BACK PAPERS

Date taken out.	For what purpose.			Initials of Referencer.	Date returned.	Initials attender
	Department.	C. No.	Year.			

Marine (1899) Department.

CAW. 11-5-99

Urgent

G.O., No. 374.75 Mar

DATED 28" April 1899

R.

1/5/99

30/2

10.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Steamer

Ordered that the Govt of India be addressed regarding the provision of a —— for Provincial and Local Services in the Madras Presidency.

Steamer

Stating that there is a very pressing need for a —— for Provincial & Local services in the Madras Presidency & requesting that the provision of a vessel may be sanctioned

Recd 2/5/99

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
G.O.	22A	Mar	27.1.88				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	234L	Mar.	17.5.99				

Government (1899) of Madras.

MARINE.

Recd.
Regd. } 1899.

Enclosures
Spare copies

Letter, No. 375, 28th April 1899.

APRIL.

Steamer

Stating that there is a very pressing need for a — for Provincial and Local services in the Madras Presidency, and requesting that the provision of a vessel may be sanctioned.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

LETTER—from

COLONEL A. W. SMART, R.E.,
Ag. Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Marine Department,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
MARINE DEPARTMENT.

SIR,

I am directed to invite attention to the précis of correspondence on the subject of providing a steamer for Provincial and Local services in this Presidency forwarded to you with the Chief Secretary's letter, No. 2, Marine, dated 1st January 1886. It will be seen from this correspondence that a steamer is required by the Madras Government for the following purposes:—

- (i) Inspection of outports by the Marine and Public Works Departments.
- (ii) Annual inspections of the Laccadives by the Revenue officers.
- (iii) Tour inspections of His Excellency the Governor.
- (iv) The conveyance of treasure, stores and military details, when the steamer is not required for the above purposes.

2. In your letter No. 412, Marine, dated 23rd March 1887, the Government of India permitted this Government to make its own arrangements for procuring a vessel of the description required; but when an indent was sent home, the Secretary of State pointed out to the Government of India in his despatch No. 340, Military, dated 22nd December 1887, that one of the chief objects with which the Indian Marine was formed was to consolidate under one head and under the Government of India the numerous vessels of all classes which were till then owned and worked by the Local Governments under no regular system. His Lordship, however, in paragraph 7 of his despatch remarked that regard should be had to the wants of the Madras Government which render it desirable that the Governor and other high officials should have facilities for visiting the districts situated on the long line of coast of this Presidency, and that if these requirements could not be met otherwise, information should be afforded as to the size and description of the vessel required. No action was then taken as the Madras Government had meanwhile resolved to postpone the acquisition of a steamer.

3. Since that time the want of a Government steamer has been repeatedly and severely felt. The cost of hiring a steamer from a private company is excessive, and that of obtaining one from the Royal Indian Marine prohibitive, as was disclosed in 1893 when it was proposed to obtain one from this source. In 1897 the Madras Government inquired whether the Government of India could place a steamer at the disposal of this Government during January and February of each year for lighthouse inspection, and was told in reply that it was not possible to do so. There has, moreover, been considerable difficulty in obtaining the use, even for short periods, of a Government vessel for the periodical inspection of the Laccadive Islands—a most necessary measure of administration. Considerable difficulty is also experienced by His Excellency the Governor in making visits to the Travancore and Cochin territories and the districts of South Canara and North Malabar which have not yet been connected with the railway systems.

Letter No. 996, Marine, dated 8th November 1897.

4. It will thus be seen that there is a very pressing need for a steamer for the exclusive use of this Government. I am accordingly to request that the Government of India may be moved to sanction the provision of a vessel. His Excellency the Governor in Council is prepared to accede to such conditions as may be considered necessary to ensure due control by the Royal Indian Marine—a point upon which the Home Government has laid stress.

5. I am to add that suggestions will, in due course, be made as to the type of vessel best suited to the requirements of this Government.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) A. W. SMART, Colonel, R.E.,
Ag. Secy. to Government.

OOTACAMUND,
28th April 1899.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

Government (1899) of Madras.

MARINE.

Recd. } 1899. Enclosures

Regd. Spare copies

G.O., No. 374, 28th April 1899.

APRIL.

Steamer

Ordered that the Government of India be addressed regarding the provision of a — for Provincial and Local services in the Madras Presidency.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

ORDER—No. 374, Marine, dated 28th April 1899.

Ordered that the following letter be addressed to the Government of India.

[Here enter No. 375, Marine, dated 28th April 1899.]

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Rev: Deptt }
" Jud. Deptt } with copy of letter
" Political Deptt } No. 375 Mar. of 28th April 1899

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

Urgent

Marine DEPARTMENT.

~~Read~~ the following:—

Steamer for the Govt. of Madras

Circulated to

His Excellency the Governor ✓
The Hon. Mr. A. T. Arundel C.S.I. ✓
The Hon. Mr. H. M. Winterbotham

To
The Rev: Deptt }
" Jud. Deptt } with copy of letter
" Political Deptt } No. 375 Mar. of 28.4.99.

24.4.99

A.S.H. 23.4.99

The Financial Deptt. for C. S.

I countersign, but I shd. have liked our marine experts to indicate the size & draught of the vessel we want — Vide my note attached

24-4-99

A.S.H.

o flag J.

To CAM after issue
28 Apr 99

ORDER. N-374 Mar. of 28 April 99

Ordered that the following letter be addressed to the Government of India.

H.E. No. 375 Mar. of 28 April 1899

To

The Secretary to the Government of India
Marine Deptt.

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[P. W. 42-A. / 1,000—2-3-99.]

Fwc. in 20/9/99

Government for the following purposes:—

i Inspection of outposts by the Marine and P. W. Departments

ii Annual inspections of the Laccadives by the Revenue officers

iii Tour Inspections of His Excellency the Governor.

iv The conveyance of treasure, stores and military details, when not required for the above purposes.

the steamer is

NA

Flag F

2. In your letter No 412 Marine dated 23rd March 1887, the Government of India permitted this Government to make its own arrangements for procuring a vessel of the description required; but when an indent was sent home, the Secretary of State pointed out to the Government of India in his despatch o 340, Military, dated 22nd December 887, that one of the chief objects with hich the Indian Marine was formed as to consolidate under one head and der the Government of India the merous vessels of all classes which were l then owned and worked by the cal Governments under no regular System. s Lordship, however, in para 7 of his patch remarked that regard should be

Flag X

2P

X Despatch No 1 Marine dated 10th January 1888 Flag I.

G.O. 286 Marine/12th August 1893 Flag Q.

2

be had to the wants of the Madras Government which render it desirable that the Governor and other high officials should have facilities for visiting the districts situated on the long line of coast of this Presidency, and that if these requirements could not be met otherwise, information should be afforded as to the sizes and description of the vessel required. No action was then taken as the Madras Government had meanwhile resolved to postpone the acquisition of a steamer.

3. Since that time the want of a Government Steamer has been repeatedly and severely felt. The cost of hiring a steamer from a private company is excessive, and that of obtaining one from the Royal Indian Marine prohibitive, as was disclosed in 1893 when it was proposed to obtain one from this source. In 1897 the Madras Government inquired whether the Government of India could place a steamer at the disposal of this Government during January and February of

each year for lighthouse inspection,
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oreover, been considerable diffi-
ulty in obtaining the use, even for
hort periods, of a Government
vessel for the periodical inspection
of the Laccadive Islands – a most
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n making visits to the Travancore
and Cochin territories and the
districts of South Canara and
North Malabar which have not
y e been connected with the
railw ay Systems.

4. It will thus be seen that there
is a very pressing need for a steamer
for the exclusi ve use of this Government.
I am accorden gly to request that
the Government of India may be
moved to sanctio n the provision of
a vessel, the cost of which will be
met by the Madras Government.
His Excellency the Go vernor in Council
is prepared to accede to such
co nditions

Letter No. 996 Mar of 8th November 1897.
Flag D.

I would omit the words underlined. I am in hopes that the Govt. of India may provide a steamer without cost to this Govt.

23.4.99

Conditions as may be considered
necessary to ensure due control
by the Royal Indian Marine, a
point upon which the Home
Government has laid stress.

I have &ca.

R.S.

20/4/99

21/4/99

3P

Issued 7/5/99

5. I am to add that
suggestions will, in due
course be made, as to the
type of vessel best suited
to the requirements of this
Government.

R.S.

28/4/99

Govt. Steamer

~~11/4~~ 3/75

Marine Dept.

20

His Excellency the Governor

Note

With reference to the Note of the Hon. Mr. Winterbotham, dated 24-4-99, it is submitted that the question of dimensions and draught of the Steamer will come up for consideration in due course, after the general sanction of the Govt. of India has been obtained to the provision of the vessel. It is accordingly suggested that the letter, which has been accepted by all Hon. Members, be issued at once.

Wm

25/4/99

I agree with the Sec., but I should not object to the addition of a para. at the end of the letter to the effect that we would offer suggestions, in due course, as to the most suitable type of vessel for our purposes. Meanwhile, we might consult the local experts on this subject. My object is to get, as soon as possible, an engagement from the Govt. of India, to give us a steamer. They are in a favourable mood just now, and they may not be later on.

A.H. 28.4.99.

C.G.

Wm

Additional para to draft letter submitted for approval. C.G. 28 Apl 99

R 28/4/99

Govt. Steamer

The Hon. Mr. Winterbotham's note might be circulated with the remark that the information given will be utilised when the specification of the vessel comes to be drawn up. The first thing to be done is to obtain the general assent of the Govt. of India to the provision of a vessel. The dimensions & other particulars will be thoroughly gone into later on —

C.S.

25 Ap 99

The remark may be entered as a note I presume. If so, enter & send up for initials

25/4/99

I think I ought to note that as regards the Laccadives the steamer wanted should be of sufficiently light draught to admit of her entering the lagoons of Âgatti, Kavarathi, Kalpéni & Minicoy —

Once inside the lagoon the vessel can lie at anchor in perfect safety —

Outside the anchorage is bad: steam has to be kept up; & the expenditure of coal makes it impossible for the visiting officer to stay ashore a sufficient time.

I don't know what depth of water there now is at the entrances of the lagoons —

The "Margaret Northcote" could enter these lagoons — I think she drew 7 feet, but she was a bad sea-boat & could only carry coal enough for two or 3 days' steam —

I should say it will be quite impossible to get a good sea boat to draw only 7 ft. I would suggest that the steamer should be provided for with a steam or electric launch — drawing say 2½ or 3 ft — for use in these lagoons. This does not meet the objection that the steamer must lie outside under steam, but in my opinion the first thing [illegible] be attended to is to get a steamer that will be seaworthy and that is not a mere fine weather boat —

24/4/99

we ought, I think, to indicate the size & draught of the vessel we require — Perhaps one smaller enough for the Laccadive works wd. not suit other requirements; but if we get a steamer unsuitable for the annual visit to the Laccadives we shall possess a white elephant — for the Islands must be visited —

If the visit is to do any good the steamer ought to be able to stop a fortnight at any island, & this is impracticable unless it can enter the lagoons —

W.S. —
24-4-99

[G. / 75]
1,000—21-11-98.

in Cover

NOTE FOR THE Chief Secretary

With reference to the note of the Marine Dept No. 148 C., dated the 17th instant below it is submitted that the further action referred to should be taken by that department itself, as the purposes for which a steamer is required are various and not confined to the inspection of the Laccadive Islands. In para 22 of letter No. 142 Political, dated the 25th February 1898, the Govt of India was merely told that if the Laccadives were to be restored a Vessel of the Indian Marine would have to be placed at the disposal of the Collector of Malabar at least twice a year for purposes of supervision. There are, it is [illegible], other purposes for which a Steamer required, such as the Governor's tour, inspection of light houses &c.

Further, even if any other dept wanted a steamer it would be for Marine to take the necessary action and procure one.

It is subd that the proposed letter should in these circumstances be sent by the Marine Dept

The matter appears to be one for Marine to see through

[illegible]
21/3/99

No. 870, dy 22-3-99

To Marine u.o. for favour of [illegible]

21/3

No. 162 E dy 24-3-99.

The matter undoubtedly appertains to the Marine Dept:, but as the Political intervened it was thought that it might wish to carry it through. The Marine Dept. will now continue the correspondence on return of the papers by [illegible]

Office
Return the file

No 866, dy 27-3-99

To the Marine Dept (U.O)

To
The Political Dept. U.O.

Papers in the Political Dept

No. 148 E
17th March 1899.

15.3.99

To
The Political Dept,
U.O.

The printed collection in the Political Dept shows that the Govt. of India has already been addressed by that Dept., and that letter No 142 Political, of 25 February 1898 still awaits reply. It is thought, therefore that the further action now desired by H. E should be taken in the same Dept. The papers are forwarded accordingly

[illegible] Col R.E
Ag Secty to Govt.
Marine Dept

P. 162 Eg 24-3-1899
& papers marked
on the back

17 Marine DEPARTMENT.

READ the following:—

Application for a Govt. Steamer

Circulated to His Excellency the Governor

FOR ORDERS.

As personally requested by H.E. the file on the steamer question is submitted.

8/3/99

HE 9/3/99. R 17/3/99.

[P. W. 43
600—14-11-98.]

ure of m

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

A GOVERNMENT STEAMER FOR MADRAS.

MY DEAR FORBES.

In a recent file, in which the question of visiting the Laccadives this year was raised, there was a paper from the Government of India, saying that it could not spare us a Government ship for the purpose. His Excellency would be glad if you would send him up this paper, as he thinks of starting the question of getting sanction for a ship of our own.

(Intld.) H.A.S.
20-12-98.

Office
Please send (Ind) G.S.7

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the Under Secretary.

The paper referred to by the Private Secretary is G.O., No. 727, Revenue, dated 29th November 1898. It was sent to the Political Department on urgent requisition on 28th December 1898 for C. No. 1560, Political, and has not yet been returned. An urgent requisition memorandum for the return of the Government order was sent on the 3rd instant and a reminder thereto despatched to-day.

(Intld.)
10-1-99.

Pages 9 and 11 of the manuscript notes and references.

Secretary.

Political may be asked to expedite the return of the paper.

(Intld.) N.E.M.
10-1-99.

(Intld.) G.S.F.
10-1-99.

Meantime look up any former occasions on which Indian Marine were unable to let us have a vessel. Also put up, if in this department, the intimation of the Government of India that a vessel would be made available when we wanted it.

(Intld.) G.S.F.
10-1-99.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

The Revenue Government order is returned herewith. It was with an urgent Political file and was detained with that file in expectation of a reply telegram. There is, it is understood, some printed correspondence either in Marine or Political on the subject of a Government steamer. The matter is being looked up in Political.

(Intld.) C.M.S.
18-1-99.

(Intld.) G.S.
18-1-99.

No. 125, dated 14th January 1899.

To Revenue ~~Under Secretary~~.

To the Under Secretary.

With reference to the Secretary's note above of 10th January 1899.

Please see G.O., No. 838, Revenue, dated 27th February 1894, and the papers stitched with G.O., No. 1408, Revenue, dated 7th April 1894. In 1891 the Collector of Malabar proposed the purchase of a special steamer to provide the means of visiting the Laccadives at frequent intervals, and as a result of the correspondence that ensued, the Board in 1894 suggested the construction of a steamer for the use of His Excellency the Governor, the Presidency Port Officer and the Commissioner of Salt and Abkári Revenue, which would also be available for the inspection of the Laccadives. The then financial conditions, however, precluded Government from considering the question of the purchase of a steam vessel, and it then addressed the Director, Royal Indian Marine, pointing out that much inconvenience was being experienced in arranging for the inspection of the Laccadives and the various lighthouses on the coast and that if this Government could be kept informed as to what vessels of the Indian Marine could be spared from time to time and when, the officers concerned might so arrange their inspections as to utilize this means of transit. The Director replied that, as far as he could judge, there should be no difficulty in arranging for the services of a Royal Indian Marine vessel being made available for the inspection of the Laccadives and the coast ports and mentioned the most convenient times and suitable seasons for the inspection. The Revenue indexes do not show that any intimation was received direct from the Government of India that a vessel would be made available when required.

Vide G.O., No. 78, Political, dated 7th February 1894, under G.O., No. 838, Revenue, dated 27th February 1894.

G.O., No. 97, Marine, dated 19th March 1894.

Vide letter to the Director of Marine (copy stitched with G.O., No. 1408, dated 7th April 1894).

Vide letter No. 420, dated 27th March 1894, in G.O., No. 1408, dated 7th April 1894.

2. For the occasions on which the Director of the Royal Indian Marine expressed himself unable to let this Government have a Government vessel for the inspection of the Laccadives, please see the correspondence under G.Os., No. 532, dated 1st February 1898, and No. 727, dated 29th November 1898. In 1895 when application was made to the Director for the service of a steamer to visit the Laccadives, the Director, in placing the S.S. *Dalhousie* at the disposal of Government, intimated that he could not take the

responsibility of allowing such a large vessel to lie off the Laccadives for a lengthened period and that he had directed the commander of the vessel to come to the nearest port for further orders after 21 days. This period being found only just sufficient for the inspection of the Amindivi islands, the inspection of the Malabar-Laccadives had to be postponed; and when later in the year, the Director was asked whether a vessel could be spared for two months about November for the inspection of the Laccadives, that officer replied that he would spare the *Nancoury* for the trip. The *Nancoury* being, however, a small vessel, the Director was asked if he could spare a larger one for the visit. This he was unable to do and the S.S. *Margarita* was eventually utilized for the purpose.

Vide G.O., No. 464, dated 2nd February 1895.

Letter No. 1930, dated 15th May 1895.

Vide letter in G.O., No. 2294, dated 8th June 1895.

Vide G.O., Nos. 2506. 2507, dated 24th June 1895.

Vide letter under G.O., No. 300[illegible], dated 26th July 1895.

G.O., Nos 4423, dated 6th November 1895.

3. In returning the original of G.O., No. 727, Revenue, dated 28th November 1898, the Political Department says that it is understood that there is some printed correspondence either in Marine or in Political on the subject of a Government steamer and that the matter is being looked up in Political. It is submitted that the file may be transmitted to the Private Secretary through the Political Department.

(Intld.) R.S.
19-1-99.

Secretary.

(Intld.) S.M.
30-1-99.

I remember that since my visits to the Islands the following officers have gone in hired steamers at a great cost.

Underwood
Dance
Dumergue
Twigg
Hewetson

The want of a suitable steamer has been felt ever since the islands were sequestrated early in the seventies

(Ind) H. M. W
31-1-99

N

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Note for the Chief Secretary.

With reference to the note in the Political Department, dated the 13th ultimo, stating that there is some correspondence on the subject of a Government steamer, the following is submitted.

In paragraph 4 of its Proceedings, No. 248, dated the 18th January 1894, [the Board of Revenue suggested the construction of a steamer for the use of His Excellency the Governor, the Presidency Port officer and the Commissioner of Salt and Abkári Revenue, and added that the vessel would also be available for the inspection of the Laccadives.] This question was remitted by Political to Marine for consideration.

Page 4 of G.O., No. 78, Political, dated 7th February 1894, in G.O., Nos. 97, 98, Marine, dated 19th March 1894.

[ ] These facts are mentioned in the Revenue Department note.
(Intld.) C.M.S.

G.O., No. 78, Political, dated 7th February 1894.

(A) This note gives a full history of previous correspondence on the point.
(Intld.) C.M.S.

See next page

21

Vide note in G.O., Nos. 97, 98, Marine, dated 19th March 1894.

Here comes Ⓐ from page 3

The Marine Department, after going into the subject fully, decided that, owing to financial pressure, it was not possible to purchase a steamer for the use of its officers proceeding on inspections.

G.O., R. No. 51, Political, dated 7th March 1895.

Adverting to the Board's Proceedings referred to in paragraph 2 *supra*, the Political Department communicated to the Board of Revenue the purport of G.O., No. 97, Marine, dated the 19th March 1894, and stated that the question of providing a steamer for the sole purpose of visiting the Laccadive and Amindivi islands must lie over until the future administration of the former was settled.

In paragraph 22 of letter to the Government of India, No. 142, Political, dated the 25th February 1898, it was pointed out that if certain proposals regarding the future administration of the Laccadive islands were carried out, a vessel of the Indian Marine Service would have to be placed at the disposal of the Collector of Malabar at least twice a year.

It is submitted that this file may be submitted to His Excellency through the Marine Department which may have further correspondence on the subject.

(Intld.) V.S.M.
2-2-99.

(Intld.) C.M.S.
3-2-99.

Yes.

(Intld.) G.S.
3-2-99.

No. 335, dated 3rd February 1899.

To Marine, U.O.

(Intld.) G.S.
3-2-99.

Submitted with a note in the Marine Department (linked file).

(Intld.) R.P. (Ind) —
~~(„) C.M.S.~~
~~9-2-99~~ 9-2-99

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Note for His Excellency the Goverorn.

In 1884, the Madras Government requested the Secretary of State to procure a suitable steamer for their exclusive use for the following purposes :—

i. Inspection of outports by the Marine and Public Works Departments.

(ii) Annual inspections by the Revenue officers of the Laccadives.

(iii) Tour inspections of His Excellency the Governor.

(iv) *When not required for the above purposes*, for the conveyance of treasure, stores and military details.

A précis of the correspondence that ensued is attached to G.O., Nos. 1 and 2,* Marine, dated 1st January 1886, which shows that up to date of that Government order, the Government had gone no nearer their object than pressing on the Government of India the need, for administrative reasons, of a steamer for Madras.

J

Details of particular plans of steamers appear subsequently to have been considered† with the result that the Government of India ultimately permitted ‡ this Government to make its own arrangements with the Secretary of State to procure a vessel for the purposes above specified,—the only conditions they insisted on being that the vessel should fly the Marine ensign and be under the Marine Service Act.

Orders § were then issued for the purchase, after recommendation by the Chief Port Officer of this Government then on deputation in England, of a steamer at a cost not to exceed £20,000. This procedure having been overruled by the Secretary of State, an indent with specifications was, with the permission ‖ of the Government of India, forwarded ¶ to the Home Government for compliance. The Secretary of State thereupon pointed** out to the Government of India that one of the chief objects with which the Indian Marine was formed was to consolidate undre one head, and under the Government of India, the numerous vessels of all classes which were till then owned and worked by the Local Governments under no regular system, and that, in this view, it was the duty of that Government to provide for such requirements of Local Governments as appear to have been satisfactorily established. No action was, however, taken, as in January 1888, this Government had resolved,†† on special grounds, to postpone the acquisition of the steamer in question.

X

In 1893, when the question of hiring a steamer of the Royal Indian Marine for light-house inspection came up for consideration, the Government were ‡‡ of opinion that the advantages to be derived therefrom were not commensurate with the outlay involved. The note in the Revenue Department shows how in the succeeding year (1894) Government, on financial grounds, felt precluded from considering the question of the purchase of a steam vessel and in what manner requisitions for the loan of vessels have been complied with by the Director of the Royal Indian Marine.

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* Flag J.

XI XII

† 32-32-A-32-B, Marine, dated 27th January 1887, flag A; 75--77, Marine, dated 24th February 1887, flag B.

XIV

‡ Their letter, No. 412, dated 23rd March 1887, ~~with G.O. flagged F.~~ in G.O. 185-6 Mar 3.5.87

§ G.O., Nos. 185--87, Marine, dated 3rd May 1887, flag D. XIV

flag XVII

‖ Their letter, No. 1280, dated 27th September 1887, with G.O. ~~flagged C.~~ Desp 11 N 24-1887

~~¶ G.O. flagged C.~~

XIX

** G.O., No. 224 Marine, dated 27th January 1888, flag E.

supplied to Rev Dept on requisition.

XXI

†† Despatch No. 1, Marine, dated 10th January 1888.

‡‡ G.O., 286, Marine, dated 12th August 1893.

flag 6

The Presidency Port Officer having in 1897 brought to notice * the necessity of a steamer for inspection purposes, enquiry † was made of the Government of India whether it would be practicable to place at the disposal of this Government, during January and February of each year, the services of a steamer for the purpose. The reply ‡ was that no vessel could be spared either during that or succeeding years.

It is understood that the Pearl Fishery steamer *Margarita* has been subsequently used by the Presidency Port Officer for inspection purposes.

~~(Intld.) A.W.S.~~
(Intld.) R.P.
~~9-2-99~~.

(Ind) 9-2-99

I observe that in paragraph 22 of Nos. 131, 142, Political, (Confidential), we say that a vessel of the Indian Marine Service would have to be placed at the Political officer's disposal (Laccadives) at least twice a year. There has been no reply to this. The reply when received will give an opportunity of bringing this matter up again. Meanwhile, I intend to make representations on the subject during my approaching visit to the Viceroy.

(Intld.) A.E.H.
17-2-99.

In Calcutta, on the 24th Feb. 1899, I spoke to Sir ~~Edward~~ Edwin Collen, the Member of the Viceroy's Council, who had charge of Marine, — about our need in Madras, for a steamer. Sir E. Collen admitted the justice of our case, and gave me to understand that if a representation were made it would be favourably considered. A letter should be written at once to the Govt. of India, stating the case, and asking for a steamer.

A.E.H.
15.3.99

No. 91-E, dated 18th February 1899.

Copy of the note supplied for His Excellency's use, and the file herewith returned to the Revenue Department.

(Intld.) R.P.
~~(Intld.) R.S.~~
(Signed) A. S. RUSSEL,
Under Secy. to Govt.

To the Revenue Department with complete file received through the Political Department.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the Under Secy.

The collection of Revenue papers has been taken out and sent to the record. The notes and the Political papers may be sent to the Political Department.

~~20-2-99.~~
~~Secretary.~~

(Ind) RS
20-2-99

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* No. 513, Marine, dated 4th June 1897, Flag U.

† No. 850-51 R., dated 2nd October 1897, Flag ~~A~~ 8.

‡ No. 984, Marine, dated 4th December 1897, Flag ~~D~~.10

Seen. I should like to have a copy of this note to take with me to Calcutta.

(Intld.) A.E.H.

17-2-99.

Secretary

This may be done. Please see His Excellency's note, dated 17th February 1899, on page 10 below.

(Intld.) N.E.M.

21-2-99

To the Political Department.

~~21-2-99.~~

21-2-99.

(Intld.) G.S.F.

21-2-99

POLITICAL DEPT.

For the Secretary.

With reference to His Excellency the Governor's note of the 17th instant (pages 9 and 10), it is submitted that the Government of India has not passed orders on this Government's letter, No. 142, Political, (in the cover), dated 25th February 1898, but it has called for further information regarding the revenue and expenditure of the Laccadive Islands. India's letter has been communicated to the Board of Revenue for report, and a reminder was also sent to the Board on the 10th of this month.

Letter No. 2858 I-A, dated 21st October 1898, printed in G.O., No. 787, Political, dated 11th November 1898, XI.

G.O., No. 787, Political, dated November 1898.

Vide note marked X in G.O., R. No. 44, Political, dated 9th February 1899.

It is submitted that these notes may be printed and kept handy for future reference.

(Intld.) V.S.M.
24-2-99.

27-2-99.
(Intld.) C.M.S.

(Ind) G.S.F.
for C.S

C.A.

The further notes are in Marine. May the original of the Marine order be called for and the notes completely printed.

26/5/99

No. These belong to Marine & should go there

Cur
27/5/99

Will the C.A. please ask C.A.W. to take these

28/5/99 to CAW

CAW.
The printed set is already in our original file. Advocate Solicitor asks whether the originals of these notes now sent by CACS [illegible] to the original of our file.

Cur
28/8/99

Yes
15 Mar 99

1

25
~~half margin~~ 1 P

Political
~~Revenue~~ Department

~~Subject~~.
A Govt Steamer for [illegible]

Press

Please print this in half margin and show proof

Please see pencil directions

1

[illegible]
7/1/99

PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNOR · MADRAS ·

GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

Guindy. 20 Decr 1898.

My dear Forbes,

In a recent file, in which the question of visiting the Laccadives this year was raised there was a paper from the Govt of India saying that it could not spare us a Govt. Ship for the purpose. His Excellency would be glad if you would send him up this paper, as he thinks of ~~start~~-ing the question of getting sanction for a ship of our own.

Yours sincerely,

Please send
23/12/98

Reve Dept.

To the Under Secretary.

The papers referred to by the P.S. is G. O. No. $\frac{727}{29.11.98}$ Rev

~~These papers~~ It was sent to the Political Dept on urgent requi[illegible] on 28. 12. 98

for

pp 9 and 11 of the manuscript notes & references.

26/2 2

or G.O. No 1560, Political, and has not yet been returned. An urgent requisition memo ~~was~~ ~~[illegible]~~ for the return of the G.O. was sent on the 3rd Instant and a reminder thereto despatched to-day.

[illegible] 10.1.99

Secy

Pol may be asked to expedite the return of the paper

10.1.99

10/1/9

Pol Dept [illegible]

12 JAN 1899

Meantime look up any former occasions on which Ind. Marine were unable to let us have a vessel. Also put up, if in this Dept, the intimation of the G. of I. that a vessel wd. be made available when we wanted it

10-1

Pol Dept

The Revenue G.O. is returned herewith. ~~The paper~~ It was with an urgent Political file & was detained with that file ~~as~~ in expectation of a reply telegram. ~~[illegible]~~ There is, it is understood, some printed correspondence either in Marine or ~~in~~ Political on the subject of a Government steamer. The matter is being looked up in Political

[illegible]

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3 27

Half margin

Rev Dept

Submitted

10.1.99

To the Under Secretary.

With reference to the Secretar note above of ~~the~~ 10. 1. 99.

Please see Rev. G.O. No $\frac{83}{27a}$ and the papers stitched with Rev G.O. No $\frac{1408}{7.4.94}$. In 1891 the Collec of Malabar proposed the purchas of a special steamer to provide the means of visiting the Laccad at frequent intervals, and as result of the correspondence tha ensued, the Board in 1894 suggested the construction of a steamer for the use of H. E. the Governor, the Presidency Port Officer and the Commissioner of Salt and Abkari Revenue, which would also be available for the inspection of the Laccadives. The then financi conditions, however, precluded Gov from considering the question of the purchase of a steam vessel, and it then addressed the Director, Royal Indian Marine, pointing out that much inconvenienc was being experienced in arranging for the inspection of the Laccadives and the various

vide G.O. No 78 Pol. of 7.2.94 under Rev G.O. $\frac{838}{27-2-94}$ (N)

G.O. $\frac{97}{19.3.94}$ Marine

28 4

...htouses on the coast and that ...or Cutting Govt could be kept in- not-med as to what vessels of ...rgen the Indian Marine could be ...red from time to time and ...when, the Officers concerned ...might so arrange their inspections ...o to utilize this means of transit. ...The director replied that as far as he ...ould judge, there should be no difficulty in arranging for the services of a Royal Indian Marine vessel ...ing made available for the inspection of the Laccadives and the Coast ports and mentioned the most convenient times and suitable seasons for the inspection. The Rec indexes do not show that any intimation was received direct from the Govt of India that a vessel would be made available when required.

2. For the occasions on which the Director of the Royal Indian Marine expressed himself unable ...let this Govt have a Govt vessel ...the inspection of the Laccadives, ...case see the Correspondence under OS Nos. $\frac{532}{1\text{-}2\text{-}98}$ [illegible]

[illegible] looked up in [illegible]

vide letter to the Director of Marine copy stitched with G. Os. No $\frac{1408}{7\text{-}4\text{-}94}$) S

vide letter of 27.3.94 No 420 in G.O. 1408 of 7.4.94 S

E 1-7

5 29 ½ margin 38

vide G.O. $\frac{464}{2\text{-}2\text{-}95}$

$\frac{2\text{-}7}{29\text{-}11\text{-}98}$

Letter No $\frac{1930}{15\text{-}5\text{-}95}$

vide letter in G.O. $\frac{2294}{8\text{-}6\text{-}95}$ H

vide G.O. $\frac{2506\text{-}7}{24\text{-}6\text{-}95}$ G

In 1895 when application was made to the Director for the service of a steamer to visit the Laccadives, the Director in placing the S.S. Dalhousie at the disposal of Govt, intimated that he could not take the [responsibility of allowing such a large vessel to lie off the Laccadives for a lengthened period and that he had directed the Commander of the vessel to come to the nearest port for further orders after 21 days. This period being ~~[illegible]~~ found only just sufficient for the inspection of the Amindivi islands, the inspection of the Malabar Laccadives had to be postponed; and when later in the year the Director was asked whether a vessel could be spared for two ~~[illegible]~~ months about November for the inspection of the Laccadives, that officer replied that he would spare the "Nancowry" for the trip. The "Nancowry" being however a small vessel, the Director was asked if he could spare

30

c
...tor
... this larger one for the visit. This fe
...nce was unable to do and the S.S. Mar-
... Jerita" was eventually utilized
...and the purpose.
...her 3. In returning the original
...igh Rev: B. Ors 727/24.11.96, the Pol Dept
... to say that it is understood that
... ~~[illegible]~~ understood that there is some
...ed printed correspondence either in
...lly Marine or in Political on the subject
... of a Govt steamer and that the
...ing matter is being looked up in Political.
...ction it is submitted ~~that the file may~~
...ast ~~[illegible]~~ that the file may
...not be transmitted to the Private
...ason Secretary ~~to~~ through the Pol: Dept.
...ndence RS/19-1-99
...tion.
...on to
...essel
...le

Secy
M/30/1/99

6

vide letter under B.O. No 300/16.5.95

G.O. 4423/6.11.95

I remember that since my visits to the Islands the following officers have gone in hired steamers at a great cost

Underwood
Dance
Dumergue
Twigg
Hewetson

The want of a suitable steamer has been felt ever since the islands were sequestrated early in the seventies

RS
31-1-99

Page 4 of G.O. No 78 Pol d 7-2-94
G.O. 97-98 Marine d 19-3-94

These facts are mentioned in the Revenue Dept also.
Clerk

G.O. No 78 Pol 27-2-94

Vide note flagged (in [illegible]
This note [illegible] a full history of previous correspondence [illegible] in the [illegible] Clerk
[illegible] 69 Mar d 19.3.96

31 7 VII

Half Marg Political
48

Note for the Chief Secret.

With reference to the note in the Political Dept dated the 18th ultimo stat that there is some correspondence on the subject of a Govt Steamer, the following is submitted.

In para 4 of its proceedings No. 248, dated the 18th January 1894, the Board of Revenue suggests the construction of a steamer for the use of His Excellency the Governor, the Presidency Port Officer and the Commissioner of Salt and Abkari Revenue & added that the vessel would also be available for the inspection of the Laccadives. This question was remitted by Pol to Marine for consideration.

The Marine Dept after going into the subject

32/-

larger the, decided that under as owing to financial pressure it was not possible to ~~get a~~ purchase Govt steamer built for the use of its officers proceeding on inspections.

Adverting to the Board's proceedings referred to in para 2 supra the Pol. Dept communicated to the Board of Reve the purport of G.O. No 97 Pol. Marine, dated the 19th March 1894, and stated that the question of providing a steamer for the sole purpose of visiting the Laccadive and Amindivi Islands must lie over until the future administration of the former was settled.

In para 22 of letter to the Govt of India No 142 Pol, dated the 25th Feby 1898, it was pointed out that if certain proposals

8

G.O. R No. 51 Pol d/ 7-3-95

IX

VI

Laccadives

His Excellency the Governor

25
33
9

half margin

SP

regarding the future administration of the Laccadive Islands were carried out, a vessel of the Indian Marine Service would have to be placed at the [illegible] disposal of the Collector of Malabar at least twice a year.

It is su … ted that this file may … ~~circulated~~ submitted to H.E. thro' the Marine Dept which may have further correspondence on the subject.

2-2-99 CWS 3.2.99

3/2

No 335, d/ 3-2-99.

To Marine. U.O.

3/2

Submitted with a note in the Marine Dept. L.S. (linked file)

~~34~~

10

it was pom
it contain proposals

~~27~~ 35 half margin

Marine Department

6P

Provision of a Steamship for the Madras Govt.

Note for His Excellency the Governor

In 1884, the Madras Govt. requested the Secretary of State to procure a suitable sea-going steamer for their exclusive use for the following purposes:-

i Inspection of outports by the Marine and P. W. Departments

ii Annual Inspections by the Revenue Officers of the Laccadives

iii Tour inspections of H. E. the Governor

iv When not required for the above purposes for the Conveyance of treasure, stores and military details.

× Encls J

A precis of the Correspondence that ensued is attached to G.O.s × 1 and 2 Mar of 1 January 86 which shows that up to date of that G.O., the Government had gone no nearer their object than pressing on the Govt of India the need, for administrative reasons, of a steamer for Madras.

32-32A-32-B (of) 27.1.87. Encls I
5-77 Mar of 24.2.87. Encls L
Their letter No 412 of 23.3.87 with G.O. Encls M.

Details of particular plans of steamers appear subsequently to have been considered with the result that the Govt of India ultimately permitted this Govt to make its own arrangements with the Secretary of State to procure a vessel for the purposes above specified, - the only conditions they insisted on [illegible] the vessel

36/ 12

could fly the Marine ensign and under the Marine Service Act.

Orders[x] were then issued for a purchase, after recommendation by the Chief Officer of this Govt. then on deputation in England, of a Steamer at a Cost not to exceed £20,000. This procedure having been over-ruled by the Secretary of State, an indent with specifications was, with the permission[o] of the Govt. of India, forwarded[x] to the Home Govt. for compliance. The Secretary of State thereupon pointed[#] out to the Govt. of India that one of the Chief objects, with which the Indian Marine was formed was to Consolidate under one head, and under the Govt. of India, the numerous vessels of all classes which were till then owned and worked by the Local Govts. under no regular system, and that, in this view it was the duty of that Govt. to provide for such requirements of Local Governments as appear to have been satisfactorily established. No action was, however, taken, as in January 1888 this Government had resolved[(a)], on special grounds, to postpone the acquisition of the Steamer in question.

x G.O. 185-87 Mar. d/ 3.5.87. Flag D

o Min. letter 1280 d/ 27.9.87 with Ec.
x Ec. Flag C

G.O. 224 Mar. d/ 27.1.88 Flag X

(a) Despatch No. 1 Mar. d/ 10.1.88

In 1893 when the question of having a Steamer of the R. I. M. for Light-house inspection came up for Consideration the Govt. were[(b)] of opinion that the advantages to be derived therefrom were not commensurate with the outlay involved. The Note in the Revenue Deptt. shows how in the succeeding year (1894) Govt., on financial grounds, felt precluded ~~of containing~~ considering the question

(b) G.O. 286 Mar. d/ 12.8.93

13 of the purchase of a vessel and in what manner requisitions for the loan of vessels have been complied with by the Director of the R. I. M.

Half margin

78

The P. P. Officer having in 1897 brought to notice[x] the necessity of a Steamer for inspection purposes, enquiry[o] was made of the Govt. of India whether it would be practicable to place at the disposal of this Govt., during January and February of each year, the services of a Steamer for the purpose. The reply[x] was that no vessel could be spared either during that or succeeding years.

x 513 Mar. d/ 4.6.97 Flag U

o 850-51 R. d/ 2.10.97. Flag A

x 984 Mar. d/ 4.12.97 Flag D

It is understood that the Pearl Fishery Steamer "Margarita" has been subsequently used by the P. P. Officer for inspection purposes

R. S.

Secy. I should like to have copy of this Note to take with me to Calcutta.

ASH
17.2.99

AW
9/2/99

No. 94 E. d/ 18th Feb. 99

Copy of the note supplied for His Excellency's use, and the file herewith returned to the Revenue Department.

A. L. Russell
Under Secty. to Govt.

R. S.

The R. Dept. with complete file received through the Political Dept.

114

Rev. [illegible]

To the [illegible]

The collection of Rev. papers has been taken out & sent into the Record. The notes and the Pol. papers may be sent to the Pol. Dept.

OA 20-12-98

Secy

His Majesty's [illegible] Please see His Excellency's note 17.2.99 on page 10 below.

2/2/99

Pol. Dept.

Pol. Dept

To the Secretary

With reference to H.E. the Governor's note of the 17th instant, (pages 9 & 10). it is submitted that the Govt of India has not passed orders on this Govt's letter No. 142 Pol, dated 26-2-98, but it has called for further information regarding the revenue and expenditure of the Laccadive Islands. India's letter has been communicated to the Board of Revenue for report and a reminder was also sent to the Board on the 10th of this month.

in the cover Letter No 2858 d A dated 21-10-98 printed in GO 787 Pol dated 11-11-98 XI

GO 787 Pol dt 11-98

- Vide note marked X in GO R No 44 Pol dt 9-2-99 H

It contains [illegible] submitted that these [illegible]