

ORDINARY, MS.

Public	DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED	16-10-93
No.	850

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Receiving the
annual report on
Indian Immigration
in Surinam for
1922 & distributing
the copies received.

No. 2636
75

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

(Emigration.)

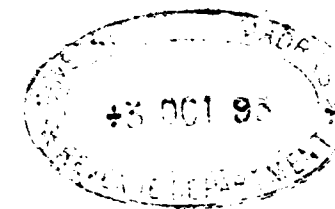
Simla, dated the 26th September 1893.

Forwarded to the Government of Madras, for information, in
Pub. continuation of this Department endorsement No. 2563 dated the 25th
907968 18/11/92 October 1892.

By order,

B. Malabar

Under-Secretary to the Government of India.



List of Papers forwarded.

X
Annual Report on Indian Immigration in Surinam for the
year 1892. (Despatch from Secretary of State No. 83 (Emigration)
dated the 17th August 1893 and enclosures.)

X and 3 copies will be forwarded to Calcutta Office

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

	Page
General remarks	5
Immigration Agent	ib.
Planters' Alliance	ib.
Schools	ib.
Marriage Laws	ib.
Wages	ib.
Savings Bank	ib.
Disturbances	6
Offences	ib.
New arrivals	ib.
Total immigrants	ib.
Return ships	ib.
Estates	ib.
Visits to estates	ib.
Births and deaths	ib.
Death-rate	ib.
Statistical tables	ib.
Table showing indentured immigrants	ib.
Table of births and deaths <i>ex The Bruce</i>	ib.
Ditto ditto <i>ex Ganges</i>	7
Ditto ditto <i>ex Elbe</i>	ib.
Ditto ditto <i>ex Erue</i>	ib.
Ditto ditto <i>ex Rhine</i>	8
Ditto ditto <i>ex Hereford</i>	ib.
Average death-rate	ib.
Accidental deaths	ib.
List of estates with no deaths; and those above and below the average	ib.
Causes of death	9
Hospital treatment	10
Deaths since 1877	ib.
Legal marriages	ib.
Number of births	11
Table of working days, and wages earned, by indentured immigrants	ib.
Ditto ditto by free immigrants and creoles, in comparison with indentured immigrants	ib.
Ditto ditto by free immigrants and creoles only	12
Table of offences or complaints	ib.
Ditto charges against managers	ib.
Land grants	ib.
Villages for free immigrants	13
School for teaching Hindustani	ib.
Savings of immigrants	ib.

Report of Her Majesty's Consul in Surinam on British Indian Immigration to Dutch Guiana for the year 1892.

The general health and surroundings of the immigrants during the year have been satisfactory. Their treatment, under ordinary circumstances, has been well-intentioned, and in some instances commendable. It is acknowledged, however, that, had the planters an opportunity of becoming more conversant with the East Indian language, the treatment of the immigrant would improve, as master and servant became better able to understand one another.

On one estate especially (Wederzorg) where the manager seems to be totally ignorant of the habits and customs of the Indians, and where no interest is expressed in their welfare, the effect of the treatment will not be to elevate or improve the immigrants in habits of self-reliance and independent industry, but will be more calculated to degrade them, both morally and physically, to the state of permanent drudges. This state of a permanent drudge is one which the manager of Wederzorg evidently thinks the most fitting to an Indian, and he does not seem to remember that the labourer, although an immigrant, is nevertheless a human being.

A more pleasing side of the picture can, at the same time, be seen on some estates where the Indians, notwithstanding the many disadvantages under which in some cases they labour, contrive and are permitted to profit by their surroundings and lead a life of comparative comfort.

In former reports on immigration the actions of managers in general have been rather severely commented upon, but the statements made referred almost entirely to one manager, and not to the community of planters in general.

An association has been formed by planters during the year for the professed purpose of affording means of communication and protection among themselves. As no steps of any importance have been taken as yet by the association, its value to the Colony in general, and to immigration in particular, has not been ascertained.

Mr. A. H. de Granada has been Acting Immigration Agent General during the year, and has done all in his power to secure the rights of the immigrants and justice to the planters. At the same time he has been of material assistance to this Consulate, being always ready to adopt the improvements which the greater experience of British Colonies has found profitable.

A possible discretionary right of reticence concerning information has been exercised by the Inspector of Schools, and consequently one cannot but agree with him that the less said about schools under his charge the better.

At the end of last year four schools were in existence, and one in the course of formation. At the present time two schools are in existence. If the above rate of decrease is continued, no schools will be open at the end of 1893.

It must be added, however, that the Governor of Surinam, in contradistinction to the Inspector of Schools, shows every wish to increase the opportunities of education, and it is hoped that through the Governor an improvement may be effected. The time has more than arrived for exacting by laws such measures as may be expedient for the better development of an educational system exempt from optional variations, and to partly meet this necessity a compulsory education statute is being considered.

No privileges granted and secured by statute have been extended to the native marriage rites of immigrants residing for the time being in this Colony.

There is, however, an unwritten understanding among the authorities that native marriages form the basis of all settlements which are necessary concerning estates and matters relating to succession among the immigrants, whether the marriage rites have been performed in or out of the Colony.

The wages earned during the year have been good, being, if anything, slightly above the average. Nearly all the estates show pay lists of over 4s. 7d. per man per week, and on some estates wages as high as 8s. 4d. per man per week have been earned.

Although no medium should exist between the price of sugar and the wages earned by the immigrants, it is nevertheless significant that during the year the products of the estates have steadily increased in value.

The rate of mortality was—

In the 2nd year of residence

441

8-54

Table of Births and Deaths during the second year of residence in the Colony of Immigrants
ex Rhine.

The rate of mortality was—

In the 2nd year of indenture

3.06

3.83

383

*Table of Births and Deaths during the first year of residence in the Colony of the Immigrants
ex Hereford.*

The rate of mortality was 4.89.

The average rate of mortality among the Indian immigrants was in 1892 2.62 per cent., not including 13 cases of accidental death, viz.—

- 1 man of plantation *Marienburg* who fell from a waggon;
 1 man of plantation *Bronckwast* from a revolver, shot most probably by accident;
 1 woman of plantation *Marienbosch* by burns;
 1 boy murdered in the fields of plantations *Marienburg* by another coolie;
 1 woman probably murdered, she was missed, and some time after the skeleton and clothes were found in the fields of *Nieurgroend* and
 8 drowned—4 men of plantations *Jaglust*, *Zoelen*, *Rust-cu-werk*, and *Chappushoek*, 3 women of plantations *de Ecndracht* and *Spieringshoek*, and 1 girl of *Spieringshoek*.

List of the Estates showing where, in 1898, there was no mortality, and those below and above the average rate.

Names of the Estates where there has been no mortality:—

Cocoa estate in Bénéde Commewijne

Names of the estates where the average of mortality was below the rate of 2.62 per cent. :—

Names of the estates where the average mortality was above the rate of 2.62 per

1.	"St. Barbara,"	Cocoa in Bov	Suriname	270
2.	"Dordrecht,"	" "	Ben	282
3.	"Waterland,"	" "	Bov Para	294
4.	"Tout-lui faut,"	" "	Ben	315
5.	"Zorgenhoop,"	" "	Cottica	349
6.	"Jaglust,"	" "	Suriname	371
7.	"Seliendaal,"	" "	Commewijne	426
8.	"Vertronwen,"	" "	Cottica	465
9.	"Sotland No. 36,"	" "	Nickerie	500
10.	"Geertruidenburg,"	" "	Commewijne	519
11.	"Brouwerslust,"	" "	Cottica	548
12.	"de Mastrom,"	" "	" "	568
13.	"Waterloo,"	Sugar	" "	598
14.	"Slootwijk,"	Cocoa	" "	625
15.	"Hazard,"	Sugar	" "	781
16.	"M.rienbosch,"	Cocoa	" "	807
17.	"Nijdenspijt,"	" "	" "	909
18.	"Johannesburg,"	" "	" "	952
19.	"Crappahock,"	" "	" "	1571

The asterisks * * * added to the name of an estate signify that there was no mortality during the years 1889, 1890, 1891; * * no mortality during 1890 and 1891, and * no mortality during 1891.

Causes of Death.

Diarrhoea	8
Dysentery	7
Anæmia	4
Anæmia Cerebri	3
Febris, perniciosa	3
Marasmus	3
Debilitas	9
Hepatitis	24
Anchylostomiasis	1
Pneumonia	8
Gangrena pulmonum	9
Phthisis	1
Pleuritis	10
Laryngitis	3
Peritonitis	1
Meningitis	1
Myolitis	6
Epilepsia	2
Convulsionis	1
Apoplexia	16
Tetanus	4
Delirium	1
Deformitas	1
Hæmorrhagia interna	2
Ulcera gangren	1
Framboesia	1
Lepra	1
In childbed	2
Burns	2
By a fall from a waggon	1
By a revolver shot	1
Drowned	8
Murdered	1
Probably murdered	1
TOTAL	171

Cases of illness and medical treatment in the Hospitals.

On the 1st of January 1892—		
There were under medical treatment	271	Indian
Number of cases during the year	15,621	immigrants.
TOTAL	15,892	
Recovered	15,472	
Died	156	
	15,628	
Under treatment in the Hospitals on the 31st December 1892		
	26½	

The total number of sick days in 1892 amounted to 122,295, giving an average for each Indian immigrant of 20·4 days' treatment in the hospital, and for each hundred immigrants 259 cases.

Table showing the mortality since 1877, including the accidental cases of the indentured British Indian immigrants on one side and of the creoles and immigrants not indentured on the other side on the same estates.

MORTALITY INCLUDING ACCIDENTAL CASES OF			
In the year	Indentured Indian immigrants.		Creoles and immigrants not indentured on the same estates.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	
1877	3·33	6·16	
1878	3·71	4·07	
1879	2·08	3·32	

MORTALITY INCLUDING ACCIDENTAL CASES OF

In the year	Indentured Indian immigrants.		Creoles and immigrants not indentured on the same estates.	
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1880	1·81	3·59		
1881	3·26	4·25		
1882	2·60	2·70		
1883	2·57	3·84		
1884	2·60	5·00		
1885	2·40	3·62		
1886	1·88	2·62		
1887	1·54	3·15		
1888	1·02	3·36		
1889	1·57	2·31		
1890	1·93	2·45		
1891	3·04	2·90		
1892	2·62	2·71		

With exception of the year 1891, the mortality among the labourers on the same estates has always been larger with the creoles and unindentured immigrants than with the immigrants under indenture.

The number of legal marriages contracted by British Indian immigrants was 9, viz.—

- 1 in Beneden Suriname,
- 1 " Boven "
- 3 " Beneden Cottica;
- 3 " " Commewijne, and
- 1 " " Nickerie.

By one of these marriages four children were legitimized.

The number of births among the indentured immigrants was, in 1892, 140, viz., 71 males and 69 females, being 12·08 to the hundred women.

The proportion of women to men was 3 to 1 to the thousand.

Table showing the number of working days, with the maximum and average amount of wages earned by the indentured Indian labourers during 1892.

INDENTURED IMMIGRANTS.	NUMBER OF		Wages earned.	Daily average wages.	Maximum earned in one week.
	Immigrants.	Working days.			
			* Florins.	* Florins.	* Florins.
Men	3,440	649,224½	455,678·51½	0·702	12·50 on the Sugar Estate Meerzorg.
Women	1,072	144,033	68,235·89½	0·613	6·70 on the Cocoa Estate Wederzorg.
Boys and Girls	68	6,303	2,843·44	0·452	Ditto.

The other days of the year, which are not included in the above figures, are accounted for by illness and absence on leave, to give evidence or to lodge complaints, wilful absence from work, imprisonment, Sundays, festivals acknowledged by Government, and Indian holidays, being 16 for Mahomedans and 32 for Hindus.

Table showing the number of working days and the amount of wages earned by unindentured Labourers on Estates to which indentured Immigrants are allotted.

LABOURERS.	NUMBER OF		Wages earned.	Daily average of wages.
	Labourers.	Working days.		
			* Florins.	* Florins.
Creoles.	764	199,163½	183,905·54	0·923
	463	87,335	53,595·05	0·614
	106	7,651½	3,455·20	0·556
	1,108	265,807½	213,300·02½	0·803
Not indentured Immigrants.	423	71,768½	43,186·46½	0·602
	152	16,214½	5,806·21	0·358

1 Florin = 1s. 8d.

The free labour population being a very floating one, the above and the next following results are arrived at by adding the number present on each estate on the 1st of each month, and dividing by 12 to obtain the average.

Table showing the number of working days and the amount of wages earned by unindentured labourers on Estates where no indentured immigrants are employed.

LABOURERS.	NUMBER OF		Wages earned.	Daily average wage.
	Labourers.	Working days.		
Creoles.				
Men	268	62,966	• Florins.	• Florins.
Women	316	55,079	66,106-88	0-876
Boys and Girls	42	5,281	33,770-07	0-607
Unindentured Immigrants	420	77,954	2,356-10	0-397
Men	124	18,247	64,944-65	0-833
Women	26	3,014	11,300-84	0-619
Boys and Girls			1,179-97	0-391

* 1 Florin = 1s. 8d.

The wages of indentured immigrants and other labourers are the same when the quantity and quality of the performed work are equal. Work that requires more skill or is heavier (such as mechanical work in the buildings or shovel work) is paid higher than weeding or other light work.

Nature and number of offences or complaints lodged by employers and others against British Indian Immigrants in 1892, with their disposal.

NATURE OF COMPLAINTS.	Number of complaints.	Convicted.	Acquitted and dismissed.	Untried.	Percentage of complaints to indentured immigrants.
Offences against labour law	651	500	151	...	10-81
Other petty offences	804	189	113	...	5-05
Correctional cases	44	33	4	2	6-73
Criminal cases	2	1	1	...	3-03
	1,001	723	269	9	16-62

Number and nature of charges brought by Indian Immigrants against employers.

Number of complaint.	Nature of offence.	Struck out or withdrawn.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	REMARKS.
20	Too heavy work	19	1	...	"1 withdrawn after higher wages were paid. The others unfounded."
5	Wages not paid	5	...	...	"In one case complainant had done work which he was ordered not to do; the others unfounded."
19	Paid too little wages	19	...	...	"By 2 the work was not properly done, so that it had to be done again by others; 2 were on account of a mistake. The rest were paid after proof of charge; the rest unfounded."
3	Deduction of wages	3	...	...	Unfounded.
1	Not paying the rent of a boat.	1	...	...	After the debt was acknowledged and the debtor promised to pay, the complaint was withdrawn.
10	Beating	8	2	...	1 not proved. 1 withdrawn by complainant; remainder unfounded.
1	Beating and not paying wages.	1	1	...	The wages were paid.

Number and nature of charges brought by Indian Immigrants against Employers—continued.

Number of complaint.	Nature of offence.	Struck out or withdrawn.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	REMARKS.
1	Wounding	...	...	1	
3	Ill-treatment	3	1	...	1 not proved. 1 unfounded.
1	Attempting to kick	1	...	...	Unfounded.
1	Insulting words	1	...	...	Unfounded.
1	Ordered to work whilst he was ill	1	...	...	The doctor stated he was not ill.
1	Whilst at work he was ordered to other work.	...	...	...	Complainant had done work which he was not ordered to do.
1	To keep watch whilst he only wished to work in the fields.	1	...	...	Unfounded.
1	Being locked up in the hospital.	1	...	...	Complainant was drunk and made a row.
1	Pushing and shoving so that he lost money.	1	...	...	Unfounded.
1	Not supplying hospital rations.	...	1	...	
4	Refusing to admit them to hospital.	3	1	...	1 withdrawn by complainant. 2 Unfounded.
1	Refusing a woman the right to keep her children with her.	1	...	...	Unfounded.
1	Refusing to return money lent.	1	...	...	The case could not be tried as the defendant had left the Colony.
77	TOTAL	69	7	1	

The percentage of the complaints to the population was nearly 1-28.

Fifteen Indian immigrants who had fulfilled their agreement were provided with a certificate of good conduct, and received, at their request, grants of Government land to cultivate, on their own account, free of cost, and, during six years, free of ground and personal taxes.

To one, of the land which was granted him, the title-deeds were handed free of charges. There has been no return vessel in the year 1892.

By way of anticipating upon the report of this year, I wish to notice here—

First—That the necessary steps have been taken by His Excellency the Governor for establishing villages for the immigrants who have fulfilled their agreement.

Secondly—That a school for teaching Hindustani, especially to the officials of the districts and the Immigration Department, has been established.

Superintendents are the Immigration Agent General and the Inspector of Education.

The savings of the Indian immigrants, 1,338 in number, in the Colonial Savings Bank amounted on the 31st of December 1892 to florins 189,282-95* yielding 3 per cent. per annum.

* 1 Florin = 1s. 8d.

Post 796 218-N-92 line

mis
#

DEPARTMENT.

From

The Govt of India,
Revenue and Agricultural Dept.

No. 2636
75

Dated 26th September 1893

Received 3rd October "

Enclosures /
of the 800

SUBJECT.

Forwarding for information
Annual Report on Indian
Immigration in Surinam for the
year 1892.

For the C. A.
The report on Indian Immigration

V. L.
1/10

Board of Revenue 1 copy
Protector of Emigrants 1 copy
Library 1 copy

Order 16th Oct 1893, No. 87

Records. The three
spare copies of the report will
be distributed thus:-

30/3
13/10

16/10/93

DESPATCHED

IN

IN

with copy

of report.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, SURINAM

ORDER No.

STATEMENT WITH DETAIL.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DETAIL.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING KEPT FOR DEBATE
IN ORIGINAL (not pagged).

N.B.-

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

BACK PAPER, No.

FURTHER PAPER No. 2910

WITH ORDER