

Public (1896) Department.

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G.O. No. 274-75

DATED 24th Feb. 1896

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

SCHEME FOR PROVIDING FAMILY PENSIONS
FOR NATIVE CIVILIANS.

Forwarding, with remarks, to the Government of India statements submitted by Native Members of the Indian Civil Service and Statutory Civilians in accordance with the request made in G.O. No. 881, Public, dated 23rd October 1895, circulating a letter from the Government of India proposing a-----.

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No. 274, PUBLIC, 24TH FEBRUARY 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following papers:—

G.O., No. 881, Public, dated 23rd October 1895.

ABSTRACT.—Communicating to the officers concerned letter from the Government of India calling for certain particulars regarding Native Civilians and Statutory Civil Servants and their wives and children for the purpose of introducing a scheme of family pensions; and requesting them to furnish at an early date the information required by that Government.

G.O., No. 995, Public, dated 5th December 1895.

Read—the following letter from MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN, Esq., Statutory Civil Service, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Tindivanam, 14th November 1895, Ref. on Cur. No. 6437 of 1895:—

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of G.O., No. 881, Public, dated 23rd October 1895, calling for information required by the Government of India regarding the scheme for providing family pensions for Native members of the Indian Civil Service and Statutory Civil Servants, and in reply thereto to request that you will be kindly pleased to inform me what percentage of each Statutory Civil Servant's salary will have to be deducted for the formation of the fund in question, and also whether the deduction will have a retrospective effect in regard to the salaries drawn from the date of his admission into the service, to enable me to express my view in the matter.

Order—No. 995, Public, dated 5th December 1895.

Mr. Muhammad Raza Khan will be informed that this Government is unable to supply him with the information he requires. As he will perceive from the letter from the Government of India, read in G.O., No. 881, Public, dated 23rd October 1895, the Government of India has not as yet formulated any scheme.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To Muhammad Raza Khan, Esq.

READ—also the following papers:—

From K. C. MANAVEDAN RAJA, Esq., Acting Collector of Nellore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 11th November 1895.

With reference to G.O., No. 881, Public, dated 23rd October last, I have the honour to submit the statement called for by the Government of India in their No. 4666-P., dated 30th September 1895.

2. I have to state that I approve of the scheme for providing family pensions for native members of the Indian Civil Service and for Statutory Civil Servants.

3. I am unable to say that I would accept the scheme in my case until the full particulars are before me and carefully considered.

FURTHER

G.O. N Department Date

C 4182

1896

* செப்பனிடபவற் பெயர் *
* செ-சுய்மரிமகியன் *
* செப்பனிடவதற்காக எடுத்த *
* கொள்கப்பட்ட நாள் 3/96 *
* செப்பனிட எடுத்த நாள் 5/96 *
* சரிபார்க்கும் குறியீடு *
* உதவியாளர் *
* கையொப்பம் கையொப்பம் *

From M. GHOSE, Esq., Acting Head Assistant Collector and Magistrate of Salem, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 13th November 1895.

In obedience to G.O., No. 881, dated 23rd October 1895, I have the honour to submit the statement therein called for duly filled up with the following remarks.

Whilst approving of the scheme of family pensions proposed in the Government Order in principle, I would submit that such a privilege would be as good as useless, unless it is carried entirely on the lines of the family pension system in existence for Covenanted Civilians, from which I have been excluded.

In point of education, training, efficiency and loyalty, I would, if permitted to, state that I am in no way inferior to my European contemporaries who passed in by the open competition of 1890 along with me.

Having been to England at the age of thirteen, I was brought up for a period of nearly four years at an English school, after which I underwent special training, and was successful at the open competition of 1890.

I went to Oxford and enjoyed the benefits of an English University education for two years, after which I was appointed to the Madras Civil Service, having obtained the sixteenth place on the list in the final examination.

My father went to England as early as 1862 and received an English education like myself, and having been unsuccessful at the open competition of 1863 and 1864 for the Civil Service of India, was called to the Bar and has been practising at the Calcutta High Court since 1866.

Ever since that date he has been living strictly according to European customs, and has brought me up to live in the same style; and with my English education and European ideas I would find it difficult to live in any other mode but the European.

Under these circumstances I am compelled to live on the same style and keep up the same standard as my brother-officers appointed under covenanted rules. In view of the depreciation of the rupee, Government was pleased to order the grant of an exchange compensation allowance to all European and Eurasian officers. Such being the case my contemporaries in the service are well able to cope with their increased expenditure and put by their savings for times of need, whilst it is as much as I can do to meet with the expenditure, which, in my case, is the same as that of my European contemporaries.

In addition to their savings they are privileged with the benefits of a Provident fund, which enables them to marry quite early in the service. In my case, I would submit that I can hope to put by nothing at present, nor can I look forward to the benefits of any such Provident fund, with the result that marriage in my case would be an improvident and thoughtless act, and it will be some years before I can even think of it.

The main grounds for disallowing me, and other native covenanted officers, is, I believe, the fact that we may marry more than one wife, in which case it would be most unjust to expect Government to support them all. I have already mentioned in the statement, and I would respectfully urge that in my case and in those of Bengali covenanted officers the marrying of more than one wife is out of the question and would amount to bigamy and a penal offence. I am a follower of the Brahmi Samaj of Calcutta and my marriage would be celebrated in accordance with the Brahmi Marriage Act III of 1872, which prevents me from marrying more than one wife.

Under these circumstances I would request you to put my case before the Madras Government and the Government of India for favourable consideration. I have been admitted into the service with an implied promise that I would be treated on the same footing as my European contemporaries, but as a matter of fact we (native covenanted civilians) have drifted into a separate class holding a position intermediate between European Covenanted Civilians and Statutory Civilians.

I have been requested to state whether I approve of the scheme in principle. I have already stated that I do, but I would request that the rules for the provision of family pension for Europeans be extended to us, if not in the case of Statutory Civilians or the Native Covenanted Civilians as a class: still, that it may be extended

in individual cases like mine, after due enquiry. And I would point out that this has been done in the case of Messrs. R. C. Dutt, B. L. Gupta, K. G. Gupta, &c., who were appointed prior to 1877.

In conclusion I would urge that by doing this act of grace, Government would only strengthen the bond of faithfulness and loyalty with which we have been serving Government to the best of our ability and conscience.

From A. C. DUTT, Esq., C.S., to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Sérmađévi, 18th November 1895.

In reply to G.O., No. 881, Public, dated 23rd October 1895, I have the honour to submit herewith a statement in the form therein enclosed.

2. I would also beg respectfully to point out that the statements in paragraph 3 of the order of the Government of India "that the Government of India does not in any way undertake to carry its proposal into actual effect" and that "the duty of providing for my family is one I must myself discharge" are opposed to my covenant with the Secretary of State.

3. The ninth paragraph of my covenant runs thus—"that he (the covenantor) shall and will forthwith upon his arrival at the said Presidency and from time to time so long as he shall continue in the service of Her Majesty make such payments as under the rules and regulations which shall be in force within the said Presidency of Fort St. George shall become due or payable by him on account of the provision for his own pension or for pension to his wife or children or shall at the option of the Secretary of State in Council or of the Governor in Council of the said Presidency allow the amount of such subscription to be deducted out of any money due or payable by the Government to him; and until such rules and regulations shall be published the amount of such payments shall be determined by the Governor in Council of the said Presidency, but such amount shall be subject to re-adjustment (if necessary) upon publication of the said rules and regulations."

4. I respectfully submit that the Secretary of State engaged under this covenant to grant pensions to my wife and children provided that I paid certain sums the amount of which was to be determined by the Governor of Madras. I always have been and still am ready to pay any sums that the Government of Madras may desire. If the construction that I place on this clause be considered inaccurate I would respectfully beg to suggest that a reference be made to the Law officers of the Crown.

5. I understand that the clause in my covenant quoted by me does not appear in that of any other native of India in the Indian Civil Service. It was inserted in my covenant because I was a Christian.

6. I therefore submit that my case stands on quite a different footing to that of the other officers named at the foot of G.O., No. 881, Public, dated 23rd October 1895, and that I am entitled to have some provision made for my wife and children by Government.

From T. VARADA RAO, Esq., Assistant Collector of Malabar, Calicut, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 25th November 1895, No. 24-A.W.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of G.O., No. 881, Public, dated 23rd October 1895.

2. I beg to enclose the information required by the Government of India in the statement appended to this letter.

3. I have the honour to state that I approve in principle of the scheme contemplated by the Government of India to provide family pensions for Statutory Civil Servants.

From P. RAJAGOPALA CHARI, Esq., dated 21st December 1895.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding a statement filled in as required and stating that he approves generally of the scheme.

From T. M. SWAMINADHA AIYAR, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Coimbatore, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Erode, 10th January 1896, No. 1771-C.R.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the G.O., No. 881, Public, dated 23rd October 1895, and to state that, while the scheme proposed is an excellent one, I doubt if it will be of much advantage in the near future. I beg leave, therefore, to state that I am not particular about joining the movement.

2. Should the rest, however, join it and my co-operation is needed, I shall, of course, do so.

3. The statement called for is submitted herewith.

From V. VENUGOPAL CHETTI, Esq., to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Nandyal, 27th January 1896.

In reply to G.O., No. 881, Public, dated 23rd October 1895, I beg to submit the required information in the enclosed statement.

From MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN, Esq., Statutory Civil Service, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Tindivanam, 2nd February 1896, No. 285.

In reply to memorandum, dated 30th January 1896, calling for an early reply to the communication noted in the margin, I have the honour to respectfully state that I regret that I am unable to submit the required information till the Government of India is pleased to favour me kindly with the particulars asked for in my letter, Ref. on Cur. No. 6437 of 1895, dated 14th November 1895.

ORDER—No. 274, Public, dated 24th February 1896.

The Government of India will be addressed.

[Here enter No. 275, dated 24th February 1896.]

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

LETTER—from

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
FORT ST. GEORGE,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

In accordance with the request in Mr. Nathan's letter, No. 4666, Public, dated 30th September 1895, regarding the introduction of a scheme for providing family pensions for the Native members of the Indian Civil Service and for Statutory Civil Servants, I am directed to forward copy of the marginally-noted Proceedings of this Government containing the replies of officers of the above classes serving in this Presidency, together with statements filled in by the following:—

- (1) Mr. A. C. Dutt, I.C.S.
- (2) „ V. Venugopal Chetti, I.C.S.
- (3) „ M. Ghose, I.C.S.
- (4) „ Manavedan Raja, Statutory C.S.
- (5) „ T. M. Swaminadha Aiyar, Statutory C.S.
- (6) „ T. Varada Rao, Statutory C.S.
- (7) „ P. Rajagopal Chari, Statutory C.S.

2. It will be seen that Messrs. Ghose, Manavedan Raja, Varada Rao and Rajagopal Chari approve of the scheme; that Mr. Dutt considers that his case is on a different footing from those of other Native members of the Indian Civil Service; that Mr. Venugopal Chetti is not in favour of the scheme; and that Mr. Swaminadha Aiyar is indifferent about the matter. Mr. Muhammad Raza Khan, the remaining officer, reports that he is unable to submit the required information unless he know what percentage of his salary will be deducted for the formation of the fund in question and whether the deductions will have retrospective effect from the date of his admission into the service.

3. I am to invite attention to the letters from Messrs. Dutt and Ghose regarding the peculiarities of their cases.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

FORT ST. GEORGE,
24th February 1896.

Chief Secretary.

Exl. A. Raitt.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., No. 274, 24th February 1896.

FEBRUARY.

Family Pensions for
Native Civilians.

Directing that the Government of India be
addressed with reference to its letter regarding
the introduction of a scheme for providing

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

1896.

From the Government of
Fort St. George.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

Letter, No. 275, 24th Feb. 1896.

FEBRUARY.

Family Pensions for Native Civilians.

Forwarding, with remarks, statements submitted by Native Members of the Indian Civil Service and Statutory Civil Servants serving in this Presidency with reference to the scheme for providing —.

FROM

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member of D.C.S.
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To

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Public Department
Madras.

No. 265

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Dated 2nd

Despatched

Received

Recd

February 1896

ENCLOSURE

3 FEB. 1896

Subject.

Reporting that
he is unable to
furnish the required
information till the
government furnishes
the information
asked for in its own

6437 of 14-11-95
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Pub. # 95-25-12-98 hrs
- 881 23-10-95-oc

6/224

Papers to be read in proceedings:-

Again G.O., dated

189 , No.

Again G.O., dated

189 , No.

Current No.s

of 189 , dated , from

" "

" 1895 , " , "

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" 1896 , " , "

" 1896.

ORDER.

N^o 274 d/24 Feb 96

The Government of India will be addressed.

Letter to
Mr. Nathan
Secretary to the G.O. of I.,
Finance & Commerce Dept.
Sir

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Nathan's letter No 4893 dated 30th September 1895 regarding the introduction of a Scheme for providing family pensions for Native members of the Indian Civil Service and for Indian Civil Servants, and to send a copy of the memorandum containing the decision of this Government, containing the names of officers of the above service, in this Presidency together with the forms filled in by the following:-

1. Mr. A. G. Dutt., I.C.S.
2. Mr. V. Venkayya Chetty., I.C.S.
3. Mr. M. Ghose., I.C.S.
4. Mr. Narayana Rao., Secretary G.O.
5. Mr. T. M. Swaminatha Aiyar

No. d/ 1896.

6. Mr. P. Varada Rao., Stationary C.S.,

7. Mr. P. Rajagopal Chari., -do-

It will be seen that Messrs. Shome, ^{Chief} ~~Mannaraj~~ Raja, Varada Rao and Rajagopal Chari approve of the scheme, whilst Mr. ^{Chief} ~~Dutt~~ considers that his case is not on the same footing as that of other native members of the I.O.S. ^{Chief} ~~Mr.~~ Venugopal Chetti is not in favour of the scheme and Mr. ^{Chief} ~~Subramanian~~ Aiyar is indifferent about the matter. ^{Chief} ~~Mr. Subramanian~~ Raja than the remaining officer reports that he is unable to submit the required information unless he knows what percentage of his salary will be deducted for the formation of the fund in question and whether the deductions will have retrospective effect from the date of his admission into the service.

8. I am to invite attention to the letters from Messrs. Dutt and Shome regarding the peculiarities of their cases

Scheme of family pensions
for Native Civilians.

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R. 12/4/96