

Financial (1899) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 142

Dated 25.7.99

INDEXED.

9/4

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording pro, Marine dept, directing
that the Govt of India be requested to make a
grant from Imperial funds of Rs 2,58,850
for the prosecution of Lighthouse works in
1899-1900.

125-99

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
2129/89.	732	799	287-11-13-2-77				

Government {1899} of Madras. MARINE.

Recd.

Regd.

{ 19-1- } 1899.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 29, 10th January 1899.

JANUARY.

Order 142 of 25.7.

Recorded.

sub.
24/1/89

115.1

Lighthouse Works in 1899-1900

Directing that the Government of India be requested to make a grant from Imperial funds of Rs. 2,58,850 for the prosecution of —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

Letter from Commander W. AVES, R.I.M., Ag. Presidency Port Officer, dated 1st September 1898, No. 1271/299 G.

Telegram from Commander W. AVES, R.I.M., Acting Presidency Port Officer, dated 27th September 1898.

Unofficial note from Commander W. AVES, R.I.M., Acting Presidency Port Officer, dated 8th October 1898, No. 1271/347 G.

From H. H. RISLEY, Esq., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Marine Department, dated Simla, 2nd November 1898, No. 4778 S.R.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 733, dated the 30th August 1898, requesting sanction to the grant of a loan of Rs. 2,15,000 from Imperial funds for the prosecution of lighthouse works in 1899-1900.

2. It is stated that enquiry is being made as to the estimated receipts from the light dues which it is proposed to levy in order to meet the cost involved in providing additional lights on the Madras Coast, and that when the requisite information has been obtained, final proposals will be laid before the Government of India in view to legislation. The scheme, however, will take time to mature and meanwhile the Government of Madras ask the Government of India to sanction a loan for the purpose of carrying on the new lighthouse works which have been included in the programme of operations during 1899-1900, and for which a special establishment has been organized.

3. In reply I am to say that it is not clearly understood from your letter for what class of lights the loan of Rs. 2,15,000 is required, and whether the sum is to be lent to Port funds or is intended to be an advance to the Government of Madras or to some other authority in anticipation of the contribution of system of light dues. If the lights in question are of the nature of coast lights, the provisions of section 36, sub-section (3) of the Indian Ports Act, 1889, restrict the application of advances made to Port funds to the class of lights defined in sub-section (5). On the other hand, if they are port lights they could not properly be charged against capital outlay which is intended to be liquidated hereafter by general light dues.

4. I am further to explain that lighthouse construction is not a productive work on which Government can spend money and charge it otherwise than against the revenues of the year in which it is spent; and that, as the Government of Madras are doubtless aware, the financial relations between the Imperial and Provincial Governments do not admit of money transferred from the former to the latter being reckoned otherwise than as a charge either against Revenue or against Provincial surplus which has already been charged to Revenue.

5. I am accordingly to request that, with the permission of His Excellency the Governor in Council, the Government of India may be favoured with a fuller explanation of the conditions on which the proposed loan is asked for and in what way the Government of Madras propose to close the transaction; as it appears extremely doubtful if the outlay can be dealt with otherwise than as Government expenditure.

Office-note from Commander W. AVES, R.I.M., Acting Presidency Port Officer, dated 18th November 1898, No. 1271/402 G.

ORDER—No. 29, Marine, dated 10th January 1899.

In their letter recorded above the Government of India reply to the request of this Government for a loan of Rs. 2,15,000 from Imperial funds for the prosecution of lighthouse works in 1899-1900. They point out that if the lights to be constructed are of the nature of coast lights the expenditure on them of Port funds is inadmissible, such expenditure as regards lights being limited by sub-section 5 of section 36 of the Indian Ports Act to "lights maintained chiefly for the benefit of vessels being in or entering or leaving the port or passing through the rivers or channels leading thereto"; while if they are "port" lights, they can not properly be charged against capital outlay, which is intended to be liquidated hereafter by general light dues. They accordingly request fuller explanation of the conditions on which the proposed loan is asked for, and in what way the Government propose to close the transaction.

2. It is observed that the lights for the construction of which the loan of Rs. 2,15,000 was applied for, include both "coast" and "port" lights—Rs. 2,06,000 for the former, and Rs. 9,000 for the latter.

3. In paragraph 7 of their letter, No. 3285 S.R., dated 27th July 1898, the Government of India intimated that any fresh expenditure to be incurred for erecting and maintaining lights on the Madras Coast, over and above past standards, should be provided for by the imposition of light dues. Measures for raising such dues will be taken into consideration as soon as possible, but as already pointed out, legislative sanction will be required and some considerable time must necessarily elapse before the dues can be realized and made available for expenditure. Meanwhile, the scheme of lighthouse construction and the provision of improved apparatus, already started, must proceed; the alternative being the breaking up of the existing organization, with consequent loss and delay. It is thus of great importance that the aid of Imperial funds should be promptly forthcoming, for the provision at all events of those lights classed as "sea" or "coast," and which are needed for general, and not local, purposes. As pointed out by the Government of India, the expenditure of Port funds on lights of this class is barred by law, and as no provision for such expenditure has been included in the Provincial Contract made with the Government of Madras the charge would seem to fall legitimately on Imperial funds, pending the imposition of special dues to meet the expenditure.

4. The estimated cost of the provision of coast lights amounts to Rs. 6,73,000 as shown below:—

Coast Lights.				Estimated cost.
				RS.
(1) Calingapatam	...	...	...	5,000
(2) Santapalli	...	...	...	1,00,000
(3) Vakalapudi	...	...	...	18,000
(4) Sacramento	...	...	...	1,00,000
(5) Kistna	...	...	...	91,000
(6) Armeghon	...	...	...	18,000
(7) Pulicat	...	...	...	23,000
(8) Madras	...	...	...	1,000
(9) Seven Pagodas	...	...	...	53,000
(10) Negapatam	...	...	...	5,000
(11) Tuticorin	...	...	...	13,000
(12) Manapad	...	...	...	47,000
(13) Muttum	...	...	...	12,000
(14) Tangasséri	...	...	...	88,000
(15) Tellicherry	...	...	...	3,000
(16) Mulki	...	...	...	96,000
				6,73,000

No. 29, MARINE, 10TH JANUARY 1899.

Of this amount, Rs. 2,16,000 *plus* Rs. 42,850 for immediate maintenance charges will be required for expenditure next year. The Government of India will accordingly be requested to make a grant from Imperial funds to this extent, the amount to be refunded on the proceeds of the proposed light dues becoming available.

[Here enter No. 30, Marine, dated 10th January 1899.]

(True Extract.)

As Kumar

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Presidency Port Officer.
" Financial Department.
" Public Works Department.

10/1/99

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READ AGAIN (G.O., No.

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SAVED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESTROY
IN ORIGINAL.

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Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

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DEPARTMENT.

Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

Press
 Miscellaneous No. 142 date 25 1 1909
 Routine

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	Department.	C. No.	Year.			
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