

Public (1896) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 1339

DATED 19-12-96

[Despatch Abstract.]

Receiving a despatch from the Secy of State  
received through the Secy of India forwarding,  
with <sup>enclosed</sup> connected papers, copy of an ordinance  
passed by the Legislature of Fiji to amend  
the law relating to the transfer of de-  
scentured Indian immigrants.

# Public (189 / ) Department.

CURRENT No.

2  
137

From The Govt. of India  
L and C. Dept.

CS.  
Order No. 1339 of 19-12-96

Recorded.

No. 2692.  
78-1

4013

17.11.6.

18.12.96

Dated

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

9  
12-96  
14

SUBJECT.

Forwarding despatched from the Secretary of State relative to an Ordinance to amend the law relating to the transfer of Indian Immigrants who has recently been passed by the Legislature of Singapore.

செப்பன்குபவர் பெயர்  
C. M. P. M. S. S. S.  
செப்பன்குபவர்களுக்கான எழுத்து  
கொண்ட பட்டி நாள்  
சுரிபார்  
மு. பா. எ.  
கையெழுப்பம்  
உதவியாளர்  
கையெழுப்பம்

# BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date.   |
|------|-----|-------------|---------|
|      | 463 | Pub.        | 15/6/93 |
|      | 738 | "           | 13/7/96 |

# FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|
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Despatch from H.M.'s Secretary of State for India, No.

95 Public (Emigration), dated 22nd October 1896.

I forward for the information of Your Excellency in  
 Colonial Office to India Office, 9th September 1896 with enclosures. } Council copy of the  
 India Office to Colonial Office, 24th September 1896. } correspondence noted  
 Colonial Office to India Office, 30th September 1896. } in the margin relative

to an Ordinance to amend the law relating the transfer of  
 Indentured Indian Immigrants which has recently been passed  
 by the Legislature of Fiji.

Colonial Office,

17232/96.

Downing Street.

9th September 1896.

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies  
 to transmit to you for any observations which the Secretary  
 of State for India may have to make thereupon, a copy of an  
 Ordinance passed by the Legislature of Fiji, No. 1 of 1896  
 entitled "An Ordinance to amend the law relating to the  
 transfer of Indentured Indian Immigrants", together with a  
 copy of the Report of the Attorney General of Fiji thereon.

Ord. No. 1 of  
 1896. Atty.  
 Genl's Re-  
 port.

I am etc.,

Sd. John Bramston.

The Under Secretary of State,  
 India Office.

Report on Ordinance No. 1 of 1896.

To amend the law relating to the transfer of indentured  
 Indian Immigrants.

Under the old Law (IV of 1892, sec. 19) such a transfer  
 as that now contemplated could not take place without the  
 consent of the Immigrant.

Experience has shewn that that consent may often be  
 withheld for no sufficient reason; and the result might be  
 a considerable loss to any employer who was giving up  
 planting

1255

planting, or who for any reason, was ceasing to employ Im-  
migrants, if thus prevented from transferring the very  
costly labour he had introduced into the Colony, and to  
whom perhaps he might no longer be in a position to pay  
wages or to give employment.

It was felt therefore that in all fitting cases the  
transfer should be compulsory so far as the Immigrant was  
concerned, but in order that there might be no ground for  
grievance it is provided that the Governor may exercise his  
discretion as to whether he would allow the Agent General  
to make the necessary transfer, or would only permit it on  
certain conditions operating in the interests of the Im-  
migrants.

The Ordinance is sufficient for its purpose and may  
receive the assent of His Excellency.

Sd. J. S. Udall.

Attorney General.

Attorney General's Chambers, Fiji.

Supplement to the Royal Gazette -

Published by authority.

No. 5. Friday 21st February 1896.

(27)

Fiji.

No. 1 of 1896.

An Ordinance.

(Enacted by the Governor of the Colony of Fiji with the  
advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof).  
To amend the law relating to the Transfer of Indentured  
Indian Immigrants.

(L.S.) H. S. Berkeley.

20th February 1896.

Be it enacted by the Governor with the advice and consent  
of the Legislative Council as follows:-

Transfer of Indentures.

1335  
Agent General  
may transfer  
immigrants.

1. Any Immigrant serving under indenture may on the application of the employer and at the discretion of the Governor be transferred by the Agent General from the plantation on which he is or has been serving under such indenture to any other plantation belonging to the same employer or from the plantation of the employer of such immigrant to the plantation of any other employer who may be willing to receive him.

This Ordinance and "The Indian Immigration Ordinances 1891-5" shall be read and construed as one.

India Office,

J. & P. 1608.

24th September 1896.

Sir,

I am directed by Lord George Hamilton to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Bramston's letter of the 9th Instant and in reply to state that His Lordship sees no objection to the Ordinance to amend the law relating to the transfer of Indentured Indian Immigrants in Fiji.

I am to add that copies of the Ordinance will be forwarded for the information of the Government of India on the receipt of intimation that it has been assented to by Her Majesty.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your ~~most~~ obedient servant,

Sd. Horace Walpole.

The Under Secretary of State,

Colonial Office.

Colonial Office,

Downing Street.

19938-96.

30th September 1896.

Sir,

Sir,

1235  
I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to acquaint you for the information of Lord George Hamilton that the Ordinance relating to the transfer of Indentured Indian Immigrants in Fiji referred to in your letter J & P. 1608 of the 24th Instant has now received Her Majesty's sanction.

I am etc.,

Sd. R.H.Meade.

The Under Secretary of State,  
India Office.

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7/1338  
No. 2392  
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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.  
( Emigration )

Calcutta, dated the 9<sup>th</sup> December 1896.

Forwarded to the Government of Madras for information in continuation of this Department's endorsement No. 1314/35 dated the 1st June 1893.

By order,

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*Under-Secretary to the Government of India.*

*List of Papers forwarded.*

Despatch from Secretary of State No. 95 dated 22nd October 1896 and enclosures.