

Marine (1898) Department. ¹⁶⁵⁴

G.O., No. 987 Marine

DATED 27th Nov 1898.

Stranding of the S.S. ^[Despatch Abstract.] Chupra

Telegram to the Govt of Bengal
inquiring if that Govt will summon a Court
of Enquiry in Calcutta in connection with the
loss of the ship on the 27th Nov 98.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
X	1499698						

Marine Dept
C No. 14574
Proceedings of the Madras Govt

Ordered that the following telegram be forwarded to the Govt. of Bengal

Steam Ship Chupra
recently grounded
near Vizagapatam
Formal inquiry under
Act V of 1883 desirable
with Bengal Govern-
ment sanction Court
in Calcutta where
wishes to proceed.

R.S.

2nd

26.11.88

To the P.F.O. ✓ 28/11/95

Urgent

Marine.....DEPARTMENT.

22

C. No. 1454 of 1898.

SUBJECT.

Court of Enquiry into the
circumstances attending
the stranding of the
S. S. "Chupra".

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

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

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

FOR ORDERS.

With his letter read above the
Presidency Port Officer submits the
result of a preliminary enquiry into
the circumstances attending the
grounding of the S. S. "Chupra" near
Vizagapatam on the 5th November 1898.

2. It is considered that a formal
enquiry is necessary under Section 7
of Act V of 1883 for which a properly
constituted Court will have to be
assembled. The Presidency Port Officer
recommends that this Court should be
assembled at Calcutta under the orders
of the Bengal Government owing, as he
states, to a difficulty likely to be
experienced in obtaining the assist-
ance of assessors, as required by sec-
tion 13 of the Act, at Vizagapatam.

3. In reply to an enquiry by tele-
phone as to why the Court of Enquiry
could

*Recd 4:15 pm
26 Nov 98*

could not be held at Madras, the Presidency Port Officer states that the same reason applies to this place, and adds that the head-quarters of the steamer are at Calcutta and the Commander and the crew will have to proceed there to pay off.

4. It is submitted that similar Courts of Enquiry have, on former occasions, been held at stations in this Presidency, and that persons with naval and mercantile experience were then available. vide orders

quoted in the margin. It is not therefore understood why there should now be a difficulty in this respect. The statement of the Presidency Port Officer, if accepted, would preclude any Court of Enquiry under the Indian Merchant Shipping Act being held in this Presidency.

5. Though it is admissible to transfer the case to the Bengal Government under section 10(1) of the Act, it is not, it is submitted, quite fair to throw upon that Government duties which should be undertaken by the Madras Government. There may, however,

be

G.O. 534 Mar., d/10-12-1891. Flag. A
G.O. 250 Mar., d/14-8-1895. Flag. B
G.O. 251 Mar., d/16-3-1897. Flag. C

be some ground in the present case for asking the Bengal Government to take up the matter, seeing that the Commander and the crew will, as mentioned by the Presidency Port Officer, have to proceed to Calcutta to be paid off. The transfer of the enquiry would thus be in the private interests of the owners of the vessel, and not on public grounds.

Very well.
The first step should be to
seek the consent of the Govt.
of Bengal.

A. 94
25.11.98

*Off. The facilities for holding
such an Enquiry are so
much greater at Calcutta
than anywhere in this
Presidency, that it seems
best to transfer it
to the Govt. of Bengal
as permitted under the
Act*

L. B. Chatterjee
22.11.98

Urgent-
Marine (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1454

From

The Presidency Port Office,
Madras

Order

No. $\frac{1261}{400}$ 4

Dated 17th November 1898.

Received 19-11-98

Enclosures 2.

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Recommending that the case
regarding the stranding
of S.S. "Chupra" may be
transferred to the Government
of Bengal for investigation

*Sent to Genl
Bengal 16
W 998
21 30*

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.
The Indian Merchant Shipping Act 1883	
958	15-11-98
4908	8-11-98
1079-20-21	11-11-98
1075	9-12-97
251 m	16-3-97 80
312 m	6-5-96
170 m	14-2-96
250-57 m	14-8-95
86 m	18-3-95
534 m	10-12-91
329 m	24-7-91

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.
Mar: 996 @ 8	
30-11-98	

Unsub

14/54

Telephone

From

The Secretary to Govt.
Marine Dept

3 The P. D. Officer.

Your letter N^o 1281 of
400

717. November 1898.

You do not explain
why you propose that
Court of Enquiry should
assemble at Calcutta
rather than Madras.
Please do so.

R.S.

At Kumbh
The Secretary.

despatched
21-11-98

Anti for Dow

It is the duty of the
Govt. of Madras to hold this
Court of Enquiry, and it is
not fair to put the work on
the Govt. of Bengal unless
there is no other alternative.

R.S.
21 Nov 98

Telephone Message

From

The Presidency Post
Officer.

The Secretary to Govt.
Marine Dept.

Reply

For the same reason
given for not having it
at Vizagapatam and also
because head quarters
of the steamer is at Calcutta
and the Commander and
the crew will have to pro-
ceed there to pay off.

Recd.
3-30 P.M.

MK
21/11/98

Telephone

From

The P.P. Office

To The Secretary to Govt -
Marine Department

Port Officer Cocanada wires
that steamer 'Chupra' has
arrived there. Is she to
be detained?

U.M.

22-11-98.

4-5 p.m.

At this the vessel that
was informed to be
stranded, a small one to
let off? & the one in which
have been that a

Count of trying still
met at Calcutta?
If so, better ask P.T.O.

to find out where
he is going

(1) The same
vessel is
P.T.O.

W.S.

22-11-98

Reply to P.P.O

Your telephone regarding
the Chapra - Please find
out when the vessel
is going
L.S.

(11) Issue Decd. 4.50 p.m. 22/11/98
(12) W

New - If she is coming
in to Madras. We
had better wait her
arrival here before
issuing orders about
the Court of Inquiry,
which it may be
better to hold here
than the other way.

W.S.
22.11.98

can

Telephone

From The P.P. Officer
To The Secretary to Govt
Marine Department.

'Chupra' awaiting orders,
at Cochin, from Managing
Agents. Will probably go
to Calcutta, as she will have
to be docked, in order to have
her bottom examined. I
consider that it would
be more convenient
to the Managing Agents,
if the enquiry is
held at Calcutta.

W.M.

24.11.98

The papers were sent
to H.C. yesterday morning.
They have not yet come
back.

C.A.W.

W.S.
24/11/98

Wait left him W.S.

Telephone to S.O. that the

proposal to hold inquiry at
Calcutta has been rejected.

W.S. in order W.S. 24.11.98

Telephone

From the Secretary Marine Dept
To the P. P. O.

The proposal to hold
enquiry at Calcutta in
regard to stranding
of the Chupra has been
sent up to Government
for orders.

(By order)

R.S.

24 Nov 98

Despatched
24.11.98

Send to Circ. Clerk
after despatch.

Telephone

Urgent

Tele

From

The

To

From

The P. P. Officer

To

The Secretary to Govt

Marine Department

As the Port Officer, Cocanada,
wires that 'Chupra' will
leave there for Calcutta
tomorrow, shall I
detain her pending orders
of Government on
enquiry.

W.M.

25.11.98.

Can the papers have not
yet come back from H.E.

W

For orders

R.S.

25 Nov 98

From Lane telephone
communication with
(11) friends & subse-
arbiters let the orders
are all

25-11-98

11. 10. 11. Telephone
From Secretary Marine Dept.
To Private Secretary

Please telephone
His Excellency's decision
on proposal to hold a
Calcutta Court of Inquiry
into the stranding of
S.S. Chupra - The
Ship, officers and
crew are ~~under detention~~
awaiting orders. Vessel
since floated and order to
L.S. placed to Calcutta.

despatches
25-11-98
1.25 p.m.

25-11-98

Telephone message

From
The Private Secretary
Gunnidy
To The Secretary
Marine Dept.

Reply

The paper is
now with His
Excellency - Reply
will be sent when
it comes back
from him.

Recd
27/11/98

25-11-98
Can 27/11/98
inquiry may take place at
Calcutta, upon 5.0.0
by telephone let vessel
P.T.O. may leave Calcutta
25-11-98

M It will be seen
that H.E. wishes the
Bengal Govt. consulted
before in the first
instance - Telegram -
draft have submitted
accordingly.

R.F.
26.11.98

L. J. J. J.

Spent
2 hrs
26.11.98

TELEPHONE MESSAGE.

From

The Presidency Port
Officer

To

The Secy. to Govt.,
Marine Dept.

" As Chupra incurs serious risk by remaining at
Coconada I have allowed her to proceed Calcutta today.
Managing Agents undertake to send back Officers if re-
quired for Enquiry."

26th November, 1898.

Forwarded by messenger as the Telephone Exchange is
closed.

No: 6072 d/27-11-98
E

M.B. Annandek
Manager, Presidency Port Office
1-15 p.m., 26-11-'98.

Recd 7 pm

Recd with refce to
Telegram of today L.H. J.

26.11.98

987 m
27.11.98