

ORDINARY, MS.

Public	DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 29-1-94	
No. 68.	

INDEXED.

When given for copying. 29/1.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Informing the Govt.
of India, that the
Govt has no remarks
to offer on the subject
the inadequacy of
the wages earned by
Indians in Surinam
and that there has been
no emigration for some
years —

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

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT NO.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAYERS NOT FILLED 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.

circles

The following remark
by the Hon. Mr. Bliss,
with the book referred to,
is circulated for guidance
of drafting clerks, the
librarian, reference,
bureau clerk, Registry
clerk, &c. &c. -

Remarks

"Why go and fold books
up instead of leaving
them flat."

25/1

6h

29/1

Public (1894) Department
Emigration

From

The Protector of Emigrants
Madras

To

The Chief Secretaries to Govt
Public Department
Fort St. George

Dated 18

Despatched 19 } January 1894

En 3

No 49

Subject

Reply to Public (current
no 41 in regard to the
wages of Surinam
Emigrants.

There is now no
emigration to Dutch
Colonies from this Presy.
orders are requested
whether India may be
told that this Govt. has
no remarks to offer.

35/3
25/1 I have looked through
the report. There is nothing
to show that Govt. can
do anything.

As we know nothing
about the matter, we
can't make remark there.

MS

25/1/94

Why go & fold books
up instead of leaving
them flat?

MS

29 Jan 94
20 Dec 93 to the S. & D.
Rev. and agri: Dept

Sir,
In reply to your No. 6/16
of the 3rd inst. I am
directed to inform you that
this Govt. has no remarks
to offer on the subject of the
inadequacy of the wages re-
-ed by Indians in Surinam.
There has been no emigra-
-tion therefrom this Presy
for some years.

52/3

26/1

MS

26/1

No. 49

OFFICE OF THE PROTECTOR OF EMIGRANTS,
Madras, 18 January 1894.

From

The Honble Mr W. Austin

PROTECTOR OF EMIGRANTS,
Madras,

To

The Honble Mr J. J. Price

CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT,
Fort St. George.

SIR,

herewith returned.
with report.

With reference to Public Current Number
41, referred to me for remarks, I have the
honor to state that as I do not deal with
Emigrants proceeding to Surinam, I am
not in a position to offer any remarks.

I have the honor to be

Sirs

Yours most obed^t Servant

W Austin

Protector of Emigrants

Current Number 41.
Public (1894) Department

From the East of India
Dept of Rev. & Agric

N^o 5
16

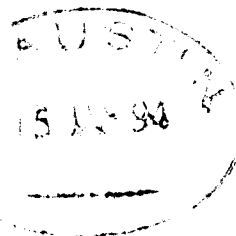
Dated 3rd
Recd 8th
Recd 9th } Jan 1894

Enclosed

Referred to the Pro-
tector of Emigrants
for remarks.

Helmich
Chief Secretary

25/3
13/1



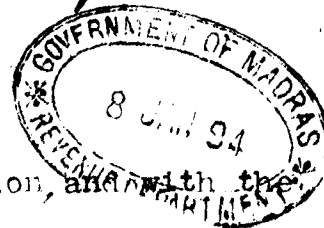
Forwarding copy of Despatch
with its enclosure from
the Secy of State in con-
nection with the suggest-
ions made therein for
remedying the inadequacy
of the wages earned by
Indian immigrants
at Surinam.

TO BE RETURNED
WITH REPLY.

No. 6
16
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

(Emigration).

Calcutta, dated the 3rd January 1894.



Forwarded to the Government of Madras for information, and with the request that the Government of India may be favored with any remarks His Excellency the Governor in Council may have to offer on the subject

By order,

W. M. A. G. M.

Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

List of Papers forwarded.

Despatch from the Secretary of State No. 180 (Public Emigration dated the 9th November 1893.

With this end in view, I requested the Immigration Agent General to consider a good weekly average pay at three guilders, which would ensure each labourer about four days' work a week, or some two hundred and twenty days' work each year.

The financial condition of immigrants in this Colony is so very unsatisfactory at the present time, that I have the honour to submit the above facts for Your Lordship's consideration.

No. 89, dated Paramaribo, the 11th August 1893.

From—E. W. SMITH DE LA COUR, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Paramaribo,

To—The Acting Immigration Agent General, Surinam.

THE general opinion in this Colony is that, if an immigrant earns 2.40 guilders a week, he is occupied a sufficient amount of time to satisfy the demands of the estate, the Colony of Surinam and last, but not least, himself.

Taking into consideration the fact that the work registers do not conveniently show an average weekly wage during the year for each man, but the maximum amount earned at the productive period of the year, I consider the standard now in vogue of an average of 2.40 guilders per man per week much too low. If it could be shown that each man earned 2.40 guilders a week during the 52 weeks of every year, it would be more satisfactory, but considering that (as shown in your report for 1892) an immigrant worked only 189 days out of the 313 work days of the year, it would be impossible to produce for 1892 even the average of 2.40 guilders per week per man.

The following calculations have been made by me from your report on immigration for 1892:—

1. If an immigrant works the average 189 days a year, and earns 2.40 guilders a week at 60 cent. tasks, before completing the 1,565 days' labour required by the contract, he must remain in the colony a period of 11 years 1 month 10 days.
2. If an immigrant works under the above conditions, and earns 2.40 guilders a week, at 80 per cent tasks, he must remain in the Colony 12 years 6 months.
3. If an immigrant works under the above conditions, and earns 2.40 guilders a week at 1 guilder tasks, he must remain in the Colony 13 years 4 months.

You will see by these figures that the result to an immigrant, of what he considered, when signing the contract, a "five years' indenture," cannot be satisfactory, and possibly accounts for the fact that once returned to India he does not re-emigrate to Surinam.

Considering that the average for sickness is only 20 days in the year, an immigrant must remain idle 52 Sundays and 104 week days (or 116 days in all), to complete the 365 days of the year. This enormous amount of 176 idle days in every year is as much against the interests of the Colony of Surinam, as it is against the mental, moral, and physical health of the immigrant.

I would consequently propose to you that, hereafter, the "good average" of wages per man per week be raised to 3 guilders for any one week, or 2.70 guilders, for the average per week of any one man throughout the year.

This yearly average of 2.70 guilders per week per man would allow an immigrant working at 60 cent tasks, 131 idle days a year and 234 work days. In my opinion this would be more advantageous than the existing average, and I therefore have the honour to invite you to consider the subject of this despatch, and inform me of any decisions at which you may arrive.

No. 130, (Public—Emigration), dated India Office, London, the 9th November 1893.

From—THE RIGHT HON'BLE THE EARL OF KIMBERLEY, K.G., *Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India,*
To—*The Government of India.*

IN continuation of my Despatch No. 99, of the 31st August last I forward herewith copy of a despatch (with its enclosure) from Her Majesty's Consul at Paramaribo, in which a suggestion is made for remedying the inadequacy of the wages earned by Indian immigrants in Surinam.

2. I request that Your Excellency will take this suggestion into your consideration in connection with the 25th paragraph of Dr. Comins' note on Emigration to Surinam, with regard to which I am awaiting your final conclusions.

3. I observe that Mr. De la Cour reports the financial condition of the immigrants to be very unsatisfactory at the present time.

No. 36, dated Paramaribo, the 23rd September 1893.

From—E. W. SMITH DE LA COUR Esq., *Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Paramaribo*
To—*The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.*

I HAVE the honour to enclose, herewith, a copy of my Despatch No. 89 of August 11th, 1893, to the Immigration Agent General of this Colony; and to report that the contents thereof have elicited no reply from that official, although I have been verbally promised an answer on several different occasions.

The opinions expressed in my Despatch No. 89 were the result of investigations into the present financial condition of immigrants in this Colony. The calculations contained in the Despatch were obtained from the following deductions:—

- (1). On December 31st, 1892, there were under indenture in the Colony 3,781 adult male immigrants.
- (2). In the table, section 15 of the Annual Report on Immigration for 1892, (submitted in my Despatch No. 20 of July 1st, 1893), showing the number of working days during the year, only 3,440, instead of 3,781, adult males are given.
- (3). It must therefore be taken for granted that 341 adult male immigrants did no work whatever during the year.
- (4). The number of days during which the remaining 3,440 adult males worked is given as 6,49,224½, showing an average number of days work for each labourer to be 189 for the year, or 3½ days work each week and 3½ holidays.
- (5). As the necessary cultivation of the entire Colony is continued by 3,440 immigrants, working 3½ days a week, and as consequently there is only sufficient work to employ 1,769 men during the entire year, it is evident that—
- (6). There are over 90 per cent. more immigrants in the Colony than is required, and that each labourer receives 45 per cent. less wages than he had a right to expect when leaving India.
- (7). Should, therefore, an immigrant wish to earn, before leaving the colony, the amount of wages he expected to earn when leaving India on his "five years' indenture," it would be necessary for him to remain here the number of years shown in examples 1, 2 or 3, in my Despatch No. 89, namely, 11 years 1 month, 12 years 6 months, or 13 years 4 months, respectively, according to the nature of the work on which he was employed.

The above-mentioned facts, which do not show a favourable condition for the immigrants, are the result of indiscriminate allotment of immigrants to any estate which may apply for them, without taking into consideration whether the estate is able or not to supply continual labour to the immigrants already on the estate.

In my opinion there should be some check on the number of immigrants allowed to each estate, thereby ensuring to each labourer the amount of work each week promised to him when signing his contract in India.

The most simple and complete form of check on any estate applying for more immigrants, is the average weekly amount earned by each labourer on that estate throughout the year in which the application is made.