

Marine (1898) Department:

G.O., No. 963 Mar

DATED 16 Mar '98

✓ No. 96

17/11/98

"Sultan Iskander" [Despatch Abstract.]

Deciding that no action is necessary
in regard to the levy of port dues on the Ceylon
Govt - Immigration Steamer _____ as when she
arrived at Colombo on 28th April 1898, the persons
on board the vessel were bona fide Govt servants
and not passengers.

10/2/

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17/11/98

Deciding that no action is necessary in regard to the levy of port dues on the Ceylon Government Immigration steamer — as, when she arrived at Pámban on 28th April 1898, the persons on board the vessel were *bona fide* Government servants and not passengers.

No. 963, MARINE, 16TH NOVEMBER 1898.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From the Colonial Secretary, Colombo, dated 24th October 1898, No. —.

ORDER—No. 963, Marine, dated 16th November 1898.

It was reported in the Presidency Port Officer's letter read with G.O., No. 756, Marine, dated 6th September 1898, that the Ceylon Government Immigration steamer *Sultan Iskander* on arriving at Pamban on 28th April last had on board persons other than immigrants, viz., 2 European officials and 16 other persons, who appeared to be passengers. The question was accordingly raised whether this vessel carrying other than *bonâ fide* immigrants was liable to port dues under the Indian Ports Act.

2. The matter was referred to the Ceylon Government in letter, No. 757, Marine, dated 6th September 1898, in paragraph 3 of which it was said that, though the Madras Government did not wish to modify the existing practice of remitting port dues on Ceylon Government vessels employed on Government service, the circumstances became altered if those vessels carried passengers or cargo, and the Ceylon Government was asked whether it accepted this view of the case and would admit a claim to port dues against such vessels.

3. That Government now replies that the vessel was, on the occasion in question, engaged in the Immigration service, and that the persons on board were *bonâ fide* Government servants, and not passengers in the ordinary acceptance of the term, which implies persons conveyed for gain to the vessel. The Ceylon Government further states that it strictly observes the limitation not to carry ordinary cargo and passengers for hire in these immigrant vessels.

4. Under the circumstances, no action is necessary in regard to the levy of port dues on the vessel in question.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Presidency Port Officer.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

Marine DEPARTMENT.

C. No. 1370 of 1898.

~~HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.~~

~~THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.~~

~~THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.~~

SUBJECT.

Levy of Port dues on
Ceylon Government vessels

No. 963 Mar of
16.11.98

ORDER thereon -

It was reported in the

Presidency Port Officer's letter read with G.O. 756 Mar. dated 6th September 1898 that the Ceylon Govt. Immigration Steamer "Sultan Iskander" on arriving at Pamban on 28th April last had on board persons other than immigrants, viz., 2 European officials and 16 other persons, who appeared to be passengers.

The question was accordingly raised whether this vessel carrying other than *bonâ fide* immigrants was liable to port dues under ^{the} Indian Ports Act.

2. The matter was referred to the Ceylon Govt. in letter No. ⁷⁵⁷ ~~257~~ Marine, dated 6th September 1898, in para 3 of which it was said that, though the Madras Govt. did not wish to modify the existing practice of remitting port dues on Ceylon Govt. vessels

employed

[43 / 50]

1 quote from the Colonial Secretary Colombo
07.24-10-98

The Hon Mr. Hunter to the

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employed on Govt. Service, the circumstances became altered if those vessels carried passengers or cargo, and the Ceylon Govt. was asked whether it accepted this view of the case and would admit a claim to port dues against such vessels.

3. That Govt. now replies that the vessel was on the occasion in question, engaged in the Immigration Service, and that the persons on board were bonafide Govt. Servants and not passengers in the ordinary acceptation of the term, which implies persons conveyed for gain to the vessel. The Ceylon Govt. further states that it strictly observes the ^{limitation} ~~limitation~~ not to carry ordinary cargo and passengers for hire in those immigrant vessels.

4. Under the circumstances, no action is necessary in regard to the levy of port dues on the vessel in question.

The mistake was due to the Ceylon Govt. servants being entered in the clearance papers as homages.

The P.S.O.

W. H. Smith

Marine (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1370

From

The Colonial Secretary
Colombo.

No. -

Dated 24 - 10 - 98

Received 3 31 - 10 - 98

Registered 3

Enclosures one

Spare copies -

SUBJECT

Port dues on Ceylon Govt.
vessels arriving in India

Stating in connection with
the question of levy of —
that the Ceylon Govt. strictly
observes the limitation not
to carry ordinary cargo
and passengers for hire
in Govt. Immigrant vessels.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
554	28	2-11	98
756-57	Mar 8	6-5	58
511	Mar 8	16-6	98
764	5-2	98	
717	8-8	8-11	98
717	8-8	8-11	98

104 Mar 8 30-5-98
 130-1 31-3-98
 105-7 15-3-98
 486-7 16-4-98
 780-81 17-7-98

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
506	Nov 2	3-10	78
252	..	10-5	78
110-11	..	21-2	78
657	..	6-12	77
637-38	..	21-11	77
552	..	10-10	77

Copy of report referred to.

On April 28th, the Immigrant Vessel "Sultan Iskander" arrived at Pampan from Colombo having on board, besides the Ordinary crew, Messrs Horsburgh, the Assistant Government Agent, Mannar and Booth, Government Surveyor with 11 natives. These natives comprised 2 peons and 9 Government Survey coolies. This party were all bona fide Government Servants and not passengers in the ordinary acceptation of the term and were not being conveyed for any gain to the vessel. None of the party aboard the vessel came on shore at Pampan, but were transhipped direct to the "Rengasamy Puravy" and started for Mannar the same day. This passage in the "Sultan Iskander" was, I believe taken with the sanction of the Colombo Colonial Office. When the "Sultan Iskander" started from Colombo, I understand Messrs Horsburgh and Booth with their staff, were entered in the clearance papers as passengers and not as Officers on Government duty. The Government Authorities at Pampan, seeing from the papers that the vessel conveyed passengers, raised the question as to whether port dues were leviable or not.

It has hitherto been the custom for Ceylon Government Officers and stores to be transhipped without port dues being levied and if this privilege were rescinded considerable delay and expense would result to the Ceylon Government.

(Sd.) C.H. WILKINSON
 Supdt: of Immigration.

Pampan
 27th September 1898.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo, 24 October, 1898.

No. 1

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 757 of the 3th ultimo relative to the barque "Sultan Iskander" a vessel engaged in the Immigration Service of this Government and to transmit for your information the enclosed copy of a report made thereon by the Superintendent of Immigration.

2. I am to state that this Government strictly observes the limitation not to carry ordinary cargo and passengers for hire in these Immigrant Vessels.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

H. White
for Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary

to Government of Madras

Marine Department

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