what had been done, refused to give her up and brought her back to Vizagapatam.

2. It is hard to know what remedy to suggest. Detection of such cases on shore is very difficult as the females are easily tutored as to what to say and have their heads filled with great expectations of the future to be enjoyed in Rangoon, and with their aid their abductors are almost sure to escape detection. In most cases they look forward to engaging in immoral pursuits and have no idea that they will not be free agents in the matter, so that they carefully avoid betraying their companions. I fear that in the hurry of disembarkation at Rangoon also most such cases must escape notice, besides which there is no reason why the dealers should disclose their ultimate intentions until after they get their victims safe ashore. Inspection on board-ship during the voyage, when sea-sickness and general discomfort have thrown some doubts on the promises of the dealers, seems to me to be the only remedy, and were it not for the disorder and confusion which prevails on board the ships, it would be very effective. I have no doubt but that the B.I.S.N. Company would willingly find free accommodation for an inspecting officer or two selected from the Rangoon police and conversant with Telugu. It would not be necessary that one should go in every steamer. If systematic inspection during the voyage was carried out occasionally it would go far to check the evil.

3. In connection with this question, I beg to call the attention of Government to the fact that a terrible disaster will take place ere long between this and Rangoon. Until lately the B.I.S.N. Company have carried on this trade in large and roomy steamers, but they have now put on a new class of vessel, such as the *Kistna* and *Comilla*, which, I believe, is specially designed to carry the maximum number of coolies with the minimum expenditure of space and tonnage. The first time one of these vessels encounters one of the cyclonic storms common in the Bay a catastrophe will occur. I should be sorry to see any restraints placed on passenger traffic with Rangoon, as it has been most advantageous to the East Coast, but I think that matters are going too far at present. It is a most profitable undertaking to the B.I.S.N. Company and one which can well afford to pay the cost of reasonable safety from disasters. I would suggest the advisability of the Presidency Port Officer being called on to report what would be the probable result of a vessel like the *Kistna* being caught in a moderate cyclonic storm of three or four days, duration with a full load of coolies on board. It will be remembered that the early part of the north-east monsoon—the most dangerous in the Bay—is the chief season for cooly emigration.

From J. THOMSON, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vallam, 13th July 1890, No. 1155.

In reply to reference on No. 2380 of 1890 from Government, directing me to report the result of the trial of the case of kidnapping referred to in paragraph 4 of letter No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, from the Commissioner of Police, returned herewith, I have the honor to state that the accused concerned were discharged under section 253, I.P.C. A copy of the judgment in the case sent me by the Head Assistant Magistrate, after seeing the file of correspondence, is herewith submitted. Though the women's names are different, I conclude the case is the same.

2. The Negapatam police say they received no call for information from the Madras police.

From M.R.Ry. K. SUBBAROYUDU, Garu, Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury, Godávari District, to the Collector, Godávari District, dated Cocanada, 14th July 1890, No. 1236.

With reference to your endorsement No. 198, dated 15th May 1890, and No. 229, dated 16th June 1890, on Government Official Memoranda, dated 10th May and 9th June last (herewith returned with enclosures), I have the honor to report on the supposed slave trade.

2. I have consulted the Port Officer, Cocanada, the three Sea Custom Superintendents in the district, and the Tahsildar of Narsápur on the subject. All of them, except the Superintendents of Sea Customs, Cocanada and Coringa, report, after due inquiry, that there are no reasons for believing that a regular slave trade exists between the ports in this district and Rangoon, and that there may, however, be isolated cases in which discontented women find easy inducement to go over to Burma.

3. The Superintendent of Sea Customs, Cocanada, reports a case which he suspects to fall under the category of slave trade. He states that Pullapudesu Appalaswami and a female named Gudimatta Mahalakshmi, both of Rámachandrapuram taluk, came to the Port office on the 7th ultimo to embark for Rangoon, after all the passengers had been examined by the Port Officer; that in his inquiry Appalaswami denied all acquaintance with the female and subsequently acknowledged that he lent her Rs. 30 on condition of her repaying the same at Rangoon; and that the female said that she borrowed the money promising to repay it at Rangoon out of her earnings from prostitution and that the loan was not given for the purpose of taking her to Rangoon for sale. As there was no evidence on the point they were let off. The Superintendent of Sea Customs, Coringa, states that a few females are occasionally taken to Burma and Straits Settlements from Coringa, Tallarevu, Nilapalli and other places either for sale or for earning money for their owners by prostitution, and gives a list of persons who are engaged in this profession.

4. On my personal inquiry the following facts have come to light.

5. Prostitutes who return from Burma bedecked, as they are, with jewels go into the interior, relate to young widows and other females in flattering terms as to the facilities for earning money and jewels, setting themselves as examples, and generally succeeded in alluring a few females for each trip, which is annual or biennial. The victims are advanced a few rupees an account of passage money and for purchasing cloths and other necessaries and are made to execute bonds for double or treble the amounts actually advanced. They are consigned to Cocanada, where they are harboured by certain men of low castes who are paid for their duty. They are taken to Rangoon where they are let loose after the debts as per bonds are paid up.

6. The agents who give shelter to women of this description are also said to entice females through the agency of prostitutes, but no evidence can be adduced to test the accuracy of these statements.

From M.R.Ry. K. SUBBAROYUDU, Garu, Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury, Cocanada, to the Collector, Godávari District, dated Cocanada, 18th August 1890, No. 1306.

Referring to your Official Memorandum No. 276, dated 26th ultimo, I have the honor to state that the Sea Custom Superintendent, Cocanada, reports that the specific cases referred to in the "Madras Times" cannot be traced.

2. The article does not give sufficient details to enable us to detect the agents or their victims.

3. The papers received by me are herewith returned.

No. 39.

Submitted to Government, in the Judicial Department, in reference to its Official Memoranda, dated 16th May 1890, and No. 94, dated 9th June 1890.

The Deputy Collector's reports contain all the information I have been able to obtain on the subject. The number of coolies who go to Rangoon from all parts of this district is so large that it is practically impossible to prevent any one with a complaint to make from communicating with his friends if he wishes to do so. The women taken away are all, or almost all, prostitutes already, and go over to better their condition.

Cocanada,
5th September 1890.

(Signed) W. A. HAPPELL,
District Magistrate.

From E. C. JOHNSON, Esq., District Magistrate, Ganjam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Chatrapur, 1st August 1890, No. 5321.

Adverting to the Government Official Memorandum, dated 10th May 1890, I have the honor to state that I see no ground for believing that any slave trade exists between the ports in this district and Rangoon. I learn that a man from Gopálpur was convicted by the Rangoon authorities more than a year ago for such dealing in respect of certain women whom he had taken there; but nothing of the kind has occurred since, at least careful inquiry has failed to elicit any instance.

2. A number of women of loose character go from this district to Rangoon, but they do so of their own free will, and knowing what they have before them; it is well known that there is a profitable opening for them there.

3. Copy of the "Madras Times," dated 3rd March 1890, is returned herewith.

Order—dated 21st November 1890, No. 790, Public.

In March last the attention of Government was called to an article in the *Madras Times*, headed "The 'Slave Trade' between Madras and Rangoon," and containing particulars of the committal to the Rangoon Sessions of an Indian named Veeraragoo for the sale of certain Madrassi females.

2. A copy of the article was sent to the Commissioner of Police and other officers concerned for report, and from the replies received the Government learn that—

Town of Madras.—There is no ground to suppose that any traffic in "slaves" exists.

Negapatam.—Precautions are taken to prevent females being allowed to embark otherwise than of their own free will.

Vizagapatam.—Cases are not unknown in which females are enticed to Rangoon and practically sold there for immoral purposes.

Godávari.—There are no reasons for believing that a regular "slave trade" exists between the ports in this district and Rangoon, but there may be isolated cases in which discontented women are induced to go over to Burma.

Ganjam.—There is no ground for believing that any "slave trade" exists between the ports of the district and Rangoon. A number of women of loose character go over of their own free will.

3. From the reports received, the Government is of opinion that the state of affairs at present is much the same as that described in G.O., No. 1452, Public, dated 12th July 1886, and that the only way of meeting the evil is that mentioned at the close of paragraph 8 of that order. Emigration from the Madras Presidency to Burma is—as then—wholly unregulated, and as long as women embark of their own free will there is nothing to prevent their doing so. It seems very improbable that any female could

be forcibly placed on board a vessel without the matter attracting attention, and the papers read above show that precautions are taken at East Coast ports against any such attempt being made, and that offenders when detected are rigorously dealt with.

4. The suggestion of the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, in paragraph 2 of his letter, No. 2037, dated 22nd June 1890, that an inspecting officer or two selected from the Rangoon Police should travel to and fro in the B. I. S. N. Co.'s vessels that carry the emigrants, will be remitted for the consideration of the Chief Commissioner of Burma. This would, perhaps, not be necessary if vessels were boarded by an inspector on arrival at Rangoon, and any complaints inquired into at once. Probably this is now done, but in any case this Government is of opinion that whatever further action is necessary in view to stopping traffic in women, must be taken by the authorities in Burma.

5. With reference to the concluding clause of paragraph 4 of his letter, No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, the attention of the Commissioner of Police will be drawn to letter, No. 1155, dated 13th July 1890, from the District Magistrate of Tanjore. The remarks of the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, in paragraph 3 of his letter, No. 2037, dated 22nd June 1890, have already * received attention.

* G.O., No. 300, Marine, dated 12th March 1890.

6. His Excellency the Governor in Council desires to take this opportunity of again † impressing on the Inspector-General of Police, the Magistrates of Coast Districts, the Protector of Emigrants at Madras, and the British Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal, the necessity for watchfulness on their part in view to frustrate any attempt that may be made to take unwilling emigrants from this Presidency to Rangoon.

† See paragraph 8 of G.O., No. 1452, dated 12th July 1886.

7. The following letter will be despatched to the Chief Commissioner of Burma :—

(Here enter No. 791, Public, dated 21st November 1890.)

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Police.
" Magistrates of Coast Districts.
" Protector of Emigrants.
" British Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal.
" Commissioner of Police.

Exd. P. L. Pereira.

Govt. of {1890} Madras.

PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., 21st November 1890, No. 790.

NOVEMBER.

Slave Trade.

Passing orders on the reports of the officers concerned with reference to an article in the *Madras Times* regarding the alleged — between Madras and Rangoon; and addressing the Chief Commissioner of Burma on the subject.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following papers:—

No. 53.

Memorandum.

The attention of the District Magistrate, Tanjore, and the Commissioner of Police, Madras, is drawn to an article headed "The Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon," published in the *Madras Times* of the 3rd instant, and they will report regarding the traffic therein referred to. The police should communicate with those of Rangoon in view to ascertaining whether any information can be obtained as to the persons engaged in the traffic in the Madras Presidency, and it should be ascertained whether the Port officer, Negapatam, can supply any information in the matter.

13*th March* 1890.

(Signed) J. GROSE,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the District Magistrate, Tanjore.
" Commissioner of Police.

THE "SLAVE TRADE" BETWEEN MADRAS AND RANGOON.

A man of the name of Veeraragoo, who had been under arrest in Rangoon for some time, and charged with engaging in what is known as the Madras slave trade, has been committed by the Assistant Magistrate of Rangoon to the next Criminal Sessions. The Magistrate, in giving the reasons for the committal, stated that three women were induced by the prisoner, on different grounds, to leave Negapatam. One said she was told she would be the wife or mistress of the prisoner; the second was informed she would lead a much happier life in Rangoon than in her own country, and the third was induced to proceed to Burma by similar representations. The three women were taken to the prisoner's house on their arrival in Rangoon, and there locked up. Two or three days afterwards they were sold for various prices. Two of them were purchased by men who seemed well pleased with their bargains, but, notwithstanding this, it appeared that the women were sold as so much property belonging to the prisoner.

A woman named Tellagunny stated that she went up from Madras about two months ago in company with two other women. They left from Negapatam, and she was put forcibly on board the steamer. About four or five men accompanied her. She was alone in Madras, her husband being away, and she was told that Rangoon was a fine place to live in and plenty of money to be found. She did not know the fate that awaited her on arrival. The accused went on board the steamer on her arrival in Rangoon, she was taken to a house for two or three days. She was not allowed to go out of the house without a man being in attendance, and she was always watched. One day a man came and asked the accused if he had any girls. He replied in the affirmative and the man paid Rs. 80 for her, and she was taken away. The money was to pay her passage, she thought. The Agent at Negapatam, Ravoota, told her that the accused would board the ship, and take possession of her on reaching Rangoon, and she could work and pay him her passage money. She did not come to Rangoon with the intention of getting a husband, and although she was unwilling she was compelled to go with the man who bought her. She did not get a pice of the Rs. 80, and was living with her purchaser right up to the present time. She was very comfortable in her new position.

Her purchaser was then called into Court, and she identified him, describing him as her husband.

Another Madrassi girl was called, who said that her name was Mooneamah. She now lived at Poozoondaung, and not long ago lived in one of the districts of Madras. Ravoota came to her at her home and told her he would take her to her husband in Rangoon, and as her parents had been very unkind to her, she proceeded with him to Negapatam, and was placed on board the steamer. She made arrangements for the loan of her passage-money, Rs. 10-4-0, to be repaid on her arrival in Rangoon. Four men came as passengers with her, and when the boat reached the Rangoon wharf the accused came and took her to a house where she remained three days, she was not allowed to go out to seek for her husband and she was not even permitted to leave the room. If she wanted to wash her face a man would enter the room with her. After three days a cultivator came and paid Rs. 90 for her and took her away.

A disreputable-looking individual was called into Court and the witness identified him as her husband.

The witness stated that she was not sorry she was sold, for she was happy with her new husband. She had, however, a sneaking regard for her proposed husband, and had looked for him without any result.

The purchaser of the last witness was called. He stated that the girl had been living with him for about a month and he bought her from the accused. It came about in this way. He was at a Chetty's house when the accused entered the building and said to him "I've got a girl for sale. I want Rs. 200 or Rs. 300 for her." He asked to see the girl and the accused took him to his present wife. He bargained for Rs. 90, cash, and after paying the money took the girl home. He had not got any other wife, and during the transaction he agreed to the price without the interference of any third party. It did not occur to him that he was acting contrary to law.

The purchaser of the first witness then entered the box. He said the girl had been living with him for about a month, and he paid Rs. 80 to the accused for her. He knew the accused had been living by importing girls, and one day he was met with the remark "Do you want a good girl." He replied in the affirmative, and was taken to a room where the girl was confined.

A Madrassi who crossed the Bay with the girls, deposed that he was paid one rupee to cook for them on the voyage, and was promised Rs. 2 when he reached Rangoon. The girls went willingly.

From Colonel T. WELDON, C.I.E., Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 12th April 1890, No. 40.

In accordance with the instructions conveyed by your memorandum, dated 13th March 1890, I have the honor to report the result of inquiries regarding the traffic referred to in an article headed "The Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon," published in the *Madras Times* of 3rd March.

2. So far as the Presidency town and port is concerned there is no ground to suppose that any such traffic exists, the bulk of deck passengers from this coast to Rangoon embark at Negapatam and, at certain seasons I believe, from some of the Northern ports—very few from Madras. Two cases of alleged kidnapping or abduction came to our notice last year; one on telegraphic advice from the Port officer at Negapatam, to whom it appears complaint had been made of the unlawful abduction of three women by one *Allay Pitchay* on board the S.S. *Sirsa*. On arrival here our police boarded the vessel and brought off the man *Allay Pitchay* and the females who alleged that they had been drugged and put on board by one *Shaik Mohidin* and a woman, whose name was not known to them, and in that state they were made over to the man *Allay Pitchay* to be taken to Rangoon.

3. The women stated here that two of them, *Nayagum* and *Alamaloo*, were sisters, the former married but deserted by her husband, the latter unmarried and under 16 years of age. They alleged that the unknown woman induced them to go to Negapatam whence they would be provided with free passage to Rangoon where possibly the married woman might find her husband. At Negapatam they were taken before a gentleman, probably the Port officer, whom they informed they were not willing to go to Rangoon and were thereupon allowed to depart, but on their way back to their homes they were overtaken by the same (unknown) woman who frightened them into returning to Negapatam where they were put on board the *Sirsa* and given into the charge of *Allay Pitchay*.

4. In the course of the inquiry here it was elicited that *Seethay*, one of the three women, was by no means the artless decoyed female pretended but was in fact the

mistress of the man *Allay Pitchay*, her *rôle* being to encourage the other women. The whole party was sent to the Magistrate at Negapatam. There the hitherto unknown woman was pointed out. She was then wearing a gold nose-screw taken from one of the sisters when latter were being put on board. The City Police officers were examined but returned here before the case was concluded. The police at Negapatam have been twice written to for information as to the result of the trial but no reply has been received.

5. In the second case, on the 3rd December 1889, when the City Police, as usual, boarded the S.S. *Booldana*, bound from Negapatam to Rangoon with coolies, two young women, named *Ungamah* and *Rungamah*, who said they were sisters, complained that they were being taken to Rangoon against their will by a Lubbay named *Pitchay Rowther* who was also on board. This man and the women were brought ashore. The women stated that they were married but lived with their parents at Trichinopoly. *Ungamah* said she was at variance with her husband and that she had an infant which she left at Trichinopoly with her mother. *Rungamah* said she had not yet consummated her marriage having only lately attained puberty. Their story was that a woman named *Perriah* induced them to go to Negapatam to see the ships and when there they were kept during the night in a godown and next day taken on board the steamer, where they were made over to the man *Pitchay Rowther*, their jewels being taken from them.

6. This case was sent to the Magistrate at Trichinopoly where it was discovered that the women had been lying. They were not sisters but were of different caste. They had both been abandoned by their husbands and were in fact prostitutes. There is no doubt they embarked voluntarily at the instigation of the woman *Perriah* whom they believed was also going to Rangoon but when she held back they repented, the experience of a sea voyage also probably being unpleasant.

7. The first case mentioned in paragraph 2 seems, however, to have had some foundation for the charge made. The man *Allay Pitchay* said that these women and other coolies—with their passage tickets and about 20 promissory notes for sums from 70 to 90 rupees said to have been executed by them, but which the alleged makers repudiated—were made over to him on board at Negapatam by *Shaik Mohidin* and one *Nyna Mahommed* to be delivered to a certain person at Rangoon. *Allay Pitchay* had certain letters to an addressee at Rangoon which were sent with him to Negapatam. *Nyna Mahommed*, mentioned by *Allay Pitchay* as one of the men who made over the women to him at Negapatam, was at the time in Rangoon and is said to be there still; probably he is the consignee at Rangoon, *Shaik Mohidin* the consignor at Negapatam, and *Allay Pitchay* the travelling conductor.

8. As remarked before, I do not think there is any such traffic as alluded to from this port, but there probably is something of the kind from Negapatam, although the subjects of it are not all the innocent, unsophisticated creatures they would pretend when they wish to repudiate their bargains. It would probably be found that many, if not most, of them are runaway wives and discarded mistresses—that they have been dazzled by bright promises and advances freely made for passage-money and other expenses, which sums are recovered with large profit from any person willing to take over the debtor and her debt on cash terms, to which most likely all parties fully agree.

9. The Police authorities at Rangoon have been asked to furnish any statements of facts or names of persons on this side of the Bay which might lead to the detection and suppression of any such traffic, if it exists.

From Colonel T. WELDON, C.I.E., Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 28th April 1890, No. 45.

In continuation of my report, No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, on reference No. 53, dated 13th March 1890, Judicial, concerning the alleged traffic in females between this Presidency and Rangoon, I have the honor to submit the following reply

to a letter addressed by me to the District Superintendent of Police at Rangoon which confirms my opinion that no such traffic exists as between this port and Rangoon:—

"From the Superintendent of Police, Rangoon, to the Commissioner of Police, Madras, dated Rangoon, 18th April 1890.

"Sir,—With reference to your No. 417, of 7th instant, I have the honor to inform you that I know of no instances where females were abducted from the town of Madras. At the very early part of this year I sent some persons to trial for unlawfully detaining, &c., some women who were abducted from Negapatam."

From E. GIBSON, Esq., District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Kumbakónam, 14th April 1890, No. 38-C.

Referring to your memorandum, No. 53, dated 13th March 1890, I have the honor to forward a letter from the Port officer, Negapatam, on the subject of the so-called "Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon." This letter gives information regarding the persons who are engaged in recruiting for Burma, and it shows that, so far as is possible, precautions are taken to prevent females being allowed to embark otherwise than of their own free will.

2. I have just been in Negapatam and was informed by one of the principal merchants there that he had received information from a correspondent at Rangoon that the supply of labor from Negapatam had diminished owing, as it was supposed, to the interference of our police.

3. So far as the port of Negapatam is concerned, it would seem that all reasonable safe-guards are observed to prevent illicit practices, but of course if adult women express their willingness to go to Burma, we cannot prevent them.

4. That the recruitors of laborers for Burma and other places are mostly a disreputable crew is well known; they drive unfair bargains with the laborers and deceive them with false promises, but they manage to keep within the law.

5. The issue of the *Madras Times* received with G.O., No. 406-R., dated 28th March 1890, is herewith returned.

Enclosures.

From P. JAMES, Esq., Port Officer, Negapatam, to the District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 20th March 1890, No. 133-M.

With reference to G.O., No. 53, Judicial Department, dated 13th March, forwarded with your No. 522-M., dated 19th March 1890, I have the honor to report that I have little doubt that there is a traffic between this port and Rangoon in labor.

2. The exporters are for the most part Muhammadans, and their procedure seems to be as follows:—They have touts who go about in the districts telling ryots what large wages are to be had in Burma, and offering to pay their passage if they will sign a pro-note for the amount with interest; the pro-note, I am informed, being for Rs. 22-8-0, whereas the passage-money and boat-hire only amount to Rs. 10-4-0.

3. I have frequently had parties of men and women who, I found were going over on these terms, in my office, explained to them what they are doing and telling them what they may expect on the other side, but in every case they have declared they would take their chance. No women are allowed to embark at this port without first getting a pass in my office from the Emigration clerk who carefully inquires into the circumstances under which each female is going, and enters the age, marks, village, father's name, &c., in a book kept for the purpose. The pass has to be delivered up to the jetty peon before a woman gets into a boat, and if any appear without the pass, they are sent back to the office. All suspicious cases are brought before me for inquiry and if I am not satisfied I immediately hand the matter over to the police for investigation. Since my arrival here in July last, 820 females have been registered in my office, of whom only nine failed to embark at the last moment, and I have sent four cases to the police for investigation.

4. I beg to enclose the names of nineteen men who are known to be exporters of labor and there are several others I believe. I also enclose blank form of boat pass issued to females only after being registered in this office.

Names of Headmen who send coolies to Burma.

1. Sackarai Rowthen.
2. Sekunder Cossim Rowthen.
3. Seeni Rowthen.
4. Naina Mahomed.
5. Sagoosa.
6. Madarsa.
7. Gulam Mohidin Rowthen.
8. Esoof Rowthen.
9. Packri Rowthen.
10. Kadersa Rowthen.
11. Levvy.
12. Appatha Rowthen.
13. Mahomed Naina Rowthen.
14. Sathasiva Valléy.
15. Sasoomalevvy.
16. Moulasa.
17. Hassanar.
18. Sekender.
19. Sackaray Bava.

From J. THOMSON, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Negapatam, 16th June 1890, No. 995.

With reference to endorsement, dated 5th May 1890, on letter No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, from the Commissioner of Police, Madras, to you, reporting the result of inquiries regarding "the so-called Slave Trade" between Madras and Rangoon, I have the honor to forward a letter* from the Port officer, Negapatam, remarking with special reference to paragraphs 3 and 7 of the said letter.

*No. 22-182, dated 5th June 1890 (copy).

2. The Port officer states that the three women alluded to in paragraph 3 were registered for Rangoon as they were willing to go there and that no telegraphic communication of the abduction of these females appears to have been sent as stated in paragraph 2.

3. Referring to the two women mentioned in paragraph 5, the Port officer reports that there is no entry in his register of a Rengammal having embarked in the *Booldana* but that an Angammal and her cousin, Meenatchi, aged 27 and 21, respectively, were the only two females from Trichinopoly who left by that steamer—one to join her husband and the other her parents.

4. As regards paragraph 7, Naina Mahomed referred to is reported to be an exporter of laborers, Alla Pitchai a maistry apparently employed under the former, and Sheik Mohidin one of his touts.

5. As observed by Mr. Gibson in his letter No. 38-C, dated 14th April 1890, to you, all reasonable safe-guards seem to have been observed at Negapatam against illicit practices but adult females cannot be prevented from going to Burma when they express their desire to go there.

Enclosures.

From P. JAMES, Esq., Port Officer, Negapatam, to the District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 5th June 1890, No. 22-182.

Replying to your endorsement, No. 937, dated 3rd June 1890, on letter (herewith returned) from the Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, I have the honor to state that I have no further information on the subject beyond that contained in my No. 133 M., dated 20th March 1890, to your address.

2. Referring to paragraph 3 of the Commissioner's letter, I was not here at the time the occurrence took place, but the Emigration clerk informs me that, during the inspection of the Emigration depôts by my predecessor, the three women referred to were found in a depôt kept by one "Sagoo." They stated that they had been brought there to go to Penang, but were unwilling to go, so were immediately permitted to leave the depôt. They were afterwards brought to the office saying they were willing to proceed to Rangoon; an extract from the register is appended. The Emigration clerk informs me that no telegram was sent from this office to the Commissioner of Police, Madras. The S.S. *Sirsa* left here on June 30th.

3. Regarding paragraph 7, there is no entry of any woman named Rungammal having embarked in the *Booldana*. A woman named Angammal, aged 27, is entered as proceeding to

to a letter addressed by me to the District Superintendent of Police at Rangoon which confirms my opinion that no such traffic exists as between this port and Rangoon:—

"From the Superintendent of Police, Rangoon, to the Commissioner of Police, Madras, dated Rangoon, 18th April 1890.

"Sir,—With reference to your No. 417, of 7th instant, I have the honor to inform you that I know of no instances where females were abducted from the town of Madras. At the very early part of this year I sent some persons to trial for unlawfully detaining, &c., some women who were abducted from Negapatam."

From E. GIBSON, Esq., District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Kumbakónam, 14th April 1890, No. 38-C.

Referring to your memorandum, No. 53, dated 13th March 1890, I have the honor to forward a letter from the Port officer, Negapatam, on the subject of the so-called "Slave Trade between Madras and Rangoon." This letter gives information regarding the persons who are engaged in recruiting for Burma, and it shows that, so far as is possible, precautions are taken to prevent females being allowed to embark otherwise than of their own free will.

2. I have just been in Negapatam and was informed by one of the principal merchants there that he had received information from a correspondent at Rangoon that the supply of labor from Negapatam had diminished owing, as it was supposed, to the interference of our police.

3. So far as the port of Negapatam is concerned, it would seem that all reasonable safe-guards are observed to prevent illicit practices, but of course if adult women express their willingness to go to Burma, we cannot prevent them.

4. That the recruitors of laborers for Burma and other places are mostly a disreputable crew is well known; they drive unfair bargains with the laborers and deceive them with false promises, but they manage to keep within the law.

5. The issue of the *Madras Times* received with G.O., No. 406-R., dated 28th March 1890, is herewith returned.

Enclosures.

From P. JAMES, Esq., Port Officer, Negapatam, to the District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 20th March 1890, No. 133-M.

With reference to G.O., No. 53, Judicial Department, dated 13th March, forwarded with your No. 522-M., dated 19th March 1890, I have the honor to report that I have little doubt that there is a traffic between this port and Rangoon in labor.

2. The exporters are for the most part Muhammadans, and their procedure seems to be as follows:—They have touts who go about in the districts telling ryots what large wages are to be had in Burma, and offering to pay their passage if they will sign a pro-note for the amount with interest; the pro-note, I am informed, being for Rs. 22-8-0, whereas the passage-money and boat-hire only amount to Rs. 10-4-0.

3. I have frequently had parties of men and women who, I found were going over on these terms, in my office, explained to them what they are doing and telling them what they may expect on the other side, but in every case they have declared they would take their chance. No women are allowed to embark at this port without first getting a pass in my office from the Emigration clerk who carefully inquires into the circumstances under which each female is going, and enters the age, marks, village, father's name, &c., in a book kept for the purpose. The pass has to be delivered up to the jetty peon before a woman gets into a boat, and if any appear without the pass, they are sent back to the office. All suspicious cases are brought before me for inquiry and if I am not satisfied I immediately hand the matter over to the police for investigation. Since my arrival here in July last, 820 females have been registered in my office, of whom only nine failed to embark at the last moment, and I have sent four cases to the police for investigation.

4. I beg to enclose the names of nineteen men who are known to be exporters of labor and there are several others I believe. I also enclose blank form of boat pass issued to females only after being registered in this office.

Names of Headmen who send coolies to Burma.

1. Sackarai Rowthen.
2. Sekunder Cossim Rowthen.
3. Seeni Rowthen.
4. Naina Mahomed.
5. Sagoosa.
6. Madarsa.
7. Gulam Mohidin Rowthen.
8. Esoof Rowthen.
9. Packri Rowthen.
10. Kadersa Rowthen.
11. Levvy.
12. Appatha Rowthen.
13. Mahomed Naina Rowthen.
14. Sathasiva Valléy.
15. Sasoomalevvy.
16. Moulasa.
17. Hassanar.
18. Sekender.
19. Sackaray Bava.

From J. THOMSON, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Negapatam, 16th June 1890, No. 995.

With reference to endorsement, dated 5th May 1890, on letter No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, from the Commissioner of Police, Madras, to you, reporting the result of inquiries regarding "the so-called Slave Trade" between Madras and Rangoon, I have the honor to forward a letter* from the Port officer, Negapatam, remarking with special reference to paragraphs 3 and 7 of the said letter.

*No. 22-182, dated 5th June 1890 (copy).

2. The Port officer states that the three women alluded to in paragraph 3 were registered for Rangoon as they were willing to go there and that no telegraphic communication of the abduction of these females appears to have been sent as stated in paragraph 2.

3. Referring to the two women mentioned in paragraph 5, the Port officer reports that there is no entry in his register of a Rengammal having embarked in the *Booldana* but that an Angammal and her cousin, Meenatchi, aged 27 and 21, respectively, were the only two females from Trichinopoly who left by that steamer—one to join her husband and the other her parents.

4. As regards paragraph 7, Naina Mahomed referred to is reported to be an exporter of laborers, Alla Pitchai a maistry apparently employed under the former, and Sheik Mohidin one of his touts.

5. As observed by Mr. Gibson in his letter No. 38-C, dated 14th April 1890, to you, all reasonable safe-guards seem to have been observed at Negapatam against illicit practices but adult females cannot be prevented from going to Burma when they express their desire to go there.

Enclosures.

From P. JAMES, Esq., Port Officer, Negapatam, to the District Magistrate, Tanjore, dated Negapatam, 5th June 1890, No. 22-182.

Replying to your endorsement, No. 937, dated 3rd June 1890, on letter (herewith returned) from the Commissioner of Police, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, I have the honor to state that I have no further information on the subject beyond that contained in my No. 133 M., dated 20th March 1890, to your address.

2. Referring to paragraph 3 of the Commissioner's letter, I was not here at the time the occurrence took place, but the Emigration clerk informs me that, during the inspection of the Emigration depôts by my predecessor, the three women referred to were found in a depôt kept by one "Sagoo." They stated that they had been brought there to go to Penang, but were unwilling to go, so were immediately permitted to leave the depôt. They were afterwards brought to the office saying they were willing to proceed to Rangoon; an extract from the register is appended. The Emigration clerk informs me that no telegram was sent from this office to the Commissioner of Police, Madras. The S.S. *Sirsa* left here on June 30th.

3. Regarding paragraph 7, there is no entry of any woman named Rungammal having embarked in the *Booldana*. A woman named Angammal, aged 27, is entered as proceeding to

join her husband, Pitchaykaren, at Rangoon, accompanied by her cousin, Munichee, aged 21, who was going to join her parents. This is probably the woman who afterwards gave her name as Rungammal, these two being the only females from Trichinopoly who left by that steamer.

4. The labor traffic in men is exactly the same as in women, ignorant coolies signing bonds for their free passage, but probably they are able to take care of themselves and are not quite so openly sold, although until their debt is paid off they remain in a state of semi-slavery.

5. I have frequently explained to them what they had to expect, but they always say they are willing to take the risk.

6. Of the three men named in paragraph 7, only one, Naina Mahomed, appears in my list of exporters of labor sent to you with my letter above quoted, and I am inclined to believe that the one named Allapitchay is a sort of maistry and "Shaik Mohidin," is one of the touts of "Naina Mahomed."

7. On March 23rd I wrote to the Inspector of Police at Rangoon informing him that two women and one man had been shipped here by one Goolam Mohidin, consigned either to Secunder or Meerapillai at Rangoon. They had signed bonds and said they knew what they were about, but I thought it might be a case for the police to keep an eye on. One of the women was middle-aged, and the other about 20, accompanying the man, who, she said, was her father.

8. I am informed that the man Naina Mahomed has returned here from Rangoon.

An extract from the register of females proceeding to Burma.

No.	Name of vessel.	Name.	Father's name.	Age.	Caste.	Village and District.	Marks.	Remarks.
368	S.S. *Sirsa.*	Nayagam.	Vythy	23	Pallar.	Thandavalam, Tanjore	Mole on left shoulder.	To join her husband, Coondan.
369	Do.	Alamaloo.	Do.	18	Do.	Do. do.	Scar on centre back.	Accompanying her sister Nayagam.
*	*	* *	*		*	*	*	*
371	S.S. *Sirsa.*	Seethay.	Govinda Pillai.	33	Vellalah.	Amoor, Tanjore.	Face pitted with small-pox (a little white spot on right eye by small-pox).	Widow. She is going with her own free will to join her relatives.

From W. A. WILLOCK, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vizagapatam, 22nd June 1890, No. 2037.

In reply to the Government official memorandum, dated 10th May 1890, Judicial, I have the honor to state that I fear cases in which females are enticed across to Rangoon, and practically sold there for immoral purposes, are not unknown here. In 1886 a gang was caught in the act of bringing a consignment of five girls across to Rangoon for the purpose, and the parties implicated were tried by the Temporary Deputy Magistrate in cases Nos. 29, 30, 31 and 32 on his file. The result was that the following sentences were imposed:—

—	Case No. 29.	Case No. 30.	Case No. 31.	Case No. 32.	Total imprisonment.
1. Lal Mahomed	2 years' rigorous imprisonment.	..	1 year's rigorous imprisonment.	1 year's rigorous imprisonment.	4 years.
2. Lenka Suramma	Do.	..	Do.	Do.	4 do.
3. Puli Kunchamma	Do.	2 years' R.I.	..	..	4 do.
4. Garugubilli Gaddi	Do.	..	1 year's R.I.	1 year's R.I.	4 do.
5. Inapasappi Murti	Do.	..	..	..	2 do.
6. Silam Atchemma	Do.	..	1 year's R.I.	1 year's R.I.	4 do.
7. Do. Pentamma	..	..	Do.	..	1 year.
8. Vempada Kanakamma	..	2 years' R.I.	..	..	2 years.
9. Davvu Appalamma	..	..	..	1 year.	1 year.

Nos. (1), (2) and (3) were from Rangoon and were prostitutes and brothel-keepers there; Nos. (4), (5), (6), (7), (8) and (9) were their accomplices here, and kidnapped

or induced the girls (who were minors) to come to Vizagapatam for the purpose of embarking for Rangoon. The usual price paid to the latter was about Rs. 10. The manner in which these cases were disposed of must have inculcated the necessity of extreme caution on those engaged in this trade, and renders detection very difficult; but I believe that it is still occasionally carried on. One case, which will probably turn out to be similar to the above, is now under inquiry and I have heard of the following occurrence:—A Brahmin woman left her husband and resided for some time with a paramour who took to ill-treating her when the funds derived from the sale of her jewels began to fall short. She therefore left him and allowed herself to be embarked for Rangoon by a man whose acquaintance she had made and who promised her prosperous times there. On arriving at Rangoon he sold her on board the steamer to a Pariah for 60 or 70 rupees, much to her horror, and her lamentations attracted the attention of the Captain, who, on ascertaining what had been done, refused to give her up and brought her back to Vizagapatam.

2. It is hard to know what remedy to suggest. Detection of such cases on shore is very difficult as the females are easily tutored as to what to say and have their heads filled with great expectations of the future to be enjoyed in Rangoon, and with their aid their abductors are almost sure to escape detection. In most cases they look forward to engaging in immoral pursuits and have no idea that they will not be free agents in the matter, so that they carefully avoid betraying their companions. I fear that in the hurry of disembarkation at Rangoon also most such cases must escape notice, besides which there is no reason why the dealers should disclose their ultimate intentions until after they get their victims safe ashore. Inspection on board-ship during the voyage, when sea-sickness and general discomfort have thrown some doubts on the promises of the dealers, seems to me to be the only remedy, and were it not for the disorder and confusion which prevails on board the ships, it would be very effective. I have no doubt but that the B.I.S.N. Company would willingly find free accommodation for an inspecting officer or two selected from the Rangoon police and conversant with Telugu. It would not be necessary that one should go in every steamer. If systematic inspection during the voyage was carried out occasionally it would go far to check the evil.

3. In connection with this question, I beg to call the attention of Government to the fact that a terrible disaster will take place ere long between this and Rangoon. Until lately, the B.I.S.N. Company have carried on this trade in large and roomy steamers, but they have now put on a new class of vessel, such as the *Kistna* and *Comilla*, which, I believe, is specially designed to carry the maximum number of coolies with the minimum expenditure of space and tonnage. The first time one of these vessels encounters one of the cyclonic storms common in the Bay a catastrophe will occur. I should be sorry to see any restraints placed on passenger traffic with Rangoon, as it has been most advantageous to the East Coast, but I think that matters are going too far at present. It is a most profitable undertaking to the B.I.S.N. Company and one which can well afford to pay the cost of reasonable safety from disasters. I would suggest the advisability of the Presidency Port Officer being called on to report what would be the probable result of a vessel like the *Kistna* being caught in a moderate cyclonic storm of three or four days, duration with a full load of coolies on board. It will be remembered that the early part of the north-east monsoon—the most dangerous in the Bay—is the chief season for cooly emigration.

From J. THOMSON, Esq., Acting District Magistrate, Tanjore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Vallam, 13th July 1890, No. 1155.

In reply to reference on No. 2380 of 1890 from Government, directing me to report the result of the trial of the case of kidnapping referred to in paragraph 4 of letter No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, from the Commissioner of Police, returned herewith, I have the honor to state that the accused concerned were discharged under section 253, I.P.C. A copy of the judgment in the case sent me by the Head Assistant Magistrate, after seeing the file of correspondence, is herewith submitted. Though the women's names are different, I conclude the case is the same.

2. The Negapatam police say they received no call for information from the Madras police.

From M.R.Ry. K. SUBBAROYUDU, Garu, Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury, Godávari District, to the Collector, Godávari District, dated Cocanada, 14th July 1890, No. 1236.

With reference to your endorsement No. 198, dated 15th May 1890, and No. 229, dated 16th June 1890, on Government Official Memoranda, dated 10th May and 9th June last (herewith returned with enclosures), I have the honor to report on the supposed slave trade.

2. I have consulted the Port Officer, Cocanada, the three Sea Custom Superintendents in the district, and the Tahsildar of Narsápur on the subject. All of them, except the Superintendents of Sea Customs, Cocanada and Coringa, report, after due inquiry, that there are no reasons for believing that a regular slave trade exists between the ports in this district and Rangoon, and that there may, however, be isolated cases in which discontented women find easy inducement to go over to Burma.

3. The Superintendent of Sea Customs, Cocanada, reports a case which he suspects to fall under the category of slave trade. He states that Pullapudesu Appalaswami and a female named Gudimatta Mahalakshmi, both of Rámachandrapuram taluk, came to the Port office on the 7th ultimo to embark for Rangoon, after all the passengers had been examined by the Port Officer; that in his inquiry Appalaswami denied all acquaintance with the female and subsequently acknowledged that he lent her Rs. 30 on condition of her repaying the same at Rangoon; and that the female said that she borrowed the money promising to repay it at Rangoon out of her earnings from prostitution and that the loan was not given for the purpose of taking her to Rangoon for sale. As there was no evidence on the point they were let off. The Superintendent of Sea Customs, Coringa, states that a few females are occasionally taken to Burma and Straits Settlements from Coringa, Tallarevu, Nilapalli and other places either for sale or for earning money for their owners by prostitution, and gives a list of persons who are engaged in this profession.

4. On my personal inquiry the following facts have come to light.

5. Prostitutes who return from Burma bedecked, as they are, with jewels go into the interior, relate to young widows and other females in flattering terms as to the facilities for earning money and jewels, setting themselves as examples, and generally succeeded in alluring a few females for each trip, which is annual or biennial. The victims are advanced a few rupees an account of passage money and for purchasing cloths and other necessaries and are made to execute bonds for double or treble the amounts actually advanced. They are consigned to Cocanada, where they are harboured by certain men of low castes who are paid for their duty. They are taken to Rangoon where they are let loose after the debts as per bonds are paid up.

6. The agents who give shelter to women of this description are also said to entice females through the agency of prostitutes; but no evidence can be adduced to test the accuracy of these statements.

From M.R.Ry. K. SUBBAROYUDU, Garu, Deputy Collector in charge of the Treasury, Cocanada, to the Collector, Godávari District, dated Cocanada, 18th August 1890, No. 1306.

Referring to your Official Memorandum No. 276, dated 26th ultimo, I have the honor to state that the Sea Custom Superintendent, Cocanada, reports that the specific cases referred to in the "Madras Times" cannot be traced.

2. The article does not give sufficient details to enable us to detect the agents or their victims.

3. The papers received by me are herewith returned.

No. 39.

Submitted to Government, in the Judicial Department, in reference to its Official Memoranda, dated 16th May 1890, and No. 94, dated 9th June 1890.

The Deputy Collector's reports contain all the information I have been able to obtain on the subject. The number of coolies who go to Rangoon from all parts of this district is so large that it is practically impossible to prevent any one with a complaint to make from communicating with his friends if he wishes to do so. The women taken away are all, or almost all, prostitutes already, and go over to better their condition.

Cocanada,
5th September 1890.

(Signed) W. A. HAPPELL,
District Magistrate.

From E. C. JOHNSON, Esq., District Magistrate, Ganjam, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Chatrapur, 1st August 1890, No. 5321.

Adverting to the Government Official Memorandum, dated 10th May 1890, I have the honor to state that I see no ground for believing that any slave trade exists between the ports in this district and Rangoon. I learn that a man from Gopálpur was convicted by the Rangoon authorities more than a year ago for such dealing in respect of certain women whom he had taken there; but nothing of the kind has occurred since, at least careful inquiry has failed to elicit any instance.

2. A number of women of loose character go from this district to Rangoon, but they do so of their own free will, and knowing what they have before them; it is well known that there is a profitable opening for them there.

3. Copy of the "Madras Times," dated 3rd March 1890, is returned herewith.

Order—dated 21st November 1890, No. 790, Public.

In March last the attention of Government was called to an article in the *Madras Times*, headed "The 'Slave Trade' between Madras and Rangoon," and containing particulars of the committal to the Rangoon Sessions of an Indian named Veeraragoo for the sale of certain Madrassi females.

2. A copy of the article was sent to the Commissioner of Police and other officers concerned for report, and from the replies received the Government learn that—

Town of Madras.—There is no ground to suppose that any traffic in "slaves" exists.

Negapatam.—Precautions are taken to prevent females being allowed to embark otherwise than of their own free will.

Vizagapatam.—Cases are not unknown in which females are enticed to Rangoon and practically sold there for immoral purposes.

Godávari.—There are no reasons for believing that a regular "slave trade" exists between the ports in this district and Rangoon, but there may be isolated cases in which discontented women are induced to go over to Burma.

Ganjam.—There is no ground for believing that any "slave trade" exists between the ports of the district and Rangoon. A number of women of loose character go over of their own free will.

3. From the reports received, the Government is of opinion that the state of affairs at present is much the same as that described in G.O., No. 1452, Public, dated 12th July 1886, and that the only way of meeting the evil is that mentioned at the close of paragraph 8 of that order. Emigration from the Madras Presidency to Burma is—as then—wholly unregulated, and as long as women embark of their own free will there is nothing to prevent their doing so. It seems very improbable that any female could

be forcibly placed on board a vessel without the matter attracting attention, and the papers read above show that precautions are taken at East Coast ports against any such attempt being made, and that offenders when detected are rigorously dealt with.

4. The suggestion of the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, in paragraph 2 of his letter, No. 2037, dated 22nd June 1890, that an inspecting officer or two selected from the Rangoon Police should travel to and fro in the B. I. S. N. Co.'s vessels that carry the emigrants, will be remitted for the consideration of the Chief Commissioner of Burma. This would, perhaps, not be necessary if vessels were boarded by an inspector on arrival at Rangoon, and any complaints inquired into at once. Probably this is now done, but in any case this Government is of opinion that whatever further action is necessary in view to stopping traffic in women, must be taken by the authorities in Burma.

5. With reference to the concluding clause of paragraph 4 of his letter, No. 40, dated 12th April 1890, the attention of the Commissioner of Police will be drawn to letter, No. 1155, dated 13th July 1890, from the District Magistrate of Tanjore. The remarks of the District Magistrate, Vizagapatam, in paragraph 3 of his letter, No. 2037, dated 22nd June 1890, have already * received attention.

* G.O., No. 300, Marine, dated 12th March 1890.

6. His Excellency the Governor in Council desires to take this opportunity of again † impressing on the Inspector-General of Police, the Magistrates of Coast Districts, the Protector of Emigrants at Madras, and the British Consular Agent at Pondicherry and Karikal, the necessity for watchfulness on their part in view to frustrate any attempt that may be made to take unwilling emigrants from this Presidency to Rangoon.

† See paragraph 8 of G.O., No. 1452, dated 12th July 1886.

7. The following letter will be despatched to the Chief Commissioner of Burma.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Police.
" Magistrates of Coast Districts.
" Protector of Emigrants.
" British Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal.
" Commissioner of Police.

Letter—to the Chief Commissioner of Burma, dated Fort St. George, 21st November 1890, No. 791, Public.

I am directed to forward, for any action that you may deem necessary, copy of the Proceedings of this Government, No. 790, of this date.

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

Endorsement—dated 21st November 1890, No. 792, Public.

Copy to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, for information, with reference to No. 1454, Public, dated 12th July 1886, and subsequent correspondence.

Chief Secretary.

Exd. P. L. Pereira.

Govt. of {1890} Madras.

PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd. Encl.

G.O., &c., 21st November 1890,
Nos. 790—792.

NOVEMBER.

Slave Trade.

Passing orders on the reports of the officers oncerned with reference to an article in the *Tadras Times* regarding the alleged — between Tadras and Rangoon; and addressing the Chief ommissioner of Burma on the subject.