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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	1049.	Press
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Dated	13.7.1875	196.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

1049

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
13th July 1875.*

No. 133. From C. J. LYALL, Esq., Under-Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Revenue, Agriculture, and Commerce, (Statistics,) to A. MACGREGOR, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Government of Madras, Revenue Department, dated Simla, 10th June 1875, No. 324.

WITH reference to your letter, No. 928, dated the 24th July last, to the address of the Government of India in the Financial Department, stating that the Laccadive Islands come under the definition of territories vested in Her Majesty within the meaning of the Statute 21 and 22, Victoria Cap. CVI., I am directed to inquire why these Islands have been hitherto treated in regard to Customs as foreign ports, and why they have not been declared British Indian ports. If they are to be treated in future as British Indian ports, I am to request that the Government of India may be informed what precautions, if any, should be taken under the consolidated Customs Act VI. of 1863, to prevent their being used as entrepôts to the injury of the Customs revenue.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Exd. F. R. Bantleman.

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1049

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
OOTACAMUND,
13th July 1875.

No. 134.

No. 1,049.

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE,
AGRICULTURE, AND COMMERCE.

Miscellaneous.

SIR,—With reference to the subject
letter from the Under-Secretary,
10th June, I am directed to inform
the exact relation of the inhabitants of
those Islands have hitherto been treated as

you that it is probably from oversight
the Laccadive Islands to Government that
foreign ports.

2. This view was encouraged by the House of Commons as assisting in the
maintenance of the monopoly of trade which they claimed by keeping evasion of
monopolies under check through the British Custom-house.

NOTE.—Vide Schedule of Act XIII., 1871.
Article XXX., Naval Stores, Coir-rope, Maldiva
and Laccadive, 7½ per cent.

3. This error was further supported
the Schedule of the Customs Act which
sed an Import Duty on Laccadive

4. For many years the whole trade having been a monopoly, specially
exempted from duty even at a time when port to port trade was dutiable, it scarcely
came under notice. More recently, when greater liberty of trade was assumed by the
Islanders, their true legal status was looked into and admitted and duties foregone.

5. The peculiar circumstances of the Islands and their limited products pre-
clude the possibility of their becoming entrepôts for smuggling.

6. They are perfectly under control, and anything of the kind would be instantly
discovered and checked.

I am

the honor to be,

Sir,

your most obedient servant,

(Signed) A. MACGREGOR,

Acting Secretary to Government.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

Agriculture (1875) Department

Government of Port St. George.

Dated 18th July 1875. } No. 1,019.
 Enclosures: } 5 spare copies

M. H. }
 T. A. } No.

Informing why the Laccadive Islands have hitherto been treated as foreign ports; observing that the peculiar circumstances of the Islands and their limited products preclude the probability of their becoming entrepôts for smuggling; and that being properly under control anything of the kind would be instantly discovered and checked.

No. 324

3/1049

FROM

C. J. LYALL, Esquire,

Under-Secretary to the Government of India,
 Department of ~~Revenue~~ Agriculture,
 Revenue and Commerce,

TO

The Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Simla, dated 10th June 1875.

Statistics

SIR,

With reference to your letter No. 923 dated the 24th July last to the address of the Government of India in the Financial Department, stating that the Laccadive Islands come under the definition of Territories vested in Her Majesty within the meaning of the Statute 21 and 22, Victoria, Cap. CVI, I am directed to enquire why these Islands have been hitherto treated, in regard to Customs, as foreign ports, and why they have not been declared British Indian Ports. If they are to be treated in future as British Indian Ports I am to require that

The Government of India may
be informed what precautions,
if any, should be taken
under the consolidated Customs
Act VI of 1863 to prevent their
being used as Entrepôts to
the injury of the Customs
revenue.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

Chas. J. F. L.

Under Secretary to the Govt of India.

5/049
REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 2313

From *Mr. J. J. Davis*

Dated 10 June 1875.

FOR ORDERS.

I should attribute the
circumstances that for long the
Lacandriens were treated as foreign
ports to an oversight as to the exact
relation of the inhabitants to the Govt.
Encouraged by the House of Commerce
in order to protect their monopolies
by keeping illicit trade under check
through the British Custom House;
and also the fact that very little
produce

17th Dec 1873. 254.

Rev: 1875: 24th

No 2313

From

The Secretary & the

Mr. J. J. Davis

Sept 1874.

No 324
10th Dec 1874. 10th July 1875

Dated 10th

Dec 1873 3 June 1875

Enquiring why the Lacandriens

do not have the same treatment, as foreign ports and why they have not
been declared British Colonies; and enquiring
what is done to protect the latter in future
the Govt. may be informed what protection of any
kind is taken under the Act of 1863 to prevent their
being used as such ports in the injury of the Customs Revenue.

h-133

Resigned 15. 12. 5. 1875

C. 26. 1875-1876 28 June 1875

h-133.
Resigned 15. 12. 5 1875
C. 26. 1875-12. 28 1875

produce was dutiable in our Customs
House.

Almost the whole trade
of the Island has been under monopoly
enforced by the Camanoro House. Coir,
their staple, had all to be delivered in
Camanoro. No. 10 was extended
to Coconuts; Coir & 1/2 were royalty
and under the early agreement everything
deliverable in Camanoro on account
of the Camanoro family was free of
duty; thus the produce of the Island
scarcely came under observation, until
greater liberty of trade was assumed
by the Islanders - When their conditions
came under consideration and the
true

by 10/10/75
true legal status of these Indian
Subjects of Her Majesty was admitted
and duties foregone.

The Islands never can become
subspots to the inquiry of Customs
Revenue. Their produce is limited
and well-known and under the
Revenue System all is under control.
Any attempt therefore to make the
islands subspots of smuggling can
be instantly discovered & checked.

D/B M

I don't think the Govt. have ever
knowingly permitted the Islands to be
treated in the matter of Customs as
foreign territory. Did the Malabar
authorities so treat them? This case

L. in most of the
 the coming weeks
 for many of the
 specimens are being

Laccadive
 Islands
 FOR ORDERS.

P.H.

(Circular)

12.36 June/95. 12th July/95.
 C. 26. June/95. 18th June/95.

13 July/95

No 1049

13 July/95 To the Secy. & the

Govt. of India - Secy.
 J. Rev. Agri. Comm.

M. 107

Sir,
 With reference to the
 subject of the letter
 from the Secy. dated
 10th June, I am directed
 to inform you that
 it is probable from
 oversight in the
 exact relation of the
 inhabitants of the
 Laccadive Islands to
 Govt. that they have
 hitherto been treated
 as foreign ports.
 This view is being

by the House of Parliament,
as assisting in the
maintenance of the
monopoly of trade
which they claimed
by keeping ^{import of goods} ~~the~~
under check through

the British Customs Act.
This was further
supported by the passage
of the Customs Act which
imposed an ^{import} duty on
Laccadive from

For many years the
whole trade having been
a monopoly, specially
excepted from duty
even at a time when
port & port trade was

(Note) vide Schedule
of act XIII. 1871 -
art: 30. Naval Stores
Coir. rope. Maldive Island -
1/2 p. c.

8/1049

Articles in consequence
under notice. We
recently when perfect
liberty of trade was
granted by the Islanders,
their true legal status
was looked into & admitted
& duties foregone -

The peculiar circumstances
of the Island, & their
limited ~~other~~ product
preclude the possibility
of their becoming competitors
in anything.

They are perfectly under
control & any thing of
the kind would be
instantly discredited &
checked.

Mr.
Mr.

To J. L. Linn
Capt of the R.

Linn and Linn

Chas

Res. 12th