1967 No. 816

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

The Mauritius (Appeals to Privy Council) Order 1967

Made - - - - *24th May* 1967

Coming into Operation *on the appointed day*

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 24th day of May 1967

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Her Majesty, by virtue and in the exercise of the powers in that behalf by section 1 of the Judicial Committee Act 1844(a) or otherwise in Her Majesty vested, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

Citation and commencement.

1. This Order may be cited as the Mauritius (Appeals to Privy Council) Order 1967 and shall come into operation on the appointed day.

Interpretation.

2.—(1) In this Order, unless the context otherwise requires—

"appeal" means appeal from a decision of the Court to Her Majesty in Council;

"the appointed day" means such date as may be appointed by the Governor under section 2(1) of the Mauritius Constitution Order 1966(b);

"Court" means the Court of Civil Appeal or the Supreme Court established by the Constitution of Mauritius, set out in the Schedule to the Mauritius Constitution Order 1966;

"decision" means a decision in any proceedings originating in Mauritius;

"record" means the aggregate of papers relating to an appeal (including pleadings, proceedings, evidence and decisions) proper to be laid before Her Majesty in Council on the hearing of an appeal;

"Registrar" means the Registrar of the Court or other proper officer having custody of the records of the Court.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(c) shall apply, with the necessary adaptations, for the purpose of interpreting this Order and otherwise in relation thereto as it applies for the purposes of interpreting, and in relation to, Acts of Parliament.

Appeals to Her Majesty in Council.

3.—(1) An appeal shall lie to Her Majesty in Council from decisions of the Court given in any proceedings originating in Mauritius in such cases as may be prescribed by or in pursuance of the Constitution of Mauritius.

(2) Section 76 of the Constitution of Mauritius shall not apply in relation to decisions of the Court in any proceedings originating in the Seychelles.

(a) 1844 c. 69. (b) S.I. 1966 III, p. 5190. (c) 1889 c. 63.

Applications for leave to appeal.

4. Applications to the Court for leave to appeal shall be made by motion or petition within twenty-one days of the date of the decision to be appealed from, and the applicant shall give all other parties concerned notice of his intended application.

Conditional leave to appeal.

5. Leave to appeal to Her Majesty in Council in pursuance of the provisions of any law relating to such appeals shall, in the first instance, be granted by the Court only—

(*a*) upon condition of the appellant, within a period to be fixed by the Court but not exceeding ninety days from the date of the hearing of the application for leave to appeal, entering into good and sufficient security to the satisfaction of the Court in a sum not exceeding Rupees 10,000 for the due prosecution of the appeal and the payment of all such costs as may become payable by the applicant in the event of his not obtaining an order granting him final leave to appeal, or of the appeal being dismissed for non-prosecution, or of the Judicial Committee ordering the appellant to pay the costs of the appeal (as the case may be); and

(*b*) upon such other conditions (if any) as to the time or times within which the appellant shall take the necessary steps for the purposes of procuring the preparation of the record and the despatch thereof to England as the Court, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, may think it reasonable to impose.

Powers of a single judge.

6. A single judge of the Court shall have power and jurisdiction—

(*a*) to hear and determine any application to the Court for leave to appeal in any case where under any provision of law an appeal lies as of right from a decision of the Court;

(*b*) generally in respect of any appeal pending before Her Majesty in Council, to make such order and to give such other directions as he shall consider the interests of justice or circumstances of the case require:

Provided that any order, directions or decision made or given in pursuance of this section may be varied, discharged or reversed by the Court when consisting of three judges which may include the judge who made or gave the order, directions or decision.

Stay of execution.

7. Where the decision appealed from requires the appellant to pay money or do any act, the Court shall have power, when granting leave to appeal, either to direct that the said decision shall be carried into execution or that the execution thereof shall be suspended pending the appeal, as to the Court shall seem just, and in case the Court shall direct the said decision to be carried into execution, the person in whose favour it was given shall, before the execution thereof, enter into good and sufficient security to the satisfaction of the Court for the due performance of such Order as Her Majesty in Council shall think fit to make thereon.

Manner of providing security.

8. For the purposes of sections 5 and 7 of this Order, a person may provide security in any manner that the Court may approve in his case, and for the avoidance of doubts it is declared that such security may with the approval of the Court consist in whole or in part of a deposit of money.

Preparation of record.

9.—(1) The preparation of the record shall be subject to the supervision of the Court, and the parties may submit any disputed question arising in connection therewith to the decision of the Court, and the Court shall give such directions thereon as the justice of the case may require.

(2) The Registrar, as well as the parties and their legal agents, shall endeavour to exclude from the record all documents (more particularly such as are merely formal) that are not relevant to the subject matter of the appeal and, generally, to reduce the bulk of the record as far as practicable, taking special care to avoid the duplication of documents and the unnecessary repetition of headings and other merely formal parts of documents; but the documents omitted to be copied or printed shall be enumerated in a list to be placed after the index or at the end of the record.

(3) Where in the course of the preparation of a record one party objects to the inclusion of a document on the ground that it is unnecessary or irrelevant and the other party nevertheless insists upon its being included, the record, as finally printed (whether in Mauritius or in England) shall, with a view to the subsequent adjustment of the costs of and incidental to such document, indicate in the index of papers or otherwise the fact that, and the party by whom, the inclusion of the documents was objected to.

(4) The reasons given by judges of the Court for or against any decision pronounced in the course of the proceedings out of which the appeal arises shall be communicated by them in writing to the Registrar, and shall be included in the record.

Printing of the record.

10.—(1) The record may be printed in Mauritius or may be printed in England if the parties agree to its being printed, but in the absence of such agreement shall be duplicated by process approved by the Registrar of the Privy Council. If the record is to be printed it shall be printed in accordance with the Rules set forth in the Schedule to this Order.

(2) Where the record is printed in Mauritius the Registrar shall, at the expense of the appellant, transmit to the Registrar of the Privy Council forty copies of such record, one of which copies he shall certify to be correct by signing his name on, or initialling, every eighth page thereof and by affixing thereto the seal of the Court.

(3) Where the record is to be printed or duplicated in England, the Registrar shall, at the expense of the appellant, transmit to the Registrar of the Privy Council one certified copy of such record, together with an index of all the papers and exhibits in the case. No other certified copies of the record shall be transmitted to the agents in England by or on behalf of the parties to the appeal.

(4) Where part of the record is printed in Mauritius and part is to be printed or duplicated in England, subsections (2) and (3) of this section shall, as far as possible, apply to such parts as are printed in Mauritius and such as are to be printed or duplicated in England respectively.

Consolidation of appeals.

11. Where there are two or more applications for leave to appeal arising out of the same matter, and the Court is of opinion that it would be for the convenience of the Lords of the Judicial Committee and all parties concerned that the appeals should be consolidated, the Court may direct the appeals to be consolidated and grant leave to appeal by a single order.

Failure to prosecute appeal.

12. Where an appellant, having obtained an order granting him conditional leave to appeal, and having complied with the conditions imposed on him by such order, fails thereafter to apply with due diligence to the Court for an order granting him final leave to appeal, the Court may, on an application in that behalf made by the respondent, rescind the order granting conditional leave to appeal notwithstanding the appellant's compliance with the conditions imposed by such an order, and may give such directions as to the costs of the appeal and security entered into by the appellant as the Court shall think fit, or make such further or other order in the premises as, in the opinion of the Court, the justice of the case requires.

Notice to other parties.

13.—(1) On an application for final leave to appeal, the Court may enquire whether notice or sufficient notice of the application has been given by the appellant to parties concerned and, if not satisfied as to the notices given, may defer the granting of the final leave to appeal, or may give such other directions in the matter as, in the opinion of the Court, the justice of the case requires.

(2) The Registrar shall, with all convenient speed, transmit to the Registrar of the Privy Council a certificate to the effect that the respondent has received notice, or is otherwise aware, of the order of the Court granting final leave to appeal and of the transmission of the record to England.

Prosecution of appeal.

14. An appellant who has obtained final leave to appeal shall prosecute his appeal in accordance with the Rules for the time being regulating the general practice and procedure in appeals to Her Majesty in Council.

Withdrawal of appeal.

15.—(1) An appellant who has obtained an order granting him conditional leave to appeal may at any time prior to the making of an order granting him final leave to appeal withdraw his appeal on such terms as to costs and otherwise as the Court may direct.

(2) Where an appellant, having obtained final leave to appeal, desires, prior to the despatch of the record to England, to withdraw his appeal, the Court may, upon an application in that behalf made by the appellant, grant him a certificate to the effect that the appeal has been withdrawn, and the appeal shall thereupon be deemed, as from the date of such certificate, to stand dismissed without express Order of Her Majesty in Council, and the costs of the appeal and the security entered into by the appellant shall be dealt with in such manner as the Court may think fit to direct.

Dismissal for non-prosecution.

16. Where an appellant, having obtained final leave to appeal, fails to show due diligence in taking all necessary steps for the purpose of procuring the despatch of the record to England, any respondent may, after giving the appellant due notice of his intended application, apply to the Court for a certificate that the appeal has not been effectually prosecuted by the appellant, and if the Court sees fit to grant such a certificate the appeal shall be deemed, as from the date of such certificate, to stand dismissed for non-prosecution without Express Order of Her Majesty in Council, and the costs of the appeal and the security entered into by the appellant shall be dealt with in such manner as the Court may think fit to direct.

Substituting parties.

17.—(1) Where at any time between the order granting final leave to appeal and the despatch of the record to England, the record becomes defective by reason of the death or change of status of a party to the appeal, the Court may, notwithstanding the order granting final leave to appeal, on an application in that behalf made by any person interested, grant a certificate showing who, in the opinion of the Court, is the proper person to be substituted or entered on the record in place of or in addition to the party who has died or undergone a change of status, and the name of such person shall thereupon be deemed to be so substituted or entered on the record as aforesaid without express Order of Her Majesty in Council.

(2) Where the record subsequently to its despatch to England becomes defective by reason of the death or change of status of a party to the appeal, the Court shall, upon an application in that behalf made by any person interested, cause a certificate to be transmitted to the Registrar of the Privy Council showing who, in the opinion of the Court, is the proper person to be substituted, or entered on the record, in place of, or in addition to, the party who has died or undergone a change of status.

Printing of case.

18. The case of each party to the appeal may be printed in Mauritius or printed or duplicated in England and shall, if it is to be printed, be printed in accordance with the Rules set forth in the Schedule to this Order; and it shall be signed by at least one of the counsel who attends at the hearing of the appeal, or by the party himself if he conducts his appeal in person.

Form of case.

19. The case shall consist of paragraphs numbered consecutively and shall state, as concisely as possible, the circumstances out of which the appeal arises, the contentions to be urged by the party lodging the case and the reasons of appeal. Reference by page and line to the relevant portions of the record as printed shall, as far as practicable, be printed in the margin, and care should be taken to avoid, as far as possible, the reprinting in the case of long extracts from the record. The taxing officer, in taxing the costs of the appeal, shall, either of his own motion or at the instance of any party, inquire into any unnecessary prolixity in the case and shall disallow the costs occasioned thereby.

Costs in Mauritius.

20. Where the Judicial Committee directs a party to bear the costs of an appeal incurred in Mauritius, such costs shall be taxed by the proper officer of the Court in accordance with the rules for the time being regulating taxation in the Court.

Enforcing Order.

21. Any Order which Her Majesty in Council may think fit to make on an appeal from a decision of the Court may be enforced in like manner as any decision of the Court should or might have been executed.

Pending proceedings.

22.—(1) In respect of any decision of the Court of Civil Appeal established by the Court of Civil Appeal Ordinance 1963(a) or of the Supreme Court established by the Mauritius (Constitution) Order 1964(b) given in the exercise of any jurisdiction conferred upon it by any law in force before the appointed day, an appeal may be commenced, continued and concluded or continued and concluded, as the case may be, in accordance with the provisions of this Order as nearly as may be as if it were an appeal from a decision of the Court:

(a) Ord. No. 8 of 1963 of Mauritius. (b) S.I. 1964 I, p. 1163.

Provided that no such appeal shall lie from decisions of the Supreme Court in which an appeal lies as of right from the Supreme Court to the Court of Civil Appeal.

(2) Any Order that Her Majesty in Council may see fit to make on any such appeal or any Order made by Her Majesty in Council before the appointed day on an appeal from a decision of that Court of Civil Appeal or that Supreme Court given in the exercise of such jurisdiction, but not enforced before that date, may be enforced as if it were an Order made on appeal from the decision of the Court.

23. The Mauritius and Seychelles (Appeal to Privy Council) Orders 1909 and 1963(a) are revoked in so far as they relate to Mauritius. Revocation.

W. G. Agnew.

THE SCHEDULE

Sections 10(1) and 18.

I. Records and cases in appeals to Her Majesty in Council shall be printed in the form known as demy quarto.

II. The size of the paper used shall be such that the sheet, when folded and trimmed, will be 11 inches in height and 8½ inches in width.

III. The type to be used in the text shall be pica type, but long primer shall be used in printing accounts, tabular matter and notes.

IV. The number of lines on each page of pica type shall be 47 or thereabouts, and every tenth line shall be numbered in the margin.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order.)

This Order makes provision in relation to appeals to Her Majesty in Council from decisions of the Court of Civil Appeal or the Supreme Court for Mauritius, established by the Constitution of Mauritius, in proceedings originating in Mauritius.

(a) Rev. XI, p. 403; S.R. & O. 1909, p. 822; S.I. 1963/1921 (1963 III, p. 3769).