

ORDINARY, MS.

<i>Public</i> DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 28-3-91
No. 246. ✓

INDEXED.*When given for copying*

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Indian immigra-
tion into the State
Settlements:-*

BACK PAPER, No.

OF 18

FURTHER PAPER, No. 1034/91

OF 18

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
18, No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.

Public CP 674.

File No. 11.

Serial No. 2.

1891.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

EMIGRATION.



To

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

No. $\frac{474}{11-2}$ E.

Dated Calcutta, the 25th February 1891.

*How
mis
Order* 20 March 91 No. 246
H. K. L.

Recorded

18 March

*to Col. Tanjore with
reference to No. 854 of
11.90*

SUBJECT.

INDIAN immigration into the Straits Settlements.

No. $\frac{474}{11-2}$ E.

FROM

SIR E. C. BUCK, KT.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Revenue and Agricultural Department.
Emigration.

CALCUTTA, the 25th February 1891.

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3355—90, dated 20th August 1890, and 75 copies of the report on Indian immigration into the Straits Settlements during the year 1889.

2: The report was referred to the Government of Madras and a copy of the correspondence which has taken place is enclosed for the information and consideration of the Colonial Government. The Government of India are awaiting, with some anxiety, the further communication promised in paragraph 4 of your letter under acknowledgment on the subject of the action taken to raise the scale of wages and to shorten the period of contract of Indian coolies in the protected Native States. They gather that there is a very material difference between the wages of the free and indentured immigrant, and suggest that positive measures might be justified to improve the remuneration of the latter. They trust, therefore, that this subject may receive the consideration of the Colonial Government.

3. The Government of India also apprehend that more secure sanitary precautions should be taken on behalf of indentured coolies. There seems reason to believe that the new estates in Selangor and Sungei Ujong, freshly cleared from forests, are unhealthy and must be so for the first few years after they are opened. Precautions seem, therefore, specially necessary in those States, and I am to suggest that a special inspection of each estate or work (including the railway), and a report on its sanitary condition, the provision made for the housing and water-supply of coolies, and the amount of medical attention they receive, should be made as early as convenient by the Protector and a medical officer, and that more detailed information on these subjects should be furnished in the Protector's annual report. I am further to suggest that it might be desirable to put in force the policy adopted in Assam of closing or threatening to close the supply of coolies to estates where excessive mortality is not or cannot be prevented.

4. The Government of India doubt whether the plea advanced by planters that the recruits are physically inferior can be admitted as a valid excuse for the serious mortality which has been shown to exist. It is possible no doubt that excessive sea-sickness may result in a certain amount of prostration on arrival in which case it would seem desirable to allow an interval of at least a week's rest after disembarkation. But it appears to be a fact that coolies of a similar class and physique who proceed to other colonies are not exceptionally subject to sickness or mortality.

Finally, the Government of India are of opinion that, as suggested by the Collector of Tanjore in the correspondence appended to this letter, the Protector should be required to furnish quarterly a table of prices to be hung up at the depôt.

I have the honour to be,

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Your most obedient Servant,

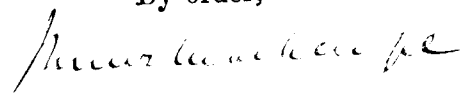
E. C. BUCK,

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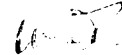
No. ⁴⁷⁵/₁₁₋₂ E.

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By order,



Under-Secretary to the Government of India.



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