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Marine (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 245 *Mar*

DATED 16. March 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Dues for using the Buckingham Canal, P.W.
Pro: declining to exempt the top boat man -
landed for the use of the Arumeshon Lighthouse
Establishment from paying —, Comd to the
P.P. officer. //

TC
1897

18/3/97

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
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9-1-47

No. 212 I., 1st MARCH 1897.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.

READ—the following papers:—

From Commander H. A. STREET, R.I.M., Presidency Port Officer, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated 18th December 1896, No. 417 G.

I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of Government, that the Executive Engineer, Buckingham Canal Division, has charged a license fee of Rs. 12 per annum on the "top-boat" maintained for the use of the Armeghon Lighthouse establishment and sanctioned in G.O., No. 447, Marine, dated 28th December 1893. On his being asked why a boat maintained in the interests of Government service should have been charged a license fee, he forwarded a copy of the Navigation rules (herewith submitted for perusal and return). It was pointed out to the Executive Engineer that, as rule 10 thereof which regulates the license fee of Rs. 12 bears reference to vessels which are "private property," it cannot be held to apply to Government boats. In reply, that officer states (*vide* his letter, dated 2nd December 1896, No. 1972, copy enclosed) that rule 10 referred to cannot exempt the Armeghon Lighthouse boat as it simply draws a distinction between boats licensed by the owners for their own private use and boats licensed for the conveyance of passengers or cargo for hire. In my opinion, boats maintained for Government service should not be subject to payment of license fees in the same way as boats maintained for port purposes, and I beg the orders of Government in the matter.

ENCLOSURE.

From Captain J. LALOR, Officiating Executive Engineer, Buckingham Canal Division, to the Presidency Port Officer, Madras, dated Egmore, 2nd December 1896, No. 1972.

In reply to your letter, No. 204 P.W., dated 26th November 1896, I have the honour to refer you to rule 1 of the Navigation rules, from which it will be seen that all boats without exception are liable to license or toll fees. Rule 10 quoted by you cannot be acted upon by me as an authority for exemption of Government boats as it simply draws a distinction between boats licensed by the owners for their own private use and boats licensed for the conveyance of passengers or cargo for hire. If you still think that the boat at the Armeghon Lighthouse should be exempted from the payment of the usual fees, you might refer the matter to Government. Boats belonging to Government in the Salt and Forest departments pay all license and toll fees and are not exempted.

Endorsement of the Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated 9th January 1897, No. 13 E.

From the Joint Secretary to Government, Irrigation Branch, to the Presidency Port Officer, dated 20th January 1897, No. 39 M.

With reference to your letter, No. 407 G., dated 18th December 1896, to the Secretary to Government, Marine Department, transferred to me for disposal, I have the honour to inform you that I consider the registration fee of Rs. 12 was correctly charged according to the rules in force. As new draft rules* are about to be published, I would suggest that you should see them and consider their bearing on the interests of your department before making any proposals for exemption.

* P.S.—The rules will be published in the Gazette prior to being brought into force.

No. 212 I., 1st MARCH 1897.

From Commander H. A. STREET, R.I.M., Presidency Port Officer, Madras, to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, dated 5th February 1897, No. 17 P.W.

With reference to your letter, No. 39 M., dated 29th January 1897, I have the honour to state that I am still of opinion that no charge should be made for the boat attached to the lighthouse at Armeghon as it is not used for private purposes and is maintained from Port funds.

ORDER—No. 212 I., dated 1st March 1897.

The Government sees no reason to exempt the top-boat maintained for the use of the Armeghon Lighthouse establishment from paying fees for using the Buckingham Canal.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government,
Irrigation Branch.

To the Superintending Engineer, II Circle.
Presidency Port Officer, Madras.
Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
Examiner, Public Works Accounts.
Marine Department.

Ed. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.