

Public (1897) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 1325-6

DATED 6.10.97

INDEXED.

7.16367
11.12.97

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Addressing the Ceylon Govt
on the subject of the proposed
establishment of a Cooly depot
(at Tataparai.)*

11
21.10.97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Pub.
29.
2,000-5-3-97.

Public (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 3114

From

The L & M. Dep^t

Order

No. 901

Dated 24 Aug^t }
Received 24. " } 97
Registered 25. "

Enclosures 5.

Spare copies -

ack 20/8/97

SUBJECT,

Transferring letter from the Govt
of Ceylon regarding the establishment
of a Depot near Lankarua for
regulation & examination of coolies.

BACK PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department	Date

FURTHER PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department	Date

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Local and Municipal Department,

READ the following paper:—

Letter from the Colonial Secretary Colombo, dated 29th April 1897.

I am directed by His Excellency the Governor of Ceylon to inform you that a scheme for establishing a quarantine station at Hare Island, Tuticorin, has been brought to the notice of the Government of Ceylon, the object being to guard against the introduction of the plague and of cholera into Ceylon by immigrant coolies travelling from India.

2. The main features of the scheme are as follows:—

(a) That Hare Island be leased from the Indian Government by the Ceylon Government.

(b) That the island be made an embarkation station for all natives of the coolie class leaving India for Ceylon.

(c) That camps of cadjan sheds be erected there to shelter the coolies.

(d) That an adequate staff of medical officers be sent from Ceylon to examine coolies before departure and to grant certificates of health: the medical officers to act under the supervision of the European Agent at Tuticorin.

3. I am to request you to be so good as to lay this communication before His Excellency the Governor of Madras in Council, and I am to state that before giving the scheme serious consideration the Government of Ceylon will be glad to learn from the Government of Madras whether, in their opinion, it is feasible, especially as regards the leasing of Hare Island and the establishment of a quarantine sta-

3
Endorsement No.556 dated 6th May 1897.

Referred to the Revenue department for favour of very early remarks.

(Signed) G. S. Forbes.

Secretary to Government.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), No.1978 Mis. dated 31st May 1897, submitting to Government letter from the Collector of Tinnevely, Dis.No.976/1897, dated 24th May 1897, reporting on the scheme to establish a quarantine station at Hare Island.

Endorsement of Government, Revenue department, No. 2849 dated 5th June 1897.

Transferred to the Local and Municipal dept.

/Signed/ G. Stokes.

Secretary to Government.

Endorsement No.662, dated 12th June 1897.

Referred to the Sanitary Commissioner for favour of remarks.

/Signed/ G. S. Forbes.

Secretary to Government.

Letters from the Sanitary Commissioner, Nos.1561/S and 1566/S dated 3rd and 5th July 1897 respectively, submitting remarks on the above scheme.

Order:-No.1664 M. Mis., dated 26th July 1897.

A copy of the reports of the Collector of Tinnevely and of the Sanitary Commissioner read above, regarding the establishment of a quarantine station

2. Pending the receipt of final orders on the subject, the Collector of Tinnevely will be directed not to make any further assignments, on putta and otherwise, of land in the island to private parties.

/True Extract/

(Signed) G. S. Forbes.

Secretary to Government.

To

The Revenue department.

., Surgeon General.

., Sanitary Commissioner.

Letter No.1665 M. Mis., dated 26th July 1897.

From

vern

G. S. Forbes Esq., I. C. S.

ish a q

Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Local and Municipal department,

To

The Hon'ble the Colonial Secretary

Colombo.

Sir,

In reply to your letter dated 29th April 1897, I am directed to forward for the information of His Excellency Sir West Ridgeway, a copy of the marginally noted proceedings of this Government embodying the correspondence with the Collector of Tinnevely and the Sanitary Commissioner relative to the leasing to the Ceylon Government of Hare Island near Tuticorin for the purpose of establishing a quarantine station there.

2. The situation of the island and the manner in which its area is appropriated are fully described in the correspondence enclosed. No fresh water is available in any part of the island; food supplies as well as water must be

procured from the mainland; and during the months from May

No. 1664 M. Mis.
26.7.97

to September the prevalence of strong westerly winds renders communication by sailing boat most uncertain.

5. Inasmuch as cooly emigration from India to Ceylon is not under legal regulation but absolutely free, nothing in the way of the compulsory detention of emigrants on the island would, as the law at present stands, be permissible, except during an outbreak of plague when a period of "observation" might be enforced in accordance with regulations made under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897. Accordingly, unless at such times and in such circumstances, the arrangements made by the Government of Ceylon for the location of Indian coolies on Hare Island prior to embarkation would require to be purely of a voluntary character, the cooly being allowed perfect liberty to come and go at his pleasure. If it is the intention of the Colonial Government that Hare Island should be recognized for the future as the regular embarkation station for all natives of the cooly class proceeding to Ceylon, there is the danger that, in consequence of the isolation of the island and the difficulty of communication with the mainland, this personal freedom of movement secured to emigrants might be unduly interfered with, and that undesirable irregularities might arise. On the whole, His Excellency the Governor in Council is doubtful whether the proposed scheme could be brought into operation without evolving difficulties of a serious character. Before however coming to any final conclusion in the matter this Government would be glad to learn the further views entertained by His Excellency Sir West Ridgeway after a perusal of the correspondence now transmitted.

4. I am to add that, pending a settlement of the question, the Collector of Minnevelly has been directed not to make to private parties any further assignments of land on Hare Island.

/True Extract/

(Signed) G. S. Forbes.

Secretary to Government.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Colombo,

August 1897

No.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor of Ceylon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 26th ultimo, No. 1665 M, and to thank the Madras Government cordially for the trouble they have taken and for the readiness they have shown to meet the wishes of the Government of Ceylon, with regard to the proposal to establish a quarantine-station at Hare Island.

2. I am, however, to state that in the meantime another proposal has been made, under which, a voluntary depot and place of examination by the Ceylon Medical Officer, before embarkation, is about to be established, with the cooperation of the South Indian Railway Company.

3. I am to add that the proposal is indicated in the letter from Mr. Wilkinson, the Superintendent of Immigration, of which a copy is enclosed, and that it has received my approval as far as this Government is concerned.

4. A further communication will be made to the Madras Government regarding this depot when the plans are matured, as this Government fully recognise that the arrangements to be made should have the approval of the

The Secretary,

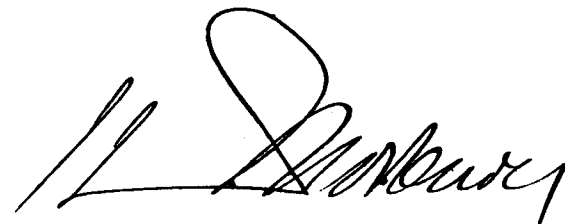
to the Government of Madras

Local and Municipal Department.

Madras,

Madras Government in Council.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H. D. Dewar'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'H'.

for Colonial Secretary.

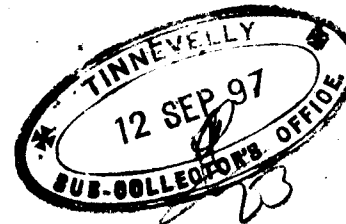
~~Copy of letter referred to.~~

No. R 918/8
3067

South Indian Railway Co. Ltd.

Agent's Office,

Trichinopoly, 12th July 1897



From

THE AGENT,

South Indian Railway,

To

C.H. Wilkinson Esq:

Superintendent of Immigration,

Ceylon Government.

Junction Station, Trichinopoly.

Sir,

With reference to our conversation this morning respecting the best arrangements to be adopted for the prevention of the blackmailing of Ceylon coolies by the hostel proprietors of Tuticorin, I have the pleasure to inform you that this administration will be happy to afford you every possible assistance in working the proposed cooly depot at Tataparai. I believe we shall be able to surrender sufficient land at this Station for your purpose, and we can arrange to run the coolies by special trains from Tataparai to Tuticorin pier without stopping at Tuticorin Station. It will however be necessary to press for the early construction of the fencing proposed to be erected round the reclaimed foreshore at Tuticorin in order to prevent the coolies escaping into the town after leaving the train and before embarkation.

As regards booking arrangements there will be no difficulty in issuing tickets direct to any Station on the Ceylon Railway ^{required}.

It can further be arranged that your assistant shall be allowed to travel between Tuticorin and Tataparai in the brake Vans of any goods trains which may be running.

i have etc.
(sd.) T. Le Mesurier
for Agent.

7
Tinne
3184

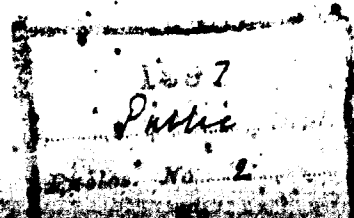
Report by the Superintendent of Immigration on his trip to Tuticorin.

Having been instructed by Government to proceed to Tuticorin in order to arrange for the segregation and accommodation of the Immigrant labourers leaving that port for Colombo, I embarked on board the S.S. "Hindu" on July 7th and arrived at Tuticorin about 9 o'clock the next morning. I proceeded to call on the leading residents of the town to obtain their views on the subject. Among the gentlemen interviewed by me were Captain Baker the Port Officer, Mr. Graham Agent of the British India S.S. Company Mr. Milligan and Mr. Rice the Assistant Collector, and their unanimous opinion was that it would not be advisable to have a depot or camp for the accommodation of a large number of coolies in the town even if a site were obtainable. After a careful examination of the town, I came to the conclusion that a suitable site could not be procured within the municipality, so it was necessary to look elsewhere.

Hare Island is a very good site as far as locality is concerned, but there are serious objections to establishing a camp for a large number of coolies here.

- 1 st. Every drop of water would have to be carried over from the mainland or condensers would have to be erected.
- 2 nd. A substantial jetty of at least a quarter of a

mile/



Encl. to No. 167/10

mile in length would have to be constructed for the landing of the coolies. 3rd. Even if such a jetty were made, considerable difficulty would be experienced in landing coolies, owing to the high seas and strong winds that prevail during certain parts of the year.

Taking these objections into consideration I do not think it advisable to select Hare Island as a site for the proposed depot.

I was told of a piece of land about one and a half miles from the town which might prove suitable for the object in view and in company with Dr. Moraes I inspected this land. It lies close to the Railway line at the level crossing on the Etiapuram road about one mile and a quarter from the station. The soil is sandy growing thorn bushes interspersed with a few palmyrah trees. It is about six acres in extent and leased on the Puttur system by natives; the land, however, could be acquired by the Madras Government under the Land Acquisition Ordinance and handed over to the Ceylon Government at a cost not exceeding fifty Rupees an acre, I hear. The land is slightly undulating which would admit of drainage. I believe of a sort ^{that exists} can be procured all the year round by digging. There were two small excavations with water in them at the time of my visit, and this water would be suitable for bathing and probably for cooking purposes, were a large well constructed. About three quarters of a mile distant ^{by} from road, however, are situated the wells from which most of the water used in Tuticorin is drawn. A direct road from these wells to the site could easily be made of a little more than a quarter of a mile in length.

If this site were decided upon, it would be necessary to come to some arrangement with the South Indian Railway to allow coolies to alight here. I

situation
annex a rough sketch of this spot showing its position-
with regard to the Railway, the wells and the town.
I also inspected the land belonging to the station, and
though there is room here for the erection of sheds, I
do not think that the Railway authorities would allow
buildings of any permanent character to be put up. One
great objection to this site, too, is its nearness to
the town.

I next proceeded to Trichinopoly to arrange
with captain Shelley the Agent of the South Indian
Railway about stopping the trains at the Etiapuram level
crossing; and had a long interview with him and
Mr. Davies one of the traffic Managers.

Captain Shelley said there would be no objec-
tion to stop the morning trains at the proposed site, but
he considered that the situation was too near to the
Town.

It must be borne in mind that the boutique-keepers of
Tuticorin have for years past made large profits out of the
coolies by supplying them with meals etc., and are doing so.

now. It is evident that they will not allow this source
of wealth to slip through their fingers without making efforts
to retain it. They would probably run up caddies close to
the proposed camp, and induce coolies to go there. They
might spread the story that the Ceylon Government had
erected a sort of prison in which coolies were compelled to
remain, and if this tale were carried through the recruiting
villages it might go a long way to defeat the object of the
depot. To obviate this, Captain Shelley proposed that the
camp should be placed at Tataparai, a station nine and a half
miles from Tuticorin.

The Railway authorities have some 20 acres of land
here; they would surrender 5 or 6 acres for the erection of
sheds, and old Railway materials could be cheaply procured
for the buildings. There is a large well of palatable water

on the spot. The Station Master told me when I inspected the site that there would be no difficulty in procuring a contractor to supply meals at a cheap rate. I believe the boutique keepers charge coolies from 5 to 6 annas a day for food., whereas the ordinary rate for residence in the town is 3 annas. Instructions could be given to the Station Masters along the line to book coolies to Tataparai instead of to Tuticorin. I find the bulk of the coolies come by train reaching Tataparai a little before 9 in the morning. They would be received at the depot by the Assistant Superintendent (who would have the privilege of travelling to the Station, both by passenger and Goo's trains) have a bath and a meal, and then be sent down in batches of 250 (the number the steam launch can take at one trip) by special trains which the Railway authorities will provide, to the jetty about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile ^{beyond} the Tuticorin Station without stopping at the Station at all. Thus coolies could be taken from the depot direct to the steamer without entering the town of Tuticorin or having any intercourse with the boutique keepers. Canganies who have frequently made the journey to and from Ceylon have an account with the boutique keepers which has been running on for years and are heavily in debt to them. It is very probable that these land sharks will put pressure on such canganies and compel them to book to Tuticorin. But if a rule were made that the Doctor's Certificates would only be issued to such gangs as book from Tataparai, the coolies would have to come to the depot or not leave the country at all by steamer. I spoke to several Canganies about the proposed camps and they all thought the plan was "michum nallu". Superintendents in Ceylon too should give their Canganies instructions not to go to Tuticorin but make for the camp on the return journey. I confidently hope, when it is known throughout the recruiting

Villages that there is a place where coolies are received and cared for, where, if they are short of money they can comfortably remain till funds are forwarded, that they will come to this place of their own accord, rather than lie about the streets of Tuticorin as they do at present.

Another point in favour of this site is that the nearest village is nearly one mile away, so that coolies would have little inducement to leave the camp.

Again, Tataparai being a station on the line coolies could be booked to any station on the Ceylon Railway. Hitherto Canganies have not availed themselves of this through booking privilege chiefly because they were afraid of coolies bolting from the gangs en route. But with a depot at this Station the cooly will be under surveillance till he gets on board the Steamer, and I believe that Canganies will largely adopt this method of booking through to the Stations on the Ceylon Railway nearest their estate.

It must also be remembered in favour of Tataparai that a considerable outlay in fencing in the land would be avoided, as the sheds would be erected on Railway property which is already enclosed. From a rough calculation I think that sheds, say 100 feet by 24, built of old rails as a framework, with palmyra thatch for roofing, and parapet walls of old sleepers, could be run up at a cost of 300 Rupees for each shed, and perhaps 5 of such sheds would be sufficient to commence with. A kitchen would have to be provided and the coolies could make use of the Station Latrine. I append a letter from the Agent of the South Indian Railway which shows that that Administration is very willing to help in the scheme. The following are the figures of the rainfall at Tataparai from September 1896 to July 13th 1897 which I obtained from the Station Master.

In: /

	in:	cts:
September 1896	3.	25
October "	0.	51
November "	2.	55
December "	2,	85
January 1897		Nil
February "	2.	30
March "		Nil
April "	4.	49
May "	5.	48
June "		Nil
July (to 13th)		Nil.

taking into consideration the foregoing facts and also that the Tataparai site is very favourably considered by Captain Baker, the Port Officer, I have no hesitation in recommending this place as a suitable one for forming a depot for Immigrant coolies.

There is a small jetty - charge of half an Anna for Adults and 3 pice for children at Tuticorin. During the month of April, May and June of the year a monthly average of twenty-two thousand coolies pay the charge. I think it probable, were representations made by the Ceylon Government to the Madras authorities, the latter would refund a portion of the Revenue thus obtained from the coolies towards the expense of keeping up the depot.

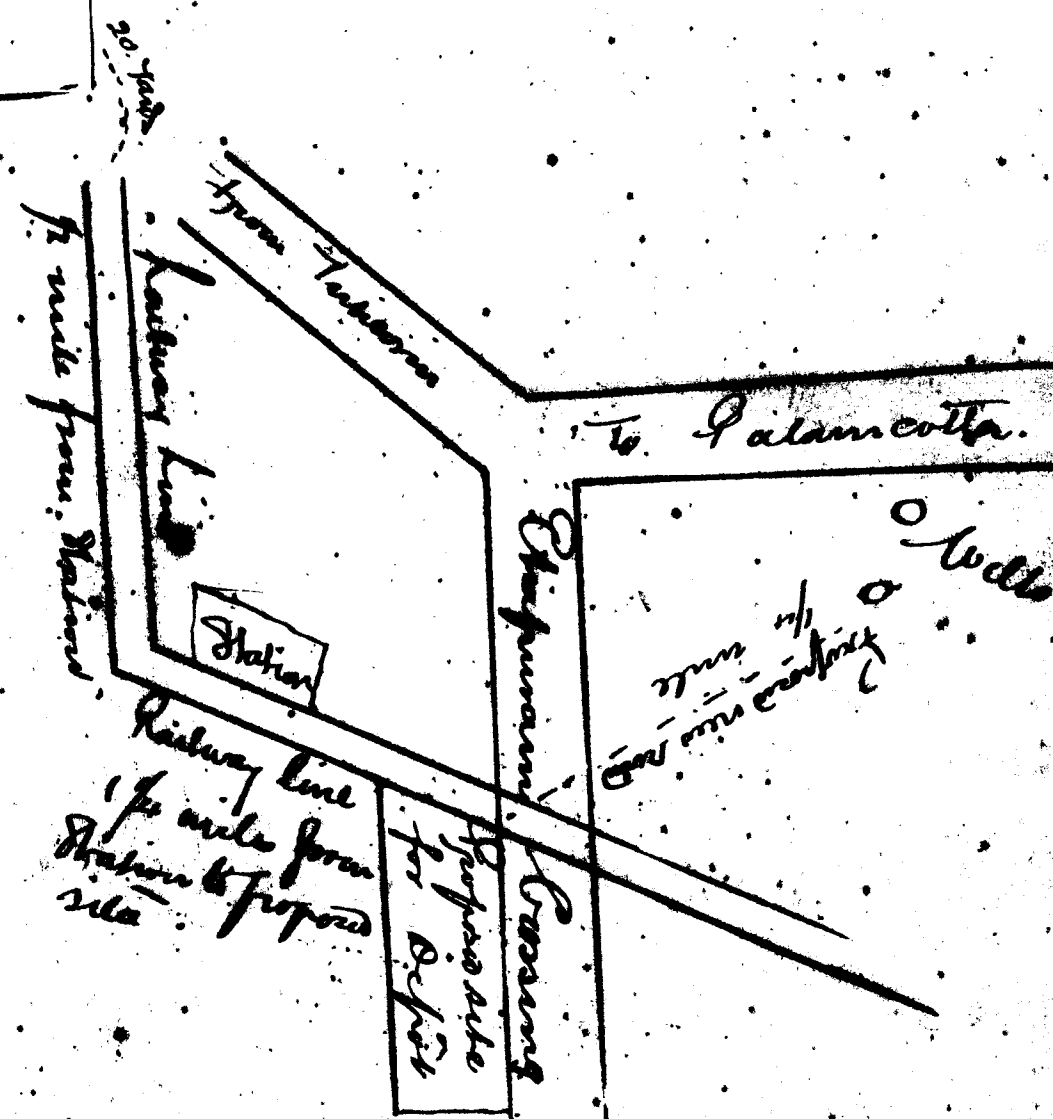
I cannot close this report without expressing my thanks to the various gentlemen for the valuable advice given, and the great courtesy shown me during my trip.

(Sd.) C.H. Wilkinson

Supdt. of Immigration.

Colombo, July 15th 1897.

Tally.



1897
Public
Exhib. No. 1
To
1894

Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 167/0

MM & Co

From The Government of Ceylon

No.

Dated 9. 8. 97

Received 15. 8. 97

Registered do

Enclosures 1

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Establishment of a depot near Tuticorin for segregation and examination of Coolies for Ceylon.

I see no prima facie objection to this Tuticorin scheme - But we may as well at once consult the Cbr. Secy ~~to see~~ ^{to see} ~~if~~ ^{if} the Ceylon Govt goes further - I don't quite know how this matter has come to be dealt with in the L. & M. Dept. - Public Deals with Emigration, I think

The Comr. shd be asked to propose

20/8/97

21.9.97

Cy. Secy Recd. Dep. Marine Dept.

The case came first into the L. & M. in connection with plague arrangements but as the Ceylon proposal appears to be more general

1897 Public

1291 in this of 20.8.97 ✓
 1287 in this of 20.8.97 ✓
 1212 in this of 15.8.97 ✓
 1211 in this of 15.8.97 ✓
 1202 in this of 14.8.97 ✓
 1214 in this of 7.8.97 ✓
 1202 in this of 25.4.97 ✓
 999 in this of 25.4.97 ✓
 865 in this of 12.4.97 ✓
 786 in this of 31.3.97 ✓
 629 in this of 11.3.97 ✓
 542 in this of 9.3.97 ✓
 438 in this of 1.3.97 ✓
 287 in this of 22.7.97 ✓

for all labour emigrants -
 the notes in the Public
 Dept. to show the file letters
 with the notes in original
 will be transferred

S. J. 22
 24/8/97

The previous fo. will also
 be communicated.

C. No. 167. Only dated 9.8.97

Received 24/8/97

No. 901 dated 24th August 1897.
 Transferred to the Public
 Department.

J. P. Forster
 Secretary to Government

The Public Department with notes in original &
 copy of C. No. 166 & 167 of 26.7.97

10
Fair copy
submitted
3/19/97
Public Dept
C Smith fair Ch 3183 & 3184

End of 105476-9-97
Referred to the

Collector of Tinnally

for early ~~revenue~~
report

(from orders)
under T
4/9/97.

MC.
3/9/97
1/9/97.

To
The C. W. of Tinnally order with Ch 3183 & 3184
6/9/97.

Public (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 3/83

Order

From

*The Colonial Secretary
Colombo*

No.

Dated 20. 8.

Received 24. 8.

Registered 24. 8.

Enclosures -

Spare copies -

SUBJECT. 301177

*Requesting the permission of
Govt. to establish a coaly
depot at Totapalai -*

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Colombo, 20 August, 1897



No.

Sir,

With reference to paragraph 4 of the letter dated 4th August to your address from this Government I am directed by His Excellency the Governor of Ceylon to ask for the permission of the Madras Government in Council to establish a Cooly Depot at Tataparai.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

[Signature]
for Colonial Secretary.

The Hon'ble,

The Chief Secretary,

To the Government of Madras.

Local & Municipal Department.

3582

INDIAN



TELEGRAPHS

Month & Number.

From
(Office)

Words.

Day.

Hour.

Minute.

Official Instructions.

To
(Person)

From
(Person)

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
27 SEP-1897
MILITARY & NAVAL DEPARTMENT

Recd. from

L.N.

Sent to

L.N.

At

Mrs.

Mts. by

COTACAMUND 26-9-97

Telegraph Master.

Public (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 3582

Telegram

2 to Am depl.

Order Telegram to the
Collector of Tennessee

No.

760x ^{Expedite} ~~when necessary~~ reply
to memo 1854 Date

South west land

regarding Cooby

Depot at Tataparac

& have open it - image

Open it - may
be Expected?

Dated

Received

Registered

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Communicating by
Govt's telegram re establish-
ment, to only depol, Tatarstan

214
 27/1/79

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Public
Local & Munt. (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. *3632*
3354

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Order

From *The Colonial Secretary*
Colombo.

No.

Dated *25-9-1897*

Received *27-9-1897*

Registered *27-9-1897*

do in Feb 28. 9.
Enclosures -

Spare copies. -

SUBJECT.

Requesting an early reply to his letter dated 20th August 1897 regarding the establishment of cooly depot at Talaparaai.

Recd 6-59. m

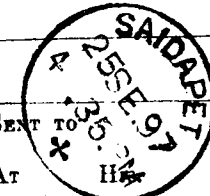
BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

7-14				INDIAN TELEGRAPH.				Monthly Local
Class. <i>XFS</i>				To <i>Madras Saidapet</i>				Station <i>Colombo</i>
Station				Words. <i>42</i>				Day. <i>25</i>
				Hour. <i>12</i>				Mins. <i>35</i>
To (Person)				From (Person)				Official Instruction.
<i>V. Raghava</i>				<i>road at St. George</i>				<i>one and</i>
<i>Chatter</i>				<i>eight</i>				
<i>Secy to govt</i>				<i>Colonial</i>				
<i>off mabar</i>				<i>secretary</i>				
<i>Local and</i>								
<i>municipal dept</i>								
<i>Barman street</i>								
My letter <i>Twentieth</i> <i>adquats re</i> <i>establishments cooly</i> <i>depot tataparai</i> <i>early reply requested</i> <i>25/13/52</i>								
REGD. FROM				L. N.				SENT TO
At Hrs. Mts. By				At Hrs. Mts. By				



Postmaster.

Public (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.

Initial
Send

From Telegram
The collector,
Tinnevely.

Order

No.

Dated 28
Received 29
Registered 29 } 9-97.
Enclosures —
Spare copies —

SUBJECT.

stating with reference
to telegram 760 that the
reply by the local depot
at Tatabari may be
expected on the 10th inst.

G.O.	No.	Department	Date.

G O.	No.	Department.	Date.

From (Officer)			
Day.	Hour.	Minute.	Official Instructions.

From (Person)	
-------------------------	--

LN.

Sent to

LN.

OCTACAMUND 28-9-97

Telegraph Master.

Pls. by

494 T-27 4 26-100900

Public (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.

From The Collector of
Sinnerville.

Dr. No. 1916 of 97.

Dated 28th September 1937.

Received

Registered /.

Enclosures 1. file (c. 7. 3183 & Encls.
Spare copies - to c. 7. 3184 & c. 7. 3185.)

Spare copies - 627 31842.

SUBJECT.

Submitting report on the
proposal of the Ceylon
Government to establish
a cooly depot at Latta-
-parai.

BACK PAPERS.			
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.			
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Innenuelly DISTRICT COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
Dated 28th September 1897.

FROM

A. W. B. Higgins Esquire,

COLLECTOR OF THE
Innenuelly District,

TO

Chief
THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Public DEPARTMENT,

Madras..

SIR,

In reply to memorandum no: 1854 dated 6th September 1897, I have the honor to state that the facts mentioned in the report to the Ceylon Government, dated 15th July 1897, from Mr. C. H. Wilkinson, Superintendent of Immigration, Ceylon, are correct and that no apparent objection exists to the proposal of the Ceylon Government to establish a Cooly depot at Lattappara, provided satisfactory arrangements are made for supplying food and water to the Coolies. This the Ceylon Government might arrange with the assistance of the Railway Authorities who have agreed to see that government is possible.

possible ways. Tattapporai Railway Station is well ^{situated} ~~situated~~ for a depot as it has a large Compound and is not close to any habitation, the nearest villages being about one mile from the station. There are two wells in the railway Compound one of which is useful for drinking purposes. I am of opinion that the plan is worth a trial.

2. The enclosures that accompanied the reference under reply are resubmitted.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Collector

RC
28-9-97
AC
28/10/97

[G. 7]
26
1,000-R-5-97.

- 3 H. E. THE GOVERNOR.
1 THE HON'BLE ^{Sir H. W.} ~~MR~~ BLISS, K.C.I.E.
2 THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

Public DEPARTMENT.

C. No. 3666

SUBJECT.

1. An Immigration Agent for Tuticorin
2. A cooly depot at Tattapporai

FOR ORDERS.

The proposals of the Ceylon Port now submitted for consideration are the outcome of the correspondence starting with the Colonial Secy's letter of the 5th June 1896 regarding the alleged blackmailing of cooly recruiters for Ceylon. This matter was discussed in the notes with G.O. 1830 Tudd 18.11.96 and as a result the Ceylon Port was ^{practically} advised to establish an Immigration Agent at Tuticorin to watch over the interests of these cooly recruiters or Kanganis in letter N^o 7831 Tudd 18.11.96. In acknowledging the receipt of this letter Ceylon mentions incidentally that a report on the

The Subject had been read from
Mr. Cotton the Immigration
Supt at Pamben.

Letter d/31.12.96 Lmfo. ^{RN 87 Judd}
14.1.97

*he gets Rs 50 a month
under G.O. 408 Ptd d/22.2.86

Letter d/1.2.97 Lmfo. ^{227 Judd}
16.2.97

2. Ceylon then proposed
that ① the Port Officer at Tuticorin
should be appointed by the Indian
Govt as Protector of Emigrants;
② the S.I. Ry authorities should
be moved to erect a shed
in the Ry Compound at
Tuticorin for the coolies; &
③ a special truck for coolies
should be attached to the train (for 1st & 2nd class passengers)
running to the pier at Tuticorin
so that the coolies might go
straight to the pier & to the
steamer without entering
the town: - and this for the
assistance was requested
to secure the adoption of
these proposals.

3. They were referred to
the Marine and P.W. Depts
for remarks the substance of
whose replies were:-

- (a) that there was no objection
to the Port Officer at Tuticorin
being appointed Protector
of Emigrants at that port.

but that for the extra
work Ceylon should pay
him Rs 100 per month
as in the case of the
Negapatnam Port Officer
by that the S.I. Ry authorities
saw no reason why the
Company should bear the
cost of the proposed ac-
commodation for coolies.
[The Agent, S.I. Ry, considered
that either the shed should
be erected and worked at
the expense of the port or not constructed
at all. He objected to
building the shed in the
Ry compound.]

(c) ~~The Agent~~ that, provided
any useful object would
be served by it, there
was no objection to
running a special
truck, but that coolies
were rarely booked thro
to Ceylon.

Thus far the matter
had been dealt with
by the Judd Dept.

4. The subsequent
letter however from the
Ceylon Govt d/21.4.9
expressing a desire to
appoint an

Apr

Agent at Tuticorin, and
presuming that this
post would have no
objection to the appoint-
ment on the same footing
as the present Agent at
Pamban, was trans-
ferred to Public B

It was then referred
to the Board of Revenue
whose reply is given in
Current 3160. It forwards
a letter from the Collector
of Travancore expressing
general concurrence
but remarks that
the arrangement of
details will depend on
the qualifications
& status of the Ceylon Agent.
Attention is solicited to
this letter (flagged *)

5. Adverting to the apparent
objects of the Ceylon post
in proposing the app't,
viz^d, to provide against
the possible importation
of epidemics into Ceylon,
& to facilitate the Emigra-
tion of coolies there to pre-
vent them from attacking

by Kanganis or
boutique-keeper,
the Collector states that
it is ^{is} ~~indismissible~~ to the in-
terests both of the
Tuticorin Municipality
and of the Ceylon post
to make suitable arrange-
ments to prevent coolies
(1) carrying infection
into Ceylon and (2)
entering the town of Tuticorin.
This end he thinks
can best be attained
by the app't of an Agent
who should establish
a depot outside the town.

* Enclosed & attached
for ready reference

6. He then imparts
of his letter enters into
details regarding the
Supervision & regulation
of this depot, and in
para 5 suggests that it
will facilitate arrange-
ments if the agent
appointed is an European
acquainted with Tamil

Information as
to the exact footing of
the Ceylon A

not available just now. The Collector of Madras who was addressed on the subject has written to say that he has not yet heard from the Ceylon Agent at Pannam but that the Govt Officers there have no control over, or concern with him.

8. Meanwhile on the 29 April last the Ceylon Govt started a scheme for establishing a quarantine station at Han Island Tuticorin, to guard against the introduction into the country of plague & cholera. This was replying in letter N^o.

S 1665 M dt 26. 7. 97 expressed itself as doubtful of the success of the scheme and another proposal was then made in letter

Q dt 19th Aug 1897 to establish a voluntary report and place of quarantine at Tataparai with the cooperation of the S. I. Ry Company. In para 4 of this letter a further commⁿ was promised when the plans were matured.

9. On this latter proposal the Honble Sir Henry Bliss wrote "I see no prima facie objection to this Tataparai Scheme, and we may as well consult the Collector Southeastern delay of the Ceylon

Ceylon Govt goes further"
The Govt now
transfers the papers
to Two, and mem-
- while the further com-
- munication promised
by Ceylon has come in.
(C. 3183) in which it
formally asks
permission to establish
a cooling depot at
Tatapanni.

Ships papers will
therefore be referred
to the Collector
of Tinnevely for
Early remarks.

CW
1/9/97

Please see
the section

A' is linked
(white) file.

B. is linked
(blue) file
A B'

NOTE FOR THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

The Ceylon Govt wrote on Feb
1st and suggested certain
measures for putting a
stop to the blackmailing of
emigrants to Ceylon at
Intitacoin. Subsequently
on 21/4/97 it was that
it proposed with the view
of the Govt to establish an
Immigration Agent at
Intitacoin on the same footing
as the agent at Paunden.
B.M. These letters were
referred to the various depts
and officers concerned for
remarks. Now the Ceylon
Govt has proposed a
scheme for taking all
the emigrants to a
place called Tatapanni,
& running them thence
direct to the steamers.
This proposal has to be
referred to the Officer of
Tinnevely for remarks -
Inasmuch the previous
proposal to establish

6

Chief of Taticorn must
it is submitted be over
as the present scheme
operates it. A long
note on this subject has
been put up. Let it
be unnecessary now to
go into the details of
the various proposals.
The original letter on this
subject of blackmailing
was a judicial one is
awaiting the decision on
the general question, of
if Taticorn is adopted
as a depot. The colonies
will not be liable to
blackmail as they will
not stop in Taticorn.
There is therefore no
objection to delaying the
judicial subject.

AK.
3/5/57

✓ Sent 5/5/57
12/5/57

[G. 25]
L1010-5-5-57

C. No. 3666

Public DEPARTMENT.

2 H. E. THE GOVERNOR.
1 THE HON'BLE ^{Sir H.W.} BLISS, K.C.I.E.
~~THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.~~

SUBJECT.

The Taticorn Scheme

FOR ORDERS.

M, L & A

In connection with
the alleged blackmailing
^{at Taticorn, in this way}
of cooling ~~the waters~~ for
Ceylon, the Govt of that
island first proposed
the appt of an Indian
Immigration Agent
at Taticorn

Subsequently in
April last the Ceylon
Govt started a scheme
for establishing a
Quarantine Station at
Thane Island, Taticorn,
to guard against the
^{importation} introduction into ~~the island~~ Ceylon
of plague & cholera

** It was proposed
to make this
embarkation station
the landing depot
for the

This Govt replying
in letter N° 1665-M of
26.7.57 E. & ...

itself as doubtful
of the success of the
Scheme; and another
proposal was then
made - vide letter of
9th August 1897. Q
to Establish a voluntary
depot and place of
Embarkation at
Tataparai with the
Cooperation of the
S.I. Ry Company. In
para 4 of this letter
a further commu-
-nication was prom-
-ised when the plans
were matured.

On this latter
proposal the Hon Sir
Henry Bliss wrote T
"I see no prima facie
objection to this Tata-
-parai Scheme, but
we may as well
consult the Collector
so as to save delay
of the Ceylon Govt further"

The papers were
received from the

Q But see his remarks in
the letter at W, about
preventing the coolies from
"escaping into the town"

just below W

* In Dr. Wilkinson's
report at N' it is
stated that food
water is available.

The Lom Dept at the
same time as the
further communi-
-cation from Ceylon
C 3183 in which
it formally asked
for permission to
Establish a cooly
depot at Tataparai.
The Collector
of Trincomalee was
accordingly re-
-ferred to and
his reply just
received is
submitted.

It states that
Dr. Wilkinson's report
is incorrect, and
that provided satis-
-factory arrangements
are made for food
& water, there is no
objection to the Estab-
-lishment of a cooly
depot at Tataparai.
That the Ceylon Govt
might arrange de-
-als with the Railways

as the other

authorities who have
already expressed
their willingness to
help in the matter,
and that the railway
being well suited
for the purpose, the
scheme is worth
a trial.

The Colonial
Secretary has twice wired
for a reply.

It is submitted
that the following
reply may be sent.

Cs 3582, 3632 & 3633.

~~attached~~

The establishment of a
depot at Tatiapara would
be submitted to an
advantage from all points
of view.

The Government promised
to communicate its plans
when required, but it has
apparently forgotten this, and
asks for the decision of the
Govt. Submitted which it
may be held, with genuine
sympathy, that Govt. has no
objection to the scheme to be

ad. S. This might be pointed
out

RS

present known, but that it
would like to have details
before a report is actually
started. Then, it is submitted,
is desirable in order to check
the tendency which shows itself
in the correspondence, to treat
the colonies as prisoners rather
than as voluntary emigrants.

AK

2/10/97

K. B. M.

The Govt's
suggestions may be carried
out

AK 10/7

RS

5/10/97

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O., No.	dated	189
Again G.O., No.	dated	189
Current No.	of 189 , dated	, from
" "	" 189 , "	" "
" "	" 189 , "	" "

CL 3183, 3184, 3582, 3622, 3633 + 3666

CS

ORDER. W.P. 1325 of 6th Octr '97
this

The Ceylon Govt will be
addressed
2. The following telegrams
will be despatched to the Colon-
-ial Secy, Colombo:—
"775" "Your telegram 26th
ultimo. Govt has no objec-
-tion ^{replied} ~~Tatapara~~ ^{as present}
~~advised~~ but would ask
details before depot is
actually started. Letter
follows"

1 from order
5.10.97 1/10
26.10.97

Letter W.P. 1326 of 6th Octr '97
Shenton the Col Secy, Colombo
Sir,

With ref to your letter of
the 20th August 1897

and your telegram of the 25th ultimo regarding the establishment of a cooly depot at Talapara i, I am directed to inform you, as already intimated in my telegram 4th - of this date (copy) [H. & Telegrams] in the margin, (that) H.E. the Gov. in fl, as at present advised, has no objection to the scheme proposed.

~~provided satisfactory arrangements are made for food and water~~

2 Before however pronouncing definitely on the matter this Govt would, ^{as to me,} be glad to be furnished with the details of the plan promised in para 4 of your letter of the 9th August last

from orders

2.10.97

0.7

When given for copying
When copied
When examined
When signed

189

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTERS OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

APERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DE-PATCH IN ORIGINAL.

A A A A A A A

N.B.-

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