

Government (1897) of Madras.
PUBLIC.

Post DEPARTMENT
OFFICE.
ROUTINE SERIES
No. *356*
Date *31. 12. 1897*

Order No. 350 of 23-3-98

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Enclosures

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G.O., No. 1644, 14th December 1897.

20/1/98

DECEMBER.

Delegation of Powers.

Informing the Surgeon-General that he should grant the copies of the documents applied for by Civil Apothecary Michael in his petition of the 19th February last; cancelling G.O., No. 788, Public, dated 23rd October 1894, regarding the — to the Surgeon-General and the officers subordinate to him; and issuing revised orders on the subject.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 788, Public, dated 23rd October 1894.

ABSTRACT.—Delegating to the Surgeon-General certain powers reserved to Government and delegating to subordinate officers certain powers reserved to the Surgeon-General.

READ—also the following papers:—

From Civil Apothecary S. MICHAEL, under suspension, dated Madras, 23rd April 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Submitting memorial against the manner in which the Surgeon-General disposed of his application for copies of papers connected with his suspension.

Extract paragraph 4 of a letter from the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, dated 10th May 1897, No. Tour-2—13.

4. With reference to G.O., No. 788, Public, dated 23rd October 1894, I request instructions for future guidance as to whether appeals to Government against punishments inflicted by me on medical subordinates and not appealable under the Government Order should be received and forwarded by me to Government or whether they could be disposed of by me departmentally.

From Surgeon-Major-General C. SIBTHORPE, C.B., F.R.C.P.I., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 10th August 1897, No. 283.

With reference to your memorandum, No. 1630, Public, dated 3rd August 1897, I have the honour to state that the circumstances and reasons under which it is considered desirable to invest the Surgeon-General with full powers to fine and suspend civil apothecaries and hospital assistants are fully set out in letter, No. 255, dated 21st March 1894, recorded in G.O., No. 653, Public, dated 6th September 1894, and nothing has transpired since the promulgation of G.O., No. 788, Public, dated 23rd October 1894, to show that such investment of authority was in any way inadvisable. On the contrary, the system has worked very satisfactorily and proved conducive to a better administration of the department. It is, moreover, in harmony with the policy of the Government of India which is in favour of extending the powers of the head of the Civil Medical department—*vide* G.O., No. 487, Public, dated 15th June 1895.

2. It is necessary to mention here that the enjoyment of such powers by the Surgeon-General, though to a limited extent, is of an old origin. It will be seen from G.O., No. 668, Public, dated 17th May 1881, that he was permitted to impose a fine of Rs. 10 on medical subordinates and to suspend them to the extent of three months without reference to Government, so that the Government Order of 23rd October 1894 did not confer any new powers on the Surgeon-General but only extended their magnitude.

3. Considering the large number of apothecaries and hospital assistants employed in the Civil Medical department, it appears to me most desirable, in the interests of discipline and efficient administration, that the present system should be allowed to continue. The withdrawal of powers now enjoyed by the Surgeon-General will not only lead to an erroneous impression that they were abused, but result in Government being troubled with numerous appeal petitions from time to time—a contingency which, in the interests of other and more important work, ought to be avoided.

4. In the face of these explanations should the Government be still of opinion that some modification of the Order of 23rd October 1894, No. 788, Public, is necessary, I would suggest that the old system, referred to in G.O., No. 668, Public, dated 17th May 1881, may be reverted to as regards civil apothecaries and that the present order may be allowed to hold good in respect of hospital assistants who occupy a much lower relative position than Tahsildars and Inspectors of Police—*i.e.*, in the case of civil apothecaries only punishments beyond a fine of Rs. 10 or suspension for three months may be held to be appealable, and in regard to hospital assistants the order of dismissal alone may be subjected to an appeal.

ORDER—No. 1644, Public, dated 14th December 1897.

With reference to his letter, No. Tour-2—13, dated 10th May 1897, the Surgeon-General will be informed that he should grant the copies of the documents applied for by Civil Apothecary Michael in his petition, dated 19th February 1897.

2. G.O., No. 788, Public, dated 23rd October 1894, is hereby cancelled, and His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to direct, in supersession of all previous orders, as follows:—

I. Powers reserved by Government to be relegated to the Head of the Medical Department.—(a) The annual submission of rolls of Hospital Assistants and Apothecaries, who newly pass out from the Medical College for publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, may be discontinued. These subordinates are not gazetted officers and their entertainment in the department may be sanctioned by the head of the department.

(b) The Surgeon-General is empowered to write off deficiencies in hospitals to the extent of Rs. 100.

(c) The Surgeon-General is authorized to fine Civil Apothecaries up to Rs. 10 (ten) and Hospital Assistants up to Rs. 5 (five) and to suspend officers of both the Civil Apothecary and Hospital Assistant class up to a maximum of one month without the right of appeal to Government.

(d) All heavier punishments will be subject to an appeal to Government.

II. Powers reserved by the Head of the Department to be relegated to Subordinate Officers.—(a) They may be empowered to write off deficiencies in hospitals to the extent of Rs. 5 (five) after due and searching enquiry.

(b) Subject to the right of appeal to the Surgeon-General, Commissioned Medical Officers are authorized to fine Hospital Assistants up to a maximum of Rs. 5 (five).

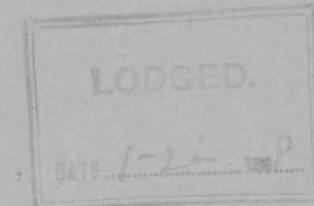
(True Extract.)

Handwritten signature

For Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General.
" Accountant-General.
" Financial Department. ✓

Government {1897} of Madras.
PUBLIC.



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A. 10/1/98
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Recd.

Regd.

January the 7th 1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

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The Surgeon-General may be empowered to write off deficiencies in hospitals to the extent of Rs. 100 instead of Rs. 20 as at present allowed. In the Military Department the Surgeon-General is authorized to write off store deficiencies to the extent of Rs. 500.

Subject to the right of appeal to the Surgeon-General, commissioned medical officers are authorised to fine hospital assistants up to a maximum of Rs. 5 (five).

The Surgeon-General is authorized to fine civil apothecaries up to Rs. 10 (ten) and hospital assistants up to Rs. 5 (five) and to suspend officers of both the civil apothecary and the hospital assistant class up to a maximum of one month without the right of appeal to Government.

All heavier punishments will be subject to an appeal to Government.

II. Powers reserved by the Head of the Department to be relegated to Subordinate Officers.—They may be empowered to write off deficiencies in hospitals to the extent of Rs. 5 after due and searching enquiry.

(True Extract.)

MR Coarue

for Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General.
" Accountant-General.
" Financial Department. ✓

Encl. A. Raitt.