

B.N. 1104 W 7/11/5/85

Communicated
to officers concerned
in continuation of
Memo No 529 C 7/10/2/85

Sd/ J.S.S

Gobt. of (1885) Madras.

MARINE.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 20th April 1885, No. 164.

B.N. 1104 W 7/11/5/85

APRIL.

Lighthouses.

Passing orders on a report submitted by the
Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, of
his inspection of the — on the East coast.

S Engrs I. II & V circle

With order

20TH APRIL 1885, No. 164, MARINE.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

Note by the Chief Engineer, Public Works department, dated 13th March 1885,
No. 527-C.

During my recent tour the undermentioned lighthouses were inspected by me in
company with the Master Attendant of Madras :—

Pulicat.
Arneghon.
Hope Island.

Vakalapudi.
Santopilly.
Gopálpur.

2. The lighthouses at Point Divi and Calingapatam were not inspected on this
occasion. There appears to be some difficulty in making Point Divi from the sea, and
a day was wasted in trying to sight it, but without success. The Calingapatam light-
house was passed during the night. The light appeared to be in perfect order, but
time did not admit of an inspection. These two lighthouses will now be inspected by
the Superintending Engineers in company with the port officers concerned.

3. Full details of the lighthouses inspected are given in the accompanying
statement.

CHEPAUK,
13th March 1885.

(Signed) J. SHAW-STEWART, Col., R.E.,
Chief Engineer, Public Works Dept.

ENCLOSURE.

STATEMENT to accompany the Note by the Chief Engineer, Public Works department, dated
March 1885, on Lighthouses.

Lighthouse.	Class of light.	Height of centre of lantern above mean sea level.	Distance at which light is visible.	Remarks.
Pulicat	Fourth order ; ca- tadioptric ; fixed ; white.	FEET. 68	MILES. 14	The object is to mark position of the Pulicat shoal. The light is placed on the top of a masonry tower, and is in excellent order, but requires provision of a spare lamp. During the storms in December 1884 the exterior of the lighthouse and adjoining buildings sustained considerable damage, and no time should be lost in executing the needful repairs.

Statement to accompany the Note by the Chief Engineer, Public Works department, dated March 1885, on Lighthouses—*continued*.

Lighthouse.	Class of light.	Height of centre of lantern above mean sea level.	Distance at which light is visible.	Remarks.
		FEET.	MILES.	
Armeghon ..	Fourth order; dioptric; revolving; flashing once in twenty seconds; white.	107	14	The object is to mark position of the Armeghon shoal. The light is placed on the top of a masonry tower and is in excellent order. The revolving apparatus works well. The buildings are generally in good order, but the outside of the tower was slightly damaged during the late monsoon, and some of the steps leading up to the lantern require repair with cement. The lightning conductor should be moved to the outside of the tower. In the Superintendent's house the floor requires repair, and verandahs should be added on east and west sides as suggested in 1880 by His Grace the late Governor. The lascars' huts were blown down during the recent storms, and it might be well to provide them with permanent quarters both here and elsewhere. Care should be taken to select sites not liable to be flooded.
Hope Island.	Country made; reflecting light with 9 reflectors; fixed; white.	83	10	The object is to mark position of Point Gorda were. The light is placed on the top of a masonry tower and is in fair order, but it is thought that the importance of the position demands a better and a stronger light, and it is proposed to replace the existing inferior light by an English-made dioptric light of the fourth order, now available at Madras. The lighthouse is generally in good order, but the platform on which the lantern rests is not so secure as it should be. It would be well to renew it, probably with iron girders; and this should be done when the light is changed. The adjoining buildings are also in need of some repair, and the oil godown should be recoated with cement. The lightning conductor is in need of slight repair. Additional water tanks are required for the use of the superintendent to store drinking water, which is not procurable on the island.
Vakalapudi.	Fourth order; dioptric; revolving; flashing once in ten seconds; white.	80	14	The object is to mark entrance to the Cocanada anchorage. The light is placed on the top of a masonry tower and is in excellent order. Part of the revolving apparatus was under repair at Dowlaishweram at the date of inspection, and the light was being turned by hand. The adjoining buildings are in good order, but the lascars' quarters are only temporary sheds of the meanest character, and should be replaced, here and elsewhere, by permanent buildings.

Statement to accompany the Note by the Chief Engineer, Public Works department, dated March 1885, on Lighthouses—*continued*.

Lighthouse.	Class of light.	Height of centre of lantern above mean sea level.	Distance at which light is visible.	Remarks.
		FEET.	MILES.	
Santopilly ..	Fourth order; catadioptric; fixed; white.	169	14	The object is to mark position of the Santopilly rock, a dangerous reef, distant some 6 miles from the coast. The light is placed on the top of a small square tower, built on a rocky hill a short distance from the beach. The light is in good order, but the iron work of the lantern has not been properly looked to and is beginning to suffer from rust. Two spare lamps should also be provided. The lightning conductor should be carefully examined. It is understood that it is at present carried no further than to the top of the rocky hill outside the lighthouse, and provision should be made for leading it into damp soil. Considering the object of this lighthouse and its position, it is thought that a stronger light than that now in use should be provided. It is distant 6 miles from the danger it is intended to mark; and when the nature of that danger is considered—a large reef covered at low tide with from 7 to 10 feet of water,—it might be well that the light should have a radius larger than 14 miles. The best position for the light would without doubt be on the reef itself, but to erect it there would be matter of great difficulty, involving large outlay. This is, however, a point for consideration in the Marine department.
Gopálpur ..	Country-made; reflecting light; fixed; white.	85	10	The object is to mark position of the Gopálpur anchorage. The lantern is at present exhibited from the top of the flagstaff, but it is intended to combine a lighthouse with the new marine and customs buildings, for which estimates have lately been called.

No. 528 C.

Transferred to the Marine department with advertence to G.O., No. 529, dated 3rd December 1884 (Marine).

CHEPAUK,
13th March 1885.

(Signed)

J. SHAW-STEWART, Col., R.E.,
Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, with statement.

20TH APRIL 1885, No. 164, MARINE.

From J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., Lieut., R.N.R., Master Attendant, Madras, to the
Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 24th March 1885, No. 2614.
Administrative department.

In returning the inspection notes of the Chief Engineer, Public Works department, on certain lighthouses, forwarded with endorsement, No. 641, dated 18th March 1885, I have the honor to state that I cordially endorse the Honorable Colonel Shaw-Stewart's report. It will be noticed that as regards Santopilly, I have sometime ago in the correspondence as per margin recommended a second-class dioptric light, and as regards quarters so much needed for light-keepers, it would in most cases be advisable to allow them to be built under the supervision of the light superintendent, who would necessarily be constantly on the spot.

2. In respect to the change of light at Hope Island, this must, of course, be carried out by the Public Works department.

ORDER—dated 20th April 1885, No. 164, Marine.
Recorded.

2. The necessary estimates for giving effect to the several suggestions in the Chief Engineer's statement should be prepared by those concerned.

3. In separate proceedings, the transfer to Hope island of the spare dioptric fourth-order light has been sanctioned, and the Government of India has again been addressed regarding the Santopilly light.

(True Extract.)

E. F. WEBSTER,
Chief Secretary.

To the Master Attendant, Madras.
„ Public Works department.

Exd. J. Wright.