

(Rules for Regulating the Navigation and Traffic in the Upper Defile of the River Irrawaddy.)

No. 19

The 28th February 1908.

No.19. - In exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of the Burma Defile Traffic Act, 1907 (VIII of 1907), the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to make the following rules for regulating the Navigation and Traffic in the Defile of the River Irrawaddy between Sinbo and Bhamo:-

Rules for Regulating the Navigation and Traffic in the Upper Defile of the River Irrawaddy.

1. No steam-vessel shall enter the defile from Bhamo when the gauge-reading at that place is 15 feet, unless the level of the river is then known to be falling, and no steam-vessel shall enter the defile from Bhamo in any case when the gauge-reading at that place is higher than 15 feet.
2. No steam-vessel shall enter the defile from Sinbo when the gauge-reading at that place is 25 feet, unless the level of the river is then known to be falling, and no steam-vessel shall enter the defile from Sinbo in any case when the gauge-reading at that place is higher than 25 feet.
3. In order to facilitate the passage of rafts, the Deputy Commissioner, Myitkyina, may at any time prohibit steam-vessels from entering the defile for such period as may be necessary, having regard to the number of rafts waiting at Sinbo:

Provided that, except with the sanction of the Local Government, the period during which the prohibition of steam-vessels may be enforced shall not exceed seven days at a time.

4. Except with the special permission of the Deputy Commissioner, Myitkyina, not less than five rafts shall be despatched at any one time from Sinbo.
5. Except with the express sanction in writing of the Deputy Commissioner, Myitkyina, no steam-vessel shall leave Sinbo downwards at any hour later than 10 A. M.
6. Except with the express sanction in writing of the Deputy Commissioner, Bhamo, no steam-vessel shall leave Thamangyi upwards earlier than 12-30 P. M., or later than 2-30 P. M.
7. No steam-vessel shall stop at any place between Thamangyi and the place known as the Pashaw Gate except with the permission in writing of the Deputy Commissioner, Myitkyina, or of the Deputy Commissioner, Bhamo.

8. Either the Deputy Commissioner of Myitkyina or the Deputy Commissioner of Bhamo may at any time issue a notice stating the intention to despatch a steam-vessel through the defile and requiring that all rafts and timber be cleared from and removed outside the limits of the defile within one week from the date of such notice; and the owners and persons in charge of such timber and rafts shall clear and remove the same outside the limits of the defile within one week from the date of such notice.
9. If a steam-vessel proceeding upwards be detained through an accident and be compelled to anchor for the night within the defile, such steam-vessel shall not proceed upwards on the following day until a sufficient time has elapsed for all downward steam-vessels to pass, on the supposition that the latest downward steam-vessel will have left Sinbo at 10 A. M.
10. If a steam-vessel proceeding downwards be detained through an accident, or be compelled to anchor for such a time as to render her likely to meet steam-vessels starting upwards from Thamangyi between the hours laid down in Rule 6, such steam-vessel shall anchor for the rest of the day and night, and she may weigh anchor and proceed on her voyage downwards on her subsequent day at an hour earlier than 10 A.M., but such vessel shall not commence the continuation of such voyage downwards at any later hour of the day.
11. No steam-vessel which is proceeding downwards shall, after turning in the defile, commence a return voyage upwards except at such an hour as an upwards bound steam-vessel delayed in the defile would be permitted to continue a voyage under Rule 9; and no steam-vessel proceeding upwards in the defile shall turn round and proceed downwards on the same day, though she may do so on a subsequent day at any hour at which a downwards bound steam-vessel would be permitted to proceed under Rule 10.
12. If owing to mishap or any other cause any raft should not be able to arrive at Thamangyi within the minimum time prescribed for if in the pass which is issued under Rule 14, the said raft shall be moored in such a place and manner as not to obstruct navigation. The raft will continue so moored until the day and hour come round for the next passage of timber through the defile, and the raft shall then proceed in accordance with the time then fixed.
13. No raft or timber shall enter the defile, that is, proceed beyond Sinbo, except under a pass granted by the Deputy Commissioner, Myitkyina, or by such person as he may authorise in this behalf. Every such pass shall prescribe the days on which and the hours between which the raft or rafts covered by the pass may be moved through the defile and the minimum time to be occupied in transit from Sinbo to Thamangyi.

14. All rafts before entering the defile shall be stopped at Sinbo or as near to Sinbo as may be practicable having regard to the state of the river. The person in charge of any such raft shall report arrival to the person at Sinbo who has been authorised by the Deputy Commissioner, Myitkyina, to issue passes under Rule 14.

15. On the arrival of a raft at Bhamo, the pass issued for the raft under Rule 14 shall be delivered to the Forest Officer in charge of the Bhamo revenue-station.

16. Any Magistrate, or a Police Officer of not lower rank than a Head-constable, or the village headman, may detain any raft between Sinbo and Bhamo and call for the pass prescribed by Rule 14, and, if any breach of the above rules appears to have been committed in respect of the raft, may detain it pending the orders of the Deputy Commissioner, Myitkyina, or of the Deputy Commissioner, Bhamo.

17. Any Magistrate or any Police Officer of not lower rank than Inspector of Police may detain any steam-vessel in respect of which a breach of rules appears to have been committed or appears to be contemplated, and shall at once report the fact to the Deputy Commissioner, Bhamo, or the Deputy Commissioner, Myitkyina.

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