

19-5-08 ✓
16-10-12

ORDINARY, MS.

<i>Public</i> DEPARTMENT.	
G.O., DATED	11-3-93
No.	208.

INDEXED.

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Fiji "Indian In-
migrants Kanaka"
Ordinance II of 1892*

BACK PAPER, No.

OF 18

FURTHER PAPER, No.

OF 18

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

ENCLOSURES

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

Current No. 694

Pub. DEPARTMENT.

From Gov. I.

No. $\frac{481}{3}$

Dated 3^d }
Received 7th } March 1893

Enclosure one

SUBJECT.

Communicating copy of letter to
the Bengal Govt. stating that no
amendment is necessary in Section
16 of the Fiji "Indian Immigrants
Mamaji" Ordinance II of 1892

Subj. 210 D 24-1-85
314 D 6-2-85
1986 D 9-9-84
158 D 11-3-93

mu. 11 March 93-208.
order W. W. W. W.

Recorded.

Copy to
The Protector of Emigrants.

Note
No emigrants from this
Presy. to Fiji Islands.
J. B. B.
8/3

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

WITH ORDER

694
No. 480
3

FROM

J. W. P. MUIR-MACKENZIE, ESQ., C.S.,
Under-Secretary to the Government of India,

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Calcutta, the

3rd March 1893.

Revenue and Agricultural
Department.

SIR,

(Emigration)

With reference to your letter No. 56 dated the

7th January last, and enclosures, on the subject of the Fiji

Attention to subject "Indian Immigrants Marriage" Ordinance II of 1892, I am directed to state that in the opinion of the Governor General in Council, no amendment is necessary in Section 16 of the Ordinance, which prohibits polygamous marriages among Indian immigrants while in the Colony. Under the provisions of Section 5 of the Ordinance, the wives brought by an emigrant to the Colony will be legally recognized.

2. I am to suggest, however, that intending emigrants to any Colony in which polygamous marriages are prohibited, should be made fully acquainted, before they enter into their engagements, with the invalidity of such marriages if contracted in the Colony.

I have &c.,
Sd. J. W. P. Muir-Mackenzie,
Under-Secretary.

No. 481
3

Copy, with copy of the letter referred to, forwarded to the Government of Madras for information & guidance.

By order,

J. W. P. Muir-Mackenzie
Under-Secretary.

J. S. C.

From the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Secretary to the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, No. 56, dated 7th January 1893.

With reference to your office endorsement No. 2814/73, dated the 2nd December 1892, and enclosure, I am directed to submit the enclosed copy of a letter from the Protector of Emigrants, Calcutta, No. 3865, dated the 21st idem, on the subject of the Fiji Ordinance, No. 2 of 1892, and to

say that, as the objection taken by Dr. McLeod to the ordinance on the score that Section 16 infringes the personal rights of the emigrants in regard to polygamous marriages was disallowed by the Government of India in the case of Natal, the Lieutenant Governor does not press for its acceptance in that of Fiji.

From the Protector of Emigrants, Calcutta, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, No. 3865, dated 21st December 1892.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Richardson's endorsement No. 3596 dated the 14th instant, forwarding a copy of Fiji Ordinance No. II of 1892, and desiring to be furnished with a report thereon.

2. In compliance, I beg to submit, for the information of Government, the following observations.

3. The acknowledgement of all the wives of an emigrant, who may arrive in the Colony with him, has been provided for by Section 5 of the Act under notice, after the example of the Colony of Natal. This is so far satisfactory.

4. But, as also in the case of Natal, provision has been made under Section 16 of the Act for preventing an emigrant from marrying more than one wife in the Colony

by constituting bigamy in his case to be a punishable offence.

5. This action is objectionable on the ground, of interference with the personal rights of the labourers imported from India; and it rests with the Government of India to consider whether any amendment of the law on this point should be suggested to the Colonial Government.

6. Beyond the above objectionable section, the provisions of Act II, 1892, do not call for any special remarks.

7. The copy of the ordinance sent to this office is returned herewith, as desired.

(True copies)

Arthur

Registrar,

Revenue and Agricultural Department.