0/9 3,000—17-12-98.

Revenue (1899) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 1885

DATED 29th May 99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording Proc^s, Marine Depart^t addressing the Govt. of India regarding the provision of a Steamer for Provincial and Local services in the Madras Presidency.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Cur	1669/99						

W/ 11-5-99

G.O. 450 of 31.1-99

Revenue Depts

Government (1899) of Madras.

MARINE.

Current No 3111

9/5

Recd. 11th May } 1899. Enclosures 1.

Regd. —do.— Spare copies

G.O., No. 374, 28th April 1899.

Order nisi No 1885 d/24 '99

Recorded

APRIL.

11/5/99
23/5/99

MS 11-5-99
RS 19-5-99

Steamer

Ordered that the Government of India be addressed regarding the provision of a — for Provincial and Local services in the Madras Presidency.

1A 2 Ans

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Order—No. 374, Marine, dated 28th April 1899.

Ordered that the following letter be addressed to the Government of India.

[Here enter No. 375, Marine, dated 28th April 1899.]

(True Extract.)

A. L. Russell
Under Secy. to Government.

MADRAS GOVT. REV. DEPT.

To

The Revenue Department
" Financial Department
" Political Department

} with copy of letter No. 375 Marine dated 28th April 1899

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

Spare copies sent to Madras Office

Government {1899} of Madras.

MARINE.

Recd. } 1899. Enclosures
Regd. } Spare copies

Letter, No. 375, 28th April 1899.

APRIL.

Steamer

Stating that there is a very pressing need for a — for Provincial and Local services in the Madras Presidency, and requesting that the provision of a vessel may be sanctioned.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

Letter—from

Colonel A. W. SMART, R.E.,
Ag. Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Marine Department,

To

The SECRETARY to the GOVERNMENT of INDIA,
Marine Department.

Sir,

I am directed to invite attention to the précis of correspondence on the subject of providing a steamer for Provincial and Local services in this Presidency forwarded to you with the Chief Secretary's letter, No. 2, Marine, dated 1st January 1886. It will be seen from this correspondence that a steamer is required by the Madras Government for the following purposes:—

(i) Inspection of outports by the Marine and Public Works Departments.
(ii) Annual inspections of the Laccadives by the Revenue officers.
(iii) Tour inspections of His Excellency the Governor.
(iv) The conveyance of treasure, stores and military details, when the steamer is not required for the above purposes.

2. In your letter No. 412, Marine, dated 23rd March 1887, the Government of India permitted this Government to make its own arrangements for procuring a vessel of the description required; but when an indent was sent home, the Secretary of State pointed out to the Government of India in his despatch No. 340, Military, dated 22nd December 1887, that one of the chief objects with which the Indian Marine was formed was to consolidate under one head and under the Government of India the numerous vessels of all classes which were till then owned and worked by the Local Governments under no regular system. His Lordship, however, in paragraph 7 of his despatch remarked that regard should be had to the wants of the Madras Government which render it desirable that the Governor and other high officials should have facilities for visiting the districts situated on the long line of coast of this Presidency, and that if these requirements could not be met otherwise, information should be afforded as to the size and description of the vessel required. No action was then taken as the Madras Government had meanwhile resolved to postpone the acquisition of a steamer.

3. Since that time the want of a Government steamer has been repeatedly and severely felt. The cost of hiring a steamer from a private company is excessive, and that of obtaining one from the Royal Indian Marine prohibitive, as was disclosed in 1893 when it was proposed to obtain one from this source. In 1897 the Madras Government inquired whether the Government of India could place a steamer at the disposal of this Government during January and February of each year for lighthouse inspection, and was told in reply that it was not possible to do so. There has, moreover, been considerable difficulty in obtaining the use, even for short periods, of a Government vessel for the periodical inspection of the Laccadive Islands—a

Letter No. 996, Marine, dated 8th November 1897.

most necessary measure of administration. Considerable difficulty is also experienced by His Excellency the Governor in making visits to the Travancore and Cochin territories and the districts of South Canara and North Malabar which have not yet been connected with the railway systems.

4. It will thus be seen that there is a very pressing need for a steamer for the exclusive use of this Government. I am accordingly to request that the Government of India may be moved to sanction the provision of a vessel. His Excellency the Governor in Council is prepared to accede to such conditions as may be considered necessary to ensure due control by the Royal Indian Marine—a point upon which the Home Government has laid stress.

5. I am to add that suggestions will, in due course, be made as to the type of vessel best suited to the requirements of this Government.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) A. W. SMART, Colonel, R.E.,
Ag. Secy. to Government.

Ootacamund,
28th April 1899.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

*When given for copying*_____
*When copied*_____ } 189
*When examined*_____
When signed _____

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189 . , DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	
LETTER OF GOVERNMENT								
STATEMENT WITH DITTO.								
PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.								

N.B.—
A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.

845
REVENUE DEPT.