

Public Works (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 1358 *25*

DATED *25 May 98*

[Despatch Abstract.]

Pier at Calicut, Pros. Marine Dept. declining
to sanction any reduction of dues for the use
of the — at present in favour of the firms whose
members constituted the late Pier and Warehouse
Company, Calicut, Court to S. E. W. Circle.

Dr
mlb
Indexed.

Government {1898} of Madras.
MARINE.

Spare copies

Communicated
to the Sup^r Gen^l 14
Cmde. A. K.
20. 1. 98.

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Pier at Calicut

S. S. IV ² *Circle*
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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From the Liquidators of the Calicut Pier and Warehouse Company (Limited), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Marine Department, dated Calicut, 17th January 1898.

We have the honour to approach you on behalf of the firms whose members constituted the shareholders of the above company regarding the rates which are now being charged them for the use of the pier.

In pursuance of G.O., No. 755, Marine, dated 25th August 1897, the pier was handed over to Government at the beginning of December last, and is now being managed by them. When it was agreed to hand back the pier to Government it was not contemplated by the shareholders that they would be put on any worse footing as regards the rates paid for using the pier than they were on formerly; but, as a matter of fact, they are now being charged considerably more than under the company's management as the following will explain.

The firms represented by the shareholders are the large shipping firms of this port, who are regular users of the pier in all weathers, whilst the native shippers usually shipped from the beach, and only use the pier when the state of the weather renders shipment from the beach impracticable. About two years ago it was felt by the shareholders that these casual shippers should not be placed on the same terms as the regular users of the pier, and it was decided to increase the rates for the use of the pier all round, and to return the difference between the old rates and the new rates on shareholder's own cargo at the end of each season. We enclose, for your information, a schedule of the rates then decided on, with a note of the returns on these rates made to shareholders on their shipments. The Government continues to charge the rates quoted in the schedule, but without giving the return to the regular users of the pier. We have furnished the Port Officer with a copy of the schedule showing the returns made, but he has told us that he cannot move in the matter, and we therefore have the honour to petition Government through you that rates should be reduced to the regular users of the pier, either by the granting of a return as was done in the company's time, or by reverting generally to the old rates charged prior to two years ago, which were the rates shown in the schedule, less the return shown as made to the shareholders. We may mention that this lower range of rates was that in force when Government originally handed over the management of the pier to the company.

ENCLOSURE.

SCHEDULE of Pier Dues collected by the Calicut Pier and Warehouse Company (Limited).

	RS.	A.	P.
Ordinary cargo, such as coffee, pepper, ginger, &c., per ton, Cochin scale	0	4	0
Packages weighing from cwt. 5/9 per ton of 20 cwt.	0	10	0
" " " " 10 and upwards per ton of 20 cwt.	3	0	0
Steam boilers, each	12	0	0
Four-wheeled carriages, each	3	0	0
Two-wheeled " "	1	8	0
Ponies, each	1	8	0
Horses, each	2	0	0
Piano-forte	3	0	0
Dogs, sheep	0	1	0

Return made to shareholders—

1 anna per ton on the	4-anna rate.
2 annas " "	10 " "
1 rupee " "	3-rupee rate.

No. 78 E.

The undersigned is directed to request that the Presidency Port Officer will be so good as to submit a statement showing the annual collections at the Calicut pier under each of the schedule rates during the past two years.

(Signed) W. B. DEWINTON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

5th February 1898.

From Commander H. A. STREET, R.I.M., Presidency Port Officer, to the Secretary to Government, Marine Department, dated Madras, 23rd March 1898, No. 206/115 G.

With reference to Marine Department memo. No. 78 E., dated 5th February 1898, I have the honour to forward herewith a statement showing the annual collections at the Calicut pier under each of the scheduled rates during the years 1895-96 and 1896-97.

ENCLOSURE.

STATEMENT showing the collections of Pier Dues at Calicut during the years 1895-96 and 1896-97.

Year.	Description of goods, &c.	Number or quantity.	Rate.	Per.	Amount.	Total each year.
			RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.	
1895-96	Goods and baggage	11,677-99 tons.	0 4 0	Ton.	2,919 8 0	
	Horses	2	2 0 0	Each.	4 0 0	
	Pianos	2	3 0 0	"	6 0 0	2,929 8 0
1896-97	Goods and baggage	13,003-35 tons.	0 4 0	Ton.	3,250 13 5	
	Ponies	6	1 8 0	Each.	9 0 0	
	Bullocks	6	0 1 0	"	0 6 0	3,260 3 5

ORDER—No. 305, Marine, dated 22nd April 1898.

In their letter read above the firms whose members constituted the late Pier and Warehouse Company, Calicut, request a reduction, in their own favour, of the dues payable for the use of the pier. It is observed that the pier has been handed back to Government by the company in such bad order that it will cost about Rs. 15,000 to put it into repair. Having this in view, His Excellency the Governor in Council is not prepared to sanction any reduction of dues at present.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Presidency Port Officer.
" Messrs. Peiree Leslie & Co.
" the Public Works Department.