

# Public (1896) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 631

DATED 16<sup>th</sup> June 1896

INDEXED.

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[Despatch Abstract.]

## EMIGRATION.

Communicating to officers concerned letter from the Government of India expressing its views with regard to the recruitment of native artizans for service in the East African colonies.

# BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|------|-----|-------------|-------|------|-----|-------------|-------|
|      |     |             |       |      |     |             |       |

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|------|-----|-------------|-------|------|-----|-------------|-------|
|      |     |             |       |      |     |             |       |

No. 631, PUBLIC, 16TH JUNE 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From D. IBBETSON, Esq., C.S., c.s.i., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue and Agriculture (Emigration), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, the 27th May 1896, Circular No. 11—2-28.

Cases have occurred in which native artizans have been recruited in India for service in the East African colonies and in other countries to which emigration under the provisions of the Indian Emigration Act, XXI of 1883, is not lawful under agreements or promises which have not been fulfilled ; and in some cases the treatment of these emigrants has been of such a character as to necessitate the interference of Her Majesty's Consuls in order to prevent their being left entirely unprovided for in a foreign country and to give them the means to pay for their return to India. There are indications that the labour for which there is the greatest demand in the new African colonies is the labour of the artizan and not that of the cooly, and although the Government of India have no desire to interfere with the free emigration of native traders and others who are in a position to take care of their own interests, the facts above mentioned show that it is necessary to provide for the protection of artizans and labourers who are not capable of securing for themselves the fair treatment under promise of which they have been induced to emigrate.

2. The artizans referred to in the preceding paragraph were allowed to leave India without regard to the provisions of the Emigration Act, because the Government of India, as advised at the time of their departure, held that those provisions did not apply to skilled labour, even if manual. On further consideration and advice, however, they are inclined to doubt the correctness of this interpretation. Section 6 (i) of the Emigration Act, XXI of 1883, limits its application to natives of India "under an agreement to labour for hire in some country beyond the limits of India, other than the Island of Ceylon or the Straits Settlements." The Government of India, as now advised, consider that the expression "to labour" is not necessarily restricted to the labour of agriculturists and menial servants. The reasonable interpretation of the clause seems to be that it extends to all persons engaged for labour which is essentially manual, but not to persons engaged for labour which is not so.

3. I am therefore directed to request that this interpretation of the Act may be acted upon unless and until it is judicially declared to be incorrect. In that event it will be necessary to consider the advisability of amending the law.

ORDER—No. 631, Public, dated 16th June 1896.

Communicated to all officers concerned for information and guidance.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,  
Chief Secretary.

To the Protector of Emigrants, Madras.  
" British Consular Agent, Pondicherry and Karikal.  
" Collectors of Maritime Districts.  
" Board of Revenue.

Ed. A. Raist.

Gobt. of {1896} Madras.  
PUBLIC.

Issued.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., No. 631, 16th June 1896.

JUNE.

Emigration.

Communicating to officers concerned letter from the Government of India expressing its views with regard to the recruitment of native artisans for service in the East African colonies.

Copy of Govt of India, Revenue & Agr. Dept. Notification No. 93-2-10, 217th Jan'y 1896

Whereas a number of natives of India have been engaged and intend shortly to depart by sea out of British India under agreements made with or on behalf of Her Majesty's Government to labour for hire in East Africa on or in connection with the Railway from Mombassa to or towards Lake Victoria Nyanza, now in course of construction, and it is considered desirable to exempt such labourers from the provisions of the Indian Emigration Act (XXI of 1883), the Governor-General in Council is pleased, in exercise of the power conferred by Section 106 of the said Act as amended by Act I of 1896, to declare that none of the provisions of the said Act shall apply to the said labourers or any of them.

In No 631 Pub  
G 16-6-96

Revenue and Agril. Notifn No. 93-2-10 217-2  
Emigration Act XXI of 1883 Act I

H. M.  
B.

Order

Communicated to  
all officers concerned  
for information & guidance

5/6/96

1/6/96

To the Portals of Emigration, Madras  
... B. C. Aggarwal, Portals  
... Chamber of Commerce  
... And others. 24

1/7/96

1896.  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.  
EMIGRATION.

File No. 2 of  
1896.  
Serial No. 28.

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIONS.

Circular No.  $\frac{11}{2-28}$ .

Dated Simla, the 27th May 1896.

SUBJECT.

Expresses the views of the Government of India with regard to the recruitment of Native Artizans for service in the East African Colonies.

Pub. No. 631 of 16 June 1896.

Depd  
1/7/96

The Collectors of  
The District Magistrates of

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~~North Arcot, Chittoor.~~  
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~~Bellary.~~  
South Canara, Mangalore. — 8  
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~~Coimbatore.~~  
~~Cuddapah.~~  
Ganjam, Chatrapur. — 8  
Godavari, Cocanada. — 8  
Kistna, Masulipatam. — 8  
~~Kannad.~~  
~~Madras (when necessary).~~  
Madura. — 8  
Malabar, Calicut. — 12  
~~Nilgiri, Ootacamund.~~  
Nellore. — 8  
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