

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	230	Press Mis.
¹⁰⁹⁻¹¹⁰ Dated	8-2-	19 1865

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 109. Read the following letter from the Honorable R. S. ELLIS, c. b., President, Sanitary Commission; to the Honorable A. J. ARBUTHNOT, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Madras, 15th November 1864, No. 394.

The Sanitary Commission observe that under the Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department, 5th October 1864, it has been resolved to adopt the recommendation of the Calcutta Jail Committee, which sat at the commencement of this year, by the appointment of Superintendents of Jails on salaries of 80, 150, and 800 Rupees per mensem.

2. The Governor in Council has also resolved that Medical Officers, who will ordinarily be the Zillah Surgeons, are eligible for such charges.

3. With the concurrence of my colleagues in the Commission I avail myself of the opportunity of this change in the management of the Jails throughout the Presidency to suggest, that the officers who receive salaries for the superintendence of Jails should also be constituted the Health Officers of the towns and stations at which these Jails are situated.

4. In a Memorandum on the constitution of a Public Health service for the Madras Presidency, drawn up with the concurrence of my colleagues and recently submitted to Government, I proposed—vide paragraph 11—that to certain Civil stations and towns there should be appointed stationary local Health Officers who should be the Executive Officers at the disposal of the District Magistracy in all that concerned the public health and conservancy of such stations and towns. I proposed that these appointments should be held by Medical Officers at such places, and that they should receive an allowance varying from 75 to 50 Rupees per mensem according to the importance of their sanitary charge. It appears to this Commission that now that a liberal scale of remuneration has been accorded to officers in charge of Jails, who will often be Medical Officers, the duties of Public Health Officers may fairly be added to that of superintending the Jails, without any additional charge to the State.

The duties to be performed by them as Public Health Officers will be identical with those required of Public Health Officers in Military Cantonments, as detailed in the rules prepared under Act XXII of 1864.

Wherever there may be a Municipal Committee in a town or station, the officer in charge of the Jail, and in charge of the duties of a Public Health Officer, will ex-officio be the Secretary to such Municipality.

5. I have supposed that the officer placed in charge of a Jail will ordinarily be a Medical Officer, but should this not be the case, the duties required of a Public Health Officer are clear, do not require medical training, and can be performed by any energetic Civil officer, *unconnected* or *unconnected*, who might be selected for the charge of a Jail.

6. The arrangement suggested above, if approved, will reduce the cost of the proposed Public Health service by (probably) 22,800 Rupees per annum; leaving the total cost on this account at some Rupees 62,000 per annum.

7. In the recent "Suggestions in regard to Sanitary works required for improving Indian stations," prepared under the directions of the Secretary of State for India, dated 8th December 1863, and 20th May 1864, it is drawn to "the very important recommendation in the Report of the Royal Commission of appointing officers of health for Civil purposes to act for towns and districts, in the same way as Military Sanitary officers are to act for Military stations."

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,

8th February 1865.

This Commission had not these later papers before them when the Public Health scheme was submitted to the Madras Government, but they trust that the opinion thus expressed by the highest authorities on Sanitary subjects in England will recommend the proposal of this Commission to the favorable consideration of the Madras Government, the more so that now, as has been shown above, the public service can, without impairing its practical working, be greatly reduced in cost, by the employment of officers in charge of Jails as Public Health Officers.

8. It has been suggested by the Bengal Sanitary Commission that in Military Cantonments at which, in the Public Health scheme before the Madras Government, it was proposed to have Public Health Officers on allowances varying from 100 to 150 Rupees per mensem. The duties assigned to these officers might be performed by the principal Medical Officers, who would generally be the Deputy Inspectors General of Hospitals, without assigning any extra allowance to these officers for this duty.

The objection to this arrangement, namely, the age and position of these officers, which are incompatible with the performances of the active and continuous executive duties required of a Public Health Officer in charge of the conservancy of a large Cantonment, which includes also a large Native city, have been fully laid before Government in the report of this Commission, dated this day, and submitted through the Military Department.

9. Should the Government of Madras not agree in the validity of the objections raised by this Commission to this portion of the proposals of the Bengal Sanitary Commission, and consider that the principal Medical Officer in a Military Cantonment should be the Public Health Officer of such Cantonment, the Public Health scheme now before the Government would be reduced still further by Rupees 3600 annually, leaving the charge of a Public Health service for the whole of the Madras Presidency at about 58,500 Rupees, a sum which cannot be regarded as extravagant when the great extent of the Presidency and the important objects to be secured are remembered.

No. 110. ORDER THEREON, 8th February 1865, No. 230.

The proposals of the President of the Sanitary Commission for the appointment of Health Officers being under consideration in the Military Department, the suggestions made in the foregoing letter must lie over for the present.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the President, Sanitary Commission.

„ Military Department.

Ed. J. Tulloch.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS

MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

*Read the following
letter from the President of the
Sanitary Commission*

Here enter 15th November 1864 N° 394

Order thereon 8th February 1865 N° 230

*The proposals of the
President of the Sanitary Com-
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JP
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*To the President Sanitary
Commission } dec 11/2
„ Military Department }*

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No. 230

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