

20/3/28
15-1-31
6-6-31
12.12.33
6.10.34

11/11/19

Marine (1897) Department.

889

G.O., No. 587-88

DATED 1st July 1897

3/7/97
10/4
10/2

[Despatch Abstract.]

Lighthouses in the Southern portion of the Red Sea.

Ordered that the Govt of India be addressed on the subject of the urgent necessity of establishing a complete system of —.

Light Houses in the Southern portion of the Red Sea.

Forwarding Copy of Procs: embodying a representation from the Madras Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the urgent necessity of establishing a complete system of — and trusting that the matter may be laid before the Secretary of State for such action as may be deemed necessary.

3/7/97

6

1375/97

Enclosures

1897.

Spare copies

Letter, No. 588, 1st July 1897.

JULY.

Forwarding copy of Proceedings embodying a representation from the Madras Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the urgent necessity of establishing a complete system of — and trusting that the matter may be laid before the Secretary of State for such action as may be deemed necessary.

No. 588, MARINE, 1st JULY 1897.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

LETTER—from

THE HONOURABLE COLONEL D. McNEIL CAMPBELL, R.E.,
Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Marine Department,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
MARINE DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the accompanying copy of the Proceedings of this Government embodying a representation from the Madras Chamber of Commerce in which the importance to Eastern trade of establishing a complete system of lighthouses in the southern portion of the Red Sea is brought forward. His Excellency the Governor in Council fully concurs in the views of the Chamber of Commerce as to urgent necessity for protecting this portion of the route to and from India, and trusts that the matter may be laid before the Secretary of State for such action as may be deemed necessary.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Colonel, R.E.,
Secretary to Government.

OOTACAMUND,
1st July 1897.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

Government { 1897 } of Madras.
MARINE.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 587, 1st July 1897.

JULY.

Lighthouses in the Southern portion of the Red Sea

Ordered that the Government of India be addressed on the subject of the urgent necessity of establishing a complete system of —.

the part of the British Government, as the great majority of vessels passing through these waters carry the British flag. The Committee, therefore, direct me to request that the Government of Bengal, after giving the matter due consideration, will move the Government of India to ask the Secretary of State to take such steps as may be considered desirable, with a view of establishing a complete system of lighthouses in the southern portion of the Red Sea.

ORDER—No. 587, Marine, dated 1st July 1897.

The Government of India will be addressed accordingly.

[Here enter No. 588, Marine, dated 1st July 1897.]

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From the Honourable Mr. G. G. ARBUTHNOT, Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated 12th June 1897.

I have the honour to enclose a copy of a letter addressed to the Government of Bengal by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the urgent necessity of establishing a complete system of lighthouses in the southern portion of the Red Sea. In view of the vast interests at stake, both with regard to passenger and cargo traffic, the subject is one of urgent importance, and the Chamber trusts the Madras Government will give the matter its consideration, and address the Government of India in support of the Bengal Chamber's proposal.

ENCLOSURE.

From the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, to the Government of Bengal, Marine Department, dated Calcutta, 19th May 1897.

I am directed by the Committee to address you with reference to the urgent necessity, which has long existed, for additional lighthouses in the lower portion of the Red Sea. The subject is by no means a new one, as the want has been long acknowledged and forcible attention has been drawn to it, from time to time, whenever a casualty has occurred. The Committee understand that, a short time ago, the British Ambassador at Constantinople issued a circular to the representatives of the Great Powers inviting their co-operation in a joint representation to Turkey, pressing for authority to construct lights in the region referred to. The Committee are without information as to whether any results of a practical nature have followed from this circular, but they venture, respectfully, to submit that it is almost impossible to overrate the necessity for some speedy action being taken in the interests of the yearly increasing amount of shipping which finds its way through the Red Sea to India, China and Australia. The course pursued by vessels, either downwards or upwards, through the Red Sea, is without doubt one of the most dangerous in the world, and for nearly nine hundred miles there are no lights whatever for the guidance of mariners. The Committee feel that it is not necessary to enter into any detail as to the manifold dangers of the passage, as these must be accurately known to the Marine authorities.

2. The matter is assuming additional importance at the present time owing to the approaching renewal of the P. and O. Mail contract, which provides for a considerable increase of speed and consequently tends to increase the risk which is already run by these steamers owing to the absence of lights. The upper portion of the Red Sea, where the course pursued by vessels runs close to the Egyptian shore, is already fairly well provided with lights, and the Committee are unable to realize that any substantial difficulties can possibly lie in the way of treating the southern portion of the Red Sea with its two hundred miles of shoals and islands in a similar manner. In any case, the matter is one which appears to call for prompt and decided action on

To the Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Madras.
" Presidency Port Officer.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

Lighthouses in the Red Sea

Marine DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

The Hon Sir Henry Bliss M.C.I.E

READ the following

From the Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, ^{Madras} 12th June 1897.

No. 587 Mar 8 12th July 1897
The Government of India
will be addressed accordingly.

The Chairman, Chamber of Commerce,
^{Madras}

" Presidency Post officer.

No. 588 Mar 8 12th July 1897

2 10/7/97

The Secretary to the Government of India
Marine Department.

Sir,

I am directed to forward for the
information of the Government of India,
the Proceedings of this Govt. embodying
the accompanying copy of a representation
from the ^{Madras} Chamber of Commerce
in which the importance to Eastern Trade
of establishing a complete system of
lighthouses in the southern portion of
the Red Sea is brought forward. His
Excellency the Governor in Council fully
concurs in the views of the Chamber of
Commerce as to urgent necessity
for protecting this portion of the
route

WAS
30/6/97

route to and from India, and trust
that the matter may be laid be-
fore the Secretary of State for
such action as may be deemed
necessary.

I have &c.

29/6/97
H

29/6/97
H

Marine (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 845

The Hon. Mr. Bliss C. J. E.

For Order S.

whether the Govt.
of India may be addressed
as proposed by the Madras
Chamber of Commerce.

From
The Chairman,
Chamber of Commerce
Madras

No. -

W.H.

For all
H. 6-97

Dated 12-6-97

Received 14-6-97

Enclosures one

Spare copies one

28/6/97

SUBJECT.

Lighthouses in the Southern
portions of the Red Sea

Requesting that the Govt of
India may be addressed
by the Local Government
on the subject of the urgent
necessity of establishing
a complete system of —

MADRAS, 12th June, 1897.

THE HON'BLE MR. G. G. ARBUTHNOT,
CHAIRMAN, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
MADRAS.

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
MARINE DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND.

I have the honour to enclose a copy of a letter addressed to the Government of Bengal by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the urgent necessity of establishing a complete system of lighthouses in the southern portion of the Red Sea. In view of the vast interests at stake, both with regard to passenger and cargo traffic, the subject is one of urgent importance, and the Chamber trusts the Madras Government will give the matter its consideration, and address the Government of India in support of the Bengal Chamber's proposal.

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant,

most Obedient Servant,
George G. Arthur

Chairman.

28P

[ENCLOSURE.]

Letter from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to the Government of Bengal, Marine Department, dated Calcutta, the 19th May, 1897:—

"I am directed by the Committee to address you with reference to the urgent necessity, which has long existed, for additional lighthouses in the lower portion of the Red Sea. The subject is by no means a new one, as the want has been long acknowledged and forcible attention has been drawn to it, from time to time, whenever a casualty has occurred. The Committee understand that, a short time ago, the British Ambassador at Constantinople issued a circular to the representatives of the Great Powers inviting their co-operation in a joint representation to Turkey, pressing for authority to construct lights in the region referred to. The Committee are without information as to whether any results of a practical nature have followed from this circular, but they venture, respectfully, to submit that it is almost impossible to overrate the necessity for some speedy action being taken in the interests of the yearly increasing amount of shipping which finds its way through the Red Sea to India, China, and Australia. The course pursued by vessels, either downwards or upwards, through the Red Sea, is without doubt one of the most dangerous in the world, and for nearly nine hundred miles there are no lights whatever for the guidance of mariners. The Committee feel that it is not necessary to enter into any detail as to the manifold dangers of the passage, as these must be accurately known to the Marine authorities.

2. The matter is assuming additional importance at the present time owing to the approaching renewal of the P. and O. Mail contract, which provides for a considerable increase of speed, and consequently tends to increase the risk which is already run by these steamers owing to the absence of lights. The upper portion of the Red Sea, where the course pursued by vessels runs close to the Egyptian shore, is already fairly well provided with lights, and the Committee are unable to realise that any substantial difficulties can possibly lie in the way of treating the southern portion of the Red Sea with its two hundred miles of shoals and islands in a similar manner. In any case, the matter is one which appears to call for prompt and decided action on the part of the British Government, as the great majority of vessels passing through these waters carry the British flag. The Committee, therefore, direct me to request that the Government of Bengal, after giving the matter due consideration, will move the Government of India to ask the Secretary of State to take such steps, as may be considered desirable, with a view of establishing a complete system of lighthouses in the southern portion of the Red Sea."