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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Revenue. DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.
B.P. No.

266

Press
Mis.

Dated 23. 2. 1969

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Read the following papers :—

No. 275. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, dated 9th December 1875 :—

Read again Board's Proceedings, dated 8th October 1875, No. 2,821.

Read also the following letters :—

From J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs, to H. E. STOKES, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 4th November
1875, No. 1,578.

IN reply to Board's Proceedings of the 8th October 1875, Miscellaneous
No. 2,821, I have the honor to state that I cannot find in the records since 1862 any
written authority on which the practice of allowing the P. and O. and M.M. Steamers
to clear without Export Manifest is based. The practice appears to have been in
force for many years, and, I am informed ever since the P. and O. steamers began
running.

2. I beg to submit herewith a draft set of revised Rules for entering and clear-
ing coasting steam-vessels.

—

From Messrs. BINNY and Co., Agents, British India Steam Navigation Company,
to the Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 17th November
1875.

WE have the honor to remind you of our letters of 23rd, 26th, and 31st August,
regarding the clearance of the Mail steamers of the British India Steam Navigation
Company at this port without Manifests, and shall be obliged by your kindly favoring
us with a reply at your early convenience.

—

THE Board observe that the draft of revised Rules for coasting steamers under
Section 156 of the Consolidated Customs Act differs from those embodied in Board's
Standing Order, No. VIII. of 1871, only in the omission of Rules 4 and 6, and by the
modification of Rule 5 by substituting the words "for British India or foreign
ports" in lieu of "for British India ports only." The draft also applies to all
coasting steamers, but the new concession is sought only for Mail steamers.

2. The Board are of opinion that what is wanted can best be effected by the
following addition to Rule 6 :—

"Provided that Rules 4 and 6 shall not apply to coasting steam-vessels carrying Her
Majesty's Mails; but the procedure prescribed in Rule 5 shall be followed in respect of such
vessels for whatever ports bound, and the necessary clearance when the coasting steamer is bound
for a foreign as well as a British port shall be granted on application prior to her departure from
the port."

This procedure leaves the rules as regards other coasting steamers intact, and
further provides for the clearance in case of voyage to a foreign port, as in Rules 4
and 6 of those already in existence.

The sanction of Government will be requested under Section 4, Act VI. of 1863,
to the above modification of the rules now in force.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd February 1876.*

The procedure in respect of P. and O. and M.M. steamers, as well as other outward bound steamers and ships, will be further considered on receipt of the Collector's reply to a separate reference which has been made to him.

(True Copies and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

No. 276. From Captain J. H. TAYLOR, R.N.R., Acting Master Attendant, Madras, (Administrative Department), to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort St. George, dated 29th January 1876, No. 760.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge receipt of your official memorandum, numbered 10, and dated 25th January 1876, requesting my opinion on a modification of the rules for the entry and clearance of coasting steamers in this Presidency, as proposed by the Collector of Sea Customs, and in compliance with your request to offer the following remarks on the subject.

2. I concur with the Collector in recommending that the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers should have the same concession allowed them as the steamers of other Companies, with a view to facilitate and regulate their departure from the various ports on the coast, and to enable them to perform, in its integrity, the Mail contract between the Company and the Government of India. But I would respectfully point out that there are serious objections to the operation of Rule 10, as proposed by the Collector of Sea Customs at Madras.

This rule permits a steamer to enter a port and discharge cargo or passengers at any hour of the night, not excepting Sundays and Holidays. This rule, if enforced by the Company, would be diametrically opposed to the Port Rules in force at nearly all the ports in this Presidency, which fix the hours for discharging cargo not later than 6 P.M. In fact, at certain seasons of the year, it is positively dangerous to both life and property to permit the discharge of cargo or passengers after dark. Besides, the contract with the Company expressly provides for the stay of these vessels at every port of so many hours *day-light*; and as these periods of stay have been fixed after a due consideration of the interests of the general public, the Government and the British India Steam Navigation Company, I am of opinion that the export and import cargo put out or taken in by these vessels should be regulated in quantity by the period of stay at each port, and that, if under emergency, and after special sanction has been obtained from the Customs and Port authorities, cargo is landed after dark, that the discharge should not be permitted after 9 P.M. At Madras, this rule has been sanctioned in connection with the pier, and landing cargo after dark or on Sundays is only permitted when specially sanctioned by this office. I would therefore suggest, for your consideration, that the wording of Rule 10 above referred be altered as follows:—

“Goods and passengers arriving by any coasting steam-vessel may be landed under the above rules at any hour of the day 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. (and at night up to 9 P.M., upon obtaining the special sanction of the Customs and Port authorities to work after dark) not *excepting* Sundays and Holidays, subject, however, to the regulated fee being paid to the subordinates of the customs Department, in accordance with the prescribed rules, in consideration of extra labor entailed by working overtime or on Sundays and Holidays, &c.”

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Revenue Department,
23rd February 1876.*

No. 277.

ORDER THEREON, 23rd February 1876, No. 266.

Separate Revenue, No. 27.

Customs.

His Grace the Governor in Council approves and sanctions the addition to Rule 6 of the Rules for the issue, &c., of general passes for coasting steam-vessels as proposed in paragraph 2 of the Board's Proceedings. The new Rule 6 should be published in two or three issues of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, and copies should be furnished to the Chamber of Commerce, Trade Association, Steam-ship Companies, and the principal firms.

2. The Master Attendant's proposals to alter Rule 10 will be referred to the Board of Revenue for report.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
„ the Master Attendant.

Ed. F. R. Bantleman.

266/3

No. 2,821.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE, dated 8th October 1875.

Read the following letter from J. HUNTER-BLAIR, Esq., Collector of Sea Customs, to H. E. STOKES, Esq., Acting Secretary to the Board of Revenue, dated Madras, 23rd September 1875, No. 1,346:—

In reply to the Board's endorsement on petition No. 2,074 of 1875, I have the honor to state that Messrs. Binny and Co., who wrote to the Acting Collector, Mr. Leman, on the same subject on the 21st August 1875, having informed him that [they have also addressed the Board of Revenue, Mr. Leman delayed the disposal of Messrs. Binny and Co.'s request till he was called on by the Board to report on their petition.

2. It is true that Peninsular and Oriental and French Mail Steamers are allowed to clear before putting in an export manifest, which is done by agents afterwards and a copy sent to the port of destination by post. This practice entails no inconvenience to parties, while it avoids the unnecessary detention of steamers in the roads. For the purposes of checking the accounts, it is immaterial whether an export manifest is received before or after the departure of a steamer so long as agents take all responsibility by putting in a guarantee letter.

3. Lately, on a representation from Messrs. Gordon, Woodroffe, and Co., I have allowed all canal steamers to clear *immediately after* the export manifests are received by the Custom-house instead of *after they are checked*, &c.

4. Under the circumstances, I see no objection to conceding to the steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company which carry mails the same indulgence as that granted to the steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental Company and Messageries Maritimes Company, but in that case the present coasting rules would require alteration.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Petition.

THE Board do not object to the proposed concession, and request the Collector to submit a draft showing the alterations needed in the coasting rules. The authority on which the practice in the case of Peninsular and Oriental and Messageries Maritimes Mail Steamers is based should be quoted.

(A true Copy and Extract.)

(Signed) H. E. STOKES,
Acting Secretary.

To the Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, with petition.

Ed. J. W. Fischer.

Govt. of 1876: Madras.

REVENUE.

THE BOARD OF REVENUE,

Co., &c., &c.

Dated February, 23rd.

Recd.

End.

G.O., 23rd February 1876, No. 266.

FEBRUARY.

Nos. 275—277.

Rules for Coasting Steamers.—Approving and sanctioning the addition to Rule 6 of the —, and referring to the Board of Revenue, for report, the Master Attendant's proposals to alter Rule 10.

Revenue Department 266/4

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue

Dated 9th December 1875.

Read again Board's Proceedings of 8 October 1875, No. 2821

Also Read the following No. 1548

From J. Hunter Blair Esquire
Collector, Sea Customs, Madras.

To W. C. Stokes Esquire
Ag Secretary to the Board of Revenue

Sir,
In reply to Board's Proceedings of the 8 October 1875, No. 2821, I have the honor to state that I cannot find in the records since 1862 any written authority on which the practice of allowing the P. & O. and M. M. Steamers to clear without Export Manifest is based. The practice appears to have been in force, for many years, and I am informed ever since the P. & O. Steamers began running.

2. I beg to submit herewith a Draft set of Revised Rules for entering and clearing coasting Steam Vessels. I have the honor to be, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
J. Hunter Blair
Collector, Sea Customs
Madras. 4 November 1875

1875.

Board of Revenue,

MADRAS.

PROCEEDINGS, 8TH OCTOBER 1875, No. 2,821.

Encl.

Recd 4/53/75

Received

10/431/76

OCTOBER R.

No. 2,821.

British India Steam Navigation Company.
— Approving proposal to allow the steamers of — to clear before putting in an export manifest, and requesting Collector of Sea Customs, Madras, to submit a draft showing the alterations needed in coasting rules.

CC 23/2/76 No 266

To

The Secretary of the Board of Revenue
Madras.

Sir,

We have the honor to remind you of
our letters of 23rd, 26th, & 31st August regarding the
clearance of the Mail Steamers of the
B. I. S. N. Co. at this port, without manifests,
and shall be obliged by your kindly favoring
us with a reply at your early convenience.

B. I. S. N. Co. } We have &
Madras. 17th Nov. 1875 } Signed / Binny & Co
Agents.

The Board observe that the draft of
revised rules for coasting steamers under Section
156 of the consolidated Customs Act, differs
from those embodied in Board's Standing
Order, VIII of 1871, only in the omission of rules
4 and 6, and by the modification of rule 5
by substituting the words "for British India
or Foreign ports" in lieu of "for British India
ports"

260/5
ports only" The draft also applies to all
coasting steamers, but the new conception is
sought only for mail steamers.

2. The Board are of opinion that what
is wanted can best be effected by the follow-
ing addition to rule 6.

"Provided that rules 4 and 6 shall
not apply to coasting steam vessels carrying
Her Majesty's mails; but the procedure
prescribed in rule 5 shall be followed in
respect of such vessels for whatever ports
bound, and the necessary clearance when
the coasting steamer is bound for a foreign
as well as a British port shall be
granted on application prior to her
departure from the port."

This procedure leaves the rules as
regards other coasting steamers intact,
and further provides for the clearance in case

of voyage to a foreign port, as in rules 4 & 6
of those already in existence.

The sanction of Government will be
requested under Section 4, Act VI of 1863
to the above modification of the rules now in
force.

The procedure in respect of R. & C. and
M. M. Steamers as well as other outward
bound steamers and ships will be further con-
sidered on receipt of the collector's reply to a
separate reference which has been made
to him.

True Copies & Extracts

Attest

By Secretary

To

The Secretary to Government

Revenue Department with
draft rules & Petition to be returned,
and copy of Board's Proceedings dated
8 October 1875, No 2821.

E. M. M. M.

266/7

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

No. 10

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM.

With reference to
the Pros. of the B. d.
of Rev. d. 9th Dec/75,
herewith forwarded,
with their enclosures
Capt. J. H. Taylor is
requested to favor the
undersigned with an
expression of his opinion
on the proposed modi-
fication of the rules
for the entry and clear-
ance of Coasting Steamers
25 Jan. 1876

To the Master Attendant and
Registrar of Shipping at Madras and the same on 25

+ Loh returned

Revenue 1875/76

No. 4753

Proceedings of the

Board of Revenue

Dated 9th December 1875

Ref. to B. d. 9th Dec/75

Rules for Coasting Steamers

Requesting some form of modification

to certain modifications

of the provisions in respect of

P. O. & M. M. Steamers as

well as other outward bound

steamers & vessels with the

further considered on receipt

of copy from the B. d. of Rev.

Revenue for a separate

reference in the B. d. of Rev.

9
431/76

12275

C 12 70576 14 15 74/15

Administrative Department.

N^o 760.

26/a

From

The Acting Master Attendant
Administrative Department
Madras

To

The Secretary to Government
Revenue Department
Fort Saint George

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your official Memorandum numbered 10, and dated 25th January 1876, requesting my opinion on a modification of the Rules for the entry and clearance of coasting steamers in this Presidency, as proposed by the Collector of Sea Customs, and in compliance with your request to offer the following remarks on the subject.

I concur with the Collector in recommending that the P. S. S. N. Co's Steamers should have the same concession allowed them as the steamers of other companies, with a view to facilitate

One

Modification of
the rules relating
to Coasting Steamers.

Yrs

Copy from Collection of 1876
Revenue to be prepared
reference in 1876 to 1877

C12 30558 1876 1877 1878

would therefore suggest for your
consideration that the working of Rule
10 above referred be altered as follows.

"Goods and passengers arriving
by any Coasting Steam Vessel may be
landed under the above Rules at any
hour of the day 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. (and
at night up to 9 P.M. upon obtaining
the special sanction of the Customs
and Port authorities to work after
dark), not excepting Sundays and
holidays, subject, however, to the
regulation fee being paid to the
subordinates of the Customs Department
in accordance with the prescribed rules
in consideration of extra labour entailed
by working overtime or on Sundays
and holidays &c."

Madras
Marine Office
29th January 1876

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servant
J. H. Taylor.
Acting Master Attendant
Administrative Department

AP

would therefore suggest for your
consideration that the working of Rule

CN-4753/76.

Rev: 1876 Depart^{ts}

N^o 431

From

The Ag. Master Attendant
Administrative Department

To

The Secretary to Govt
Revenue Department

Fort St. George

Dated 29th January 1876

Recd. 1st Feb.

CCD. 266-23 February 1876
No. 760

Encls: 11

Concurs with the Col^l of
of Sea Customs that the
B. S. S. N. Co's Steamers
should have the same
concessions allowed them
as the Steamers of the
other Companies and
suggests an alteration in
the rules with regard to the
discharge of cargo or passen-
gers during the night.

N^o 276

C 12 76/76 N^o 15 76/76.

N^o 266

76/76

Read Board's No: 2/9 Dec 2/75
no 4753.

Read also letter from the
actg master attendant
administration Department
of 29th January 1876 no 760.

His Grace the Governor
in Council approves & sanc-
tions the addition to rule
6 of the rules for the regu-
lation of general passes for
coasting steam vessels
as proposed in para 2 of the
Board's Proceedings - The new
rule 6 shall be published in
2 or 3 issues of the Fort St. George
Gazette & copies shall be fur-
nished to the Chamber of
Commerce, Trade associa-
tion, Steam ship companies
& the principal firms.

The master Attendants'
proposals to alter rule 10 shall
be referred to the B^d of Ports

Md
12/2

ME

for report.

↓

23 February 1876

114 To the Board of Res. Dec. 24 Feb
115 The Master Attendant 5

Alteration in
rules for coasting
steamers.

Copied
Dec