

Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 2779 W

DATED 6 October 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

*Lighthouses in the Bengal Presidency. Extract
from the P.P. Officer forwarding a copy of
the annual report on the — for 1896-97,
received.*

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Forwarding a copy of
Annual Report of the
Lighthouses in the Bengal
Presidency for 1896-97.

025515-15/10

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE LIGHT-HOUSES IN THE BENGAL
PRESIDENCY FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

PURI LIGHT-HOUSE

WAS inspected by me on the 15th of December 1896. This light is reported to have burnt well during the year, and no complaints were made regarding it. The lantern, apparatus, and the masonry pillar on which the light stands are in good order.

2. There have been some changes in the establishment on account of the Head Native Light-keeper having been dismissed for drunkenness and neglect of duty by the Collector of Puri, and one of the Assistant Light-keepers sentenced to one year's rigorous imprisonment for charges brought against him under sections 354 and 456 of the Indian Penal Code by some of his tribesmen. Another was suspended for six months for drunkenness and neglect of duty. On the expiry of this man's term of punishment he was allowed to rejoin his appointment.

3. One peon was shown in last year's Annual Report as attached to the light-house. This, it is explained by the Port Officer of False Point, was done by mistake. It has been omitted in this year's report, as his pay is charged to "Vessels and boats" and not to the Light-house.

4. Kerosine oil was used in lighting.

5. The health of the station has been good.

DHAMRAH.

SHORTT'S ISLAND LIGHT-HOUSE

6. Was inspected by me on the 19th July, and again on the 8th December 1896, and found everything in good order. It is stated that fever visited the island in October 1896 in rather a severe form, but the health of the station was good when I last visited it.

7. Mr. W. Tasker, Light-house Keeper, was on leave from the 15th April 1896 to the 18th April 1897. Mr. W. Wight took charge of the light-house on the forenoon of the 21st April, and acted as Light-keeper satisfactorily during Mr. Tasker's absence.

8. Mr. J. T. Smart continues as Assistant Light-house Keeper.

9. The Acting Light-keeper and his assistant worked together harmoniously.

10. Heavy mineral oil obtained from England was burnt in these lights.

BALASORE LIGHT.

11. The light at Chandipur was inspected by me on the 3rd of December 1896, and I found the light and flagstaff in fair order.

12. Heavy mineral oil is consumed by this light.

13. The health of the establishment has been good.

CHITTAGONG COAST.

NORMAN'S POINT LIGHT

14. Was inspected by me on the 17th March 1897; found it in good order and well looked after. The light was exhibited throughout the year without intermission, and no complaints were received regarding it.

KUTUBDIA LIGHT-HOUSE.

15. I inspected this light in March 1897. The building was found in good order and the light properly attended to. It is noticed that the expenditure of heavy mineral oil at this light-house is very large, but a considerable

saving has been effected pecuniarily by the Chittagong Port Commissioners obtaining the oil from the Standard Oil Company of Calcutta, who supply the Port Commissioners of Calcutta with the same kind of oil for their light-houses, instead of obtaining it from England, as formerly.

16. It is stated that the Light-keepers have suffered much less from fever and bowel-complaint since their water-supply has been improved.

17. The following statement shows the total cost of the up-keep of each light-house during 1896-97:—

LIGHT-HOUSES.	Salaries.	Repairs.	Stores.	Provisions.	Contingencies.	Cyclone grant.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Puri	384 0 0	8 9 9	614 1 6	Nil	54 5 0	Nil	1,061 0 3
Shortt's Island ...	3,186 13 7	577 5 6	1,401 7 2	.....	.....	.....	5,165 10 3
Chandipur (Balasore).	264 0 0	60 0 0	7 6 0	.....	.....	.....	341 3 3
Norman's Point ...	852 0 0	58 3 0	99 4 6	.....	3 4 0	.....	1,012 11 6
Kutubdia	2,114 6 1	1,253 4 9	1,635 4 0	.....	43 8 9	.....	5,046 7 7

18. The hours during which the lights of the several light-houses were exhibited, and the oil and wicks expended, are shown in the following statement:—

STATION.	Hours of exhibition of lights.		Gallons of mineral oil.		Gallons of coconut oil.		Chimneys broken.		Oil used for riding and other lights.		Wicks.	
	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	HRS. M.	HRS. M.	GALS.	GALS.	GALS.	GALS.	No.	No.	GALS.	GALS.	INCHES.	INCHES.
Puri	4,351 28	4,339 19	96½	100½	.....	.....	23	29	8½	9	256	225
Shortt's Island ...	4,416 19	4,427½	1,006½	{ 991½ Leakage 90 }	Nil	Nil	74	80	Kerosine. 45	Kerosine. 48	Yards. 52½	Yards. 52½
Chandipur (Balasore)	4,316	4,303½	Gals. qts. 91 2	Gals. qt. 91 1	Nil	Nil	2	1	Nil	Nil	6½	5½
Norman's Point ...	4,352	4,340	70	69	.....	.....	3	3	31	32	Ft. in. 17 0½	Ft. in. 15 2½
Kutubdia	4,339	4,333	1,499	1,479	.....	.....	19	17	64	76	17 8	15 2½

CALCUTTA,
The 19th May 1897.

B. P. CREAGH, Comdr., R. I. M.,
Port Officer of Calcutta.

Report on Light-houses and Light-vessels in the Approaches to the Port of Calcutta for 1896-97.

LIGHT-HOUSES.

1. "False Point"—Was inspected by the Deputy Conservator in March 1897. The light-house lantern and machinery were found to be in thorough order and repair. The light burnt without interruption throughout the year. The general health of the station was good. The light-house was thoroughly repaired during the year.

2. Saugor—Was visited by the Assistant Superintendent of Machinery on three occasions during the year. On the 2nd February the above officer visited the light-house and altered seven of the coconut oil lamps for consuming mineral oil; and again on the 21st March, when the remaining seven lamps

were converted. The 14 lamps now consuming mineral oil are burning nightly, and are a decided improvement on the old lamps, as they show a clearer and brighter light. The light has burnt without interruption throughout the year. The health of the crew has been bad, and mostly all suffered from either fever or colds; both the Keeper and the Assistant Keeper had to proceed to Calcutta for medical treatment, as their cases were rather severe; however, no casualties occurred. No extensive repairs were made this year, as the light-house and buildings were in good order.

3. Kaukhali—The lamp has burnt well throughout the year. The health of the establishment has been fair.

LIGHT-SHIPS.

4. "Luna"—Was at the Ridge Station till the 1st November, when she was towed to Calcutta for repairs. On the 20th December she was placed on the Eastern Channel Station, where she is at present.

5. "Hesperus"—Was at the Mutla Station till relieved by the *Torch* on the 12th February. She was taken to Calcutta for repairs on the 13th, and on completion was towed down and placed on the Ridge Station on the 14th March.

6. "Meteor"—Was at the Lower Gaspar Station from 1st April till the 30th November, when she was towed up to Calcutta for overhaul. On the 1st February she was placed on the Intermediate Station. This vessel parted her cable three times during April 1896, losing 3 anchors and 335 fathoms of chain.

7. "Planet"—Was at the Intermediate Station till the 1st December, when she was placed on the Upper Gaspar Station. On the 28th April the vessel parted from her anchor, but brought up again ¾ of a mile N.N.E. of her position; she was replaced on the 1st May by the *Resolute*. In February the Port Commissioners' Shipwright examined the vessel at her station and executed petty repairs. The lamps were converted into mineral oil lamps in March.

8. "Torch"—Was on the Eastern Channel Station till the 21st December, when she was taken to Calcutta for repairs, on completion of which she was towed down and placed on the Mutla Station on the 12th February. This vessel parted from her anchor on two occasions in June on the 19th and 27th to 28th, losing in all two anchors and 239 fathoms of chain. She was supplied with 195 fathoms of the new studless chain.

9. "Canopus"—Was in Calcutta as spare light-ship. She was towed away from town on the 29th November, and relieved the *Meteor* at the Lower Gaspar Station.

10. "Star"—Was at the Upper Gaspar Station till the 1st December; she was towed to Calcutta on the 2nd, and is at present in dry dock undergoing a thorough overhaul.

11. "Comet"—Has been at the Long Sand Station throughout the year.

12. The hours during which the lights of the several floating Lights and Light-houses were exhibited and the oil and wicks expended from 1st April 1896 to 31st March 1897 are shown in the following statement:—

STATION.	Hours of exhibition of lights.		Gallons of mineral oil.		Gallons of coconut oil.		Chimneys broken.		Oil used for riding and other lights.		Wicks.	
	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.	1895-96.	1896-97.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Hours.	Hours.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	No.	No.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Yards.	Yards.
False Point Light-house.	4,332	4,363½	1,320	1,350½	Nil.	Nil.	8	14	...	...	8 24in. No.	8 24in. No.
Saugor do. ...	4,443	*5,012½	Nil.	83½	595½	559½	108	86	36	36	2,855	2,671
Kaukhali do. ...	4,332	4,320½	307½	307½	Nil.	Nil.	4	4	13½	22½	4	4
Outer Light-vessels	11,359	11,516½	2,332	2,331½	Nil.	Nil.	146	156	175	166	2,724	2,601
Inner do. ...	16,610	16,720½	Nil.	130½	1,647½	1,519½	251	234	229	228	5,714	5,201

* Includes 726½ hours during which mineral oil was burnt.

13. The following statement shows the total cost of the up-keep of each of the light-ships and light-houses during 1896-97:—

LIGHT-SHIPS.	Salaries.	Exchange compensation.	Scarcity allowance.	Repairs.	Stores.	Provision.	Contingencies.	Cyclone grant.	Total.	Totals of 1895-96.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
"Star" ...	14,077 1 5	464 9 3	.....	8,780 2 6	963 12 8	1,113 14 5	32 4 0	.....	23,431 12 3	25,685 0 2
"Meteor" ...	13,306 11 8	464 9 3	.....	9,647 14 3	8,000 9 6	1,920 4 7	28 14 0	5,609 13 6	30,572 13 8	17,100 8 10
"Comet" ...	8,878 5 8	.....	.....	1,035 11 0	2,154 9 7	1,063 3 9	40 11 1	.....	13,292 9 1	17,721 3 8
"Planet" ...	13,986 10 9	464 9 3	.....	1,439 0 4	1,456 12 11	928 35 10	30 7 10	4,816 7 4	23,133 0 3	24,236 0 1
"Canopus" ...	1,596 0 0	.....	4 0 0	10,404 12 3	1,432 8 11	489 3 6	34 8 1	.....	13,961 0 9	5,120 0 10
"Hesperus" ...	13,493 9 4	464 9 3	.....	3,106 2 8	3,204 7 6	1,604 10 9	32 3 1	.....	21,608 15 6	19,171 8 6
"Luna" ...	11,921 0 4	464 9 3	.....	7,240 13 9	8,587 14 0	1,062 13 9	68 15 8	.....	29,352 2 0	21,517 8 6
"Torch" ...	12,358 9 5	464 9 3	.....	5,571 3 6	6,519 3 7	1,847 4 3	43 14 6	1,216 14 9	28,621 11 3	25,119 9 3
Total ...	90,228 0 7	2,787 7 5	4 0 0	45,231 12 3	33,019 14 7	10,060 6 10	302 3 3	11,637 3 7	1,93,271 0 6	1,55,671 7 10
LIGHT-HOUSES.										
False Point ...	7,216 9 8	.....	.....	824 4 11	1,965 3 9	.....	186 2 7	.....	9,522 4 11	9,996 3 2
Kaukhali ...	1,335 14 4	.....	10 0 0	951 8 10	256 14 0	.....	10 6 1	.....	2,594 11 3	2,281 9 9
Saugor ...	3,666 7 11	.....	.....	931 13 11	1,047 15 4	781 2 2	6 12 1	.....	6,703 3 5	5,607 7 7
Total ...	12,238 15 11	.....	10 0 0	2,497 11 8	3,270 1 1	781 2 2	202 4 0	.....	18,800 3 7	20,285 4 6

NOTE—A net increase of Rs. 37,600 in the cost of up-keep of light-vessels is chiefly due to the repairs executed to the light-vessels Meteor, Canopus, Luna and Star, and the increased expenditure under the head "Cyclone Grant" as compared with the expenditure of the preceding year.

E. W. PETLEY,
Dy. Conservator.

J. H. APJOHN,
Vice-Chairman.

Dated the 22nd July 1897.

Heading—

No. 534 G
342

Presidency Port Office,

Madras, 21st September 1897.

From

The Presidency Port Officer, Madras.

Forwarded to the Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department, with reference
to G. O. Financial, No. 791, dated 11th
October 1896.

[Signature]

Commander R. J. M.
Presidency Port Officer

* 1 Copy of Annual Report of the
Light-houses in the Bengal
Presidency for the year 1896-97.