

G.O., No. 744 Marine

DATED 8<sup>th</sup> August 1899.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Survey of private cargo by Port Officers -

Declining

~~Stating that the Govt is not prepared~~  
to extend the concession sanctioned in the  
order prescribing that the — shall  
be undertaken <sup>by Port Officers</sup> only at the smaller  
ports where other competent European  
agency is not available.



Read the following:—

Letter from the Presidency Port Officer, Madras, No. 44 G, dated 29<sup>th</sup> June 1899.

Survey of private cargo by Port officers

Circulated to

His Excellency the Governor FOR ORDERS

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. C.S.I.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. P.W.D.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. S.D.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. J.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. A.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. M.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. F.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. G.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. H.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. I.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. K.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. L.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. M.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. N.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. O.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. P.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. Q.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. R.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. S.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. T.S.

The Hon. Secy. to Govt. U.S.

The Presidency Port Officer asks for a modification of the terms of G.O. 456 Marine dated 29<sup>th</sup> May 1899. It is prescribed in this order that private surveys shall be undertaken by Port Officers only at the smaller ports where other competent European agency is not available.

I think the present proposal is more in the interests of the Port Officers than of anyone else. The concession made in G.O. No 456 Marine of 29<sup>th</sup> May 1899 was to meet the case of smaller ports where no other qualified European other than the Port Officer could be found. The Presy. Port Officer is now writing up on general grounds & without any further

2. The Presidency Port Officer now reports that at all the principal ports of the Presidency, with one exception, there are European merchants and others who are "Competent and willing" to undertake such surveys, notwithstanding which Port Officers, as being disinterested, are sometimes preferred by merchants. 3. He accordingly proposes that the prohibition should be wholly relaxed and that Port Officers should

should be allowed to undertake surveys at all ports when "Specially requested." If this proposal be sanctioned, there seems no occasion to refer in the revised order to "Lloyd's Surveyors or other Competent Agency". The second proviso in the Presidency Port Officers revised draft order includes the first.

R.S.

L. H. H.  
11.7.89  
M.

experience so much for a still greater concession wh. goes outside the principle laid down in the E.O. quoted above. I think the request should be refused & the principle of the E.O. maintained.  
M.H. 2.7.89

(3)  
I don't know under what provision of law, or mercantile custom any weight attaches to the certificates granted at these so-called surveys. Sir H. Stokoe evidently thought that they would only serve to show that a respectable witness was prepared to depose to, & that the Port Officer would be liable to be summoned away to give evidence in support of this certificate. If this be so I agree that he should not be allowed to incur this liability to be cited as a witness. But this objection would apply equally to the small ports. So far as I am able to form an opinion I agree with the Hon. Sec. Secy. del.

(4)  
I accept the conclusion of  
M.H. -  
12-7-89

## Marine (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 883.

From

The Presidency Port Officer  
Madras

Order

No. 474 / 231 G

Dated 29<sup>th</sup> June 1899

Received 1<sup>st</sup> July 1899.

Enclosures 14

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### SUBJECT.

Requesting a ruling of Government in the matter of allowing Port Officers to carry out the work of surveys of private cargo.

BACK PAPERS

*in*

### Heading Cargo Surveys

Madras, 29 June 1899.

Commander J. G. R. Finney R. I. M.,  
Presidency Port Officer,

To

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

*Sir,*

With reference to G. O. No. 456,  
Marine, dated 29<sup>th</sup> May 1899, re-  
garding surveys of private cargo  
by Port Officers, I have the honour  
to report that, from information  
gathered, it would appear that  
at all the principal ports of  
the Presidency (with the exception  
of Tellicherry) where there is a  
Port officer, there are European  
Merchants and others who are  
competent and willing to  
undertake

undertake such surveys. At  
Cochin there is, in addition, Mr.  
J. E. Muichler, a Retired Port Officer,  
who is Lloyd's Agent and Surveyor.

2. The proposal to permit  
Port Officers to undertake sur-  
veys of private cargo was made  
with a view to meet cases where  
occasionally a merchant pre-  
fers a survey by the Port  
officer, as an independent  
party, to one by another person  
who may be competent enough  
but may be an interested party.

3. I think a direction of  
Government to the following  
effect will answer the purpose:-

"On reconsideration His Excellency  
the Governor in Council is pleased  
to withdraw the prohibition against  
Port Officers undertaking the  
survey of private cargoes. They  
will, in future, be allowed to  
take up such work for  
merchants or Insurance Agents  
provided

The same  
provis-  
includes the  
first 2 C.S.

Vide para 3 of  
G.O. No 283, Marine,  
21/29 July 1890.  
Hag T.

"provided there is no Lloyd's  
Surveyor or other competent  
Agency in the port to under-  
take it, or provided the Port  
officer is specially requested  
to make the survey notwithstanding  
that there is a Lloyd's Surveyor  
or other competent Agency in the  
port. Surveys of private cargo  
by Port officers shall be made  
out of office hours. The fee which  
will be fixed by mutual consent,  
and which should, in no case,  
exceed Rs 30/- for each survey, may  
be retained in full by the Port  
officer."

4. The maximum of Rs 30/- is  
taken from the scale in force for  
measurement surveys, &c, and  
I think it advisable that a  
maximum should be fixed  
for surveys of private cargo  
as well.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedt. servt.,  
J. S. R. J. J. J.  
Commander, R. S. M.,  
Presidency Port Officer

M.S.