[L. & M. 9,000-8-3-96.]

Local & Munl. (1895.) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 95 L.

DATED 18th January 1895.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Vital Statistics.

Recording, with remark, letter from the Collector of Malabar reporting on the measures to be adopted in view to improve the registration of ----- in the district.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Miscellaneous.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPT.
G.O., DATED 18-1-95
No. 95K

X

When given for copying.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Vital Statistics

Recording with remark letter from the Collector of Malabar reporting on the measures to be adopted to improve the registration of ——— in the District.

BACK PAPER, No. of 189 .

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
189 , No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

FURTHER PAPER, No. of 189 .

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

N.B.—
A — Copy in full.
B — Not to be copied.
P — Copy abstract only.
Q — Copy heading only.

Copied by 18/5/95
Examined by

C

Calicut Division Deputy Collector's
Office, Calicut 15th September 1894

To,

H. Moberly Esquire
Ag Collector of Malabar.

Sir,

With reference to your Foot note Reference on 2822/P.94, dated 19th July 1894, to GO Nos. 1210 and 1211 L. dated 2nd idem, requesting me to report what measures should be adopted for the improvement of the registration of vital statistics I have the honour to report as follows

2. A statement has been prepared by me shewing the monthwise births and deaths in 1893 in each Amsam of this Taluk so as to arrive at the percentage of births and deaths per mille in each Amsam. I find therefrom that births vary from 34 per mille in Valayanad Amsam to 6 per mille in Annasseri Amsam with an average of 20 for the 38 Amsams beyond the Municipal limits. Similarly the deaths range from 30 in Valayanad Amsam to 9 in Kothuli and Panniked Amsams with an average of 15·5 for the 38 Amsams.

3. This shews beyond

doubt that registration of vital statistics is defective in several Amsams. Valayanad Amsam for instance shews the highest births and deaths and registration of vital statistics may be presumed to be carried on satisfactorily in that Amsam.

4. The Residency average of births and deaths for rural villages for 1893 is 26·5 and 18·5 respectively. This itself is low, as, if all births and deaths are accurately registered, there could be no difficulty in shewing 40 births and 27 deaths per mille. I have prepared a statement shewing the number of births and deaths that should be returned in each Amsam in the Taluk during a year taking 28 per mille as the average of births and 20 per mille as the average of deaths. I have not taken a higher rate as the present state of registration is backward and I do not wish to raise the minimum all at once. This divided by 12 may be reckoned as the monthly figure which may fairly be expected. If, in any month or series of months, the number of births and deaths falls below this figure in any Amsam, it may be presumed that registration is defective in that Amsam and careful enquiry will have to be made.

5. I shall explain my proposal more fully by taking a Concrete case. The population of Beypore Amsam as per Census of 1891 is 7231. The number of births and deaths per annum at 28 and 20 per mille is 203 and 145 respectively and I expect the Village officials to return 17 births and 12 deaths per mensem. A reference to the posting register for each Amsam prepared by me shews that no births were returned in Beypore Amsam in March 1893 + 12 cases were returned in January and February 1893 together. Similarly for deaths. This shews that registration is very defective: If the monthly average as worked by me, is given to the

Amsam

officials, and if the statistics recorded fall below this average, the inspecting Officers should make independent enquiries, and find out whether all births and deaths are recorded.

6. I am aware, on a careful Comparison of the vital Statistics published in the Fort Saint George Gazettes that the number of births and deaths varies in different months of the year and that in some months there is a larger number of births and in some months a larger number of deaths than in others. This is due to climate and other causes and it is unnecessary for me to go into these details. It will be a very difficult task to work out the exact figure for each month based on these natural causes. All that I propose is that if in any month or series of months, very low figures are returned, enquiries may be made and the work of the Anesam officials carefully Supervised.

7. It may be urged against this proposal that village officials will cook up figures to show the prescribed minimum. This is possible, but if Revenue Inspectors and Tahsildar exercise close supervision and make careful enquiries, the erring Anesam officials could be detected. A Comparison of the figures of Chingleput Taluk for 1893 shows 39·73 per mille births and 33·32 per mille deaths. The average that I have taken for Cuddalore Taluk is only 28 and 20. As already stated I have adopted these low figures, as registration of vital statistics is indifferently done now in this Taluk, and as I do not wish to raise the minimum abruptly.

8. I cannot think of any other measure for the improvement of the registration of vital statistics

9. I must however bring to your notice that there are some real difficulties to contend against in this direction in this District. The unwieldy nature of the Anesams extending over some miles, the inadequacy of the village staff, the situation of houses in paramboke here and there and not in streets, the habits of the people, — Nayars Thiers, Nambudris — burning or burying the dead bodies often in private paramboke and not in a common burial ground, and the want of sympathy between the

village officials and Cherumas and hillmen who are treated in these Coasts worse than Slaves, are some of the difficulties in the way of accurate registration of vital statistics. A Village Adhigari or Kolkaran, who are generally nayars, consider it beneath notice to enquire if a Cheruman died or a Cherumi was confined.

10. The system at present in vogue is for the Kolkaran to make enquiries and to report to the Village officials. This is not regularly done by him. If information forces itself on him he reports, otherwise he does not take pains to gather it.

11. The Tahsildar states that he and the Revenue Inspectors do check the birth and death returns kept in villages. I examined some village returns and found that the checking by the Revenue Inspectors is a sham. They always remark that the Registers were examined and found to be correct. One Revenue Inspector initialled the accounts of several months together in one visit.

I shall soon issue stringent orders to Revenue Inspectors laying down certain rules and shall warn them that severe notice will be taken if they do not give more attention to this branch of work.

I have &c.
Sd/ S. Swaminatha Ayr
Deputy Collector.

(True Copy)

T. Varadarao
Asst. for Acg Collector.

2
officials and Cherumas

March 89.

Statement showing the number of cases of births & deaths examined by Revenue Inspectors from 1st January to 31st August 1894.—

Name of Taluk	Revenue Inspectors who examined the births & death Registers	Dates on which examined	No. of Cases examined			No. of Nurses to which the Cases were examined (Collecting)	No. of omissions or errors discovered.	Percentage of omissions or Errors.
			Birth	death	Total.			
Chirakkal.	1st Revenue Insp.	From 15th Jany to 31st August 94.	98	106	204	42	12	
	2nd Rev. Inspector	Do.	136	95	231	73	"	
	3rd Rev. Inspector	Do	88	116	204	66	5	
	Total		322	317	639	181	17	2.6
Kottayam.	1st Rev. Inspector	Do.	34	46	80	73	3	
	2nd Rev. Inspector	Do	39	40	79	25	3	
	3rd Rev. Insp.	Do	53	49	102	33	"	
	Total		126	135	261	131	6	2.3.
[illegible]	1st Rev. Inspector	Do.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Total							
	Grand Total		2044	2021	5788	1582	43	0.74.

J. V.

Asst. J

Walluvanad	1st Rev. Inspector	Do	-	-	179	161	2	
	2nd Do	Do	-	-	28			
	3rd Do	Do	-	-	202			
	4th Do	Do	-	-	101			
	Total				510	161	2	0.37
Palghat	1st Rev. Inspr	Do	62	81	123	53		
	2nd Do	Do	66	83	149	56		
	3rd Do	Do	32	28	60	15		
	4th Do	Do	122	122	244	122		
	5th Do	Do	63	40	103	40	1	
	Total		345	334	679	286	1	0.14
Ponnani	1st Rev. Inspr	Do	-	-	154	74		
	2nd Do	Do	208	214	422	32		
	3rd Do	Do	197	184	381	104		
	4th Do	Do	-	-	335	63		
	5th Do	Do	-	-	395	23		
Grand Total			2044	2021	5788	1582	43	0.74

T. Varadachar
Asst. for Ag Collector

Malabar Collectors Office,
Camp Vayitri 12th December 1894.

No. 1835-P
Gl:

From,
H. Moberly Esquire
Acting Collector of Malabar
Calicut.

Local & Municipal Dept.
CURRENT No. 3786 L

To,
The Chief Secretary to Government
Local and Municipal Dept.
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to para 5 of G.O dated 2nd July 1894 No. 1210 and 1211, L. Local & Municipal calling on the Collectors of Certain Districts to state what measures they propose to adopt in view to improve the registration of vital statistics I have the honour to report as follows:-

2. It is necessary to remark at the outset that various circumstances contribute to the unsatisfactory state of registration in this District. Some of these are:(1) The size of the Amsams, some Amsams covering several square miles. (2) Inadequacy of the village staff; (3) Situation of houses in scattered parambas and not in streets; (4) The habits of the people, Nayars, Tiyars, Nambudiris &c; (5) Burning or burying the dead bodies in private parambas and not in a common burial ground and (6) The want of sympathy between village officials and Cherumas

The first three causes will be remedied when the Amsams, and their Establishments are reorganized. This will be done, after the introduction of the Settlement.

3. The Sub Collector and the Head Quarter Deputy Collector make the following suggestions for the improvement of registration:-

Sub. Collector. Each Amsam should for purposes of registration of vital statistics, be divided as nearly as possible, into equal parts between the adhigari and the menon. The former should be responsible for one part, and the latter for the other. Desams should not be divided. Once a week the village officer in charge of a part should in Company with a Kolkaran (Amsam peon) go round and ascertain from the recognized midwives the number of births that have taken place, and, from the Mosque Servants or persons in charge of burial and burning grounds, the number of deaths, supplementing the information so derived by house to house enquiry. The adhigari should then communicate his results to the menon, who should enter the joint results in the Register. The entries should be made on the 8th, 15th 22nd and 30th of each month." This suggestion, so far as the weekly rounds is concerned, is, I fear impracticable, or likely to be of very little use in improving registration.

Head Quarter Deputy Collector (Copy of whose report I enclose) is of opinion that for each Taluk a statement shewing the number of births and deaths in each Amsam during the year should be prepared; that from this statement the normal monthly number of births and deaths in each Amsam of the Taluk should be worked out; and that if in any month, the number of births or deaths in an Amsam is less than the normal number, special inquiry should be made in the Amsam. The Deputy Collector takes 28 and 20 to be respectively the normal number of births and deaths per mille per annum in Calicut Taluk. The population of Beypore Amsam is 7231; the Deputy Collector assumes that $\frac{203}{12} = 17$ is the average monthly number of births in the Amsam and that $\frac{145}{12} = 12$ is the average monthly number of deaths, and he thinks that if in any month, the registered number of births or deaths falls below these figures, it may be assumed that registration is defective. He admits that village officials may cook figures in order to shew the prescribed minimum, but contends that if the Taluk officials exercise proper supervision, the fraud will be promptly discovered.

I propose to give the Deputy Collector's suggestion a trial. As regards the scrutiny by the Taluk officers, it is now being done to some extent and the new form of Revenue Inspectors Diary prescribed by the Board in its Proceedings dated 29th March 19[illegible]

No 118 Revenue Settlement has greatly
facilitated the exercise of ~~effective control~~
over the work of Inspectors in Supervising
the registration of births and deaths.

4. In his letter to Government (Local and Municipal Department) dated 16th January 1891 No 52 P/5L, Mr Dumergue stated that with the appointment of additional and more active Revenue Inspectors, he hoped that an improvement would be manifest in the work of registration of vital statistics. Since then additional Revenue Inspectors have been appointed, and I enclose a statement compiled from their diaries from January to August 1894, shewing the number of cases of births and deaths examined by them, the number of Ansams visited for that purpose and the number of omissions or errors discovered. para 4. in Gt No 242 L 3-2-91

There is no doubt that the Tahsildars Deputy Tahsildars, Revenue Inspectors, Deputy Inspectors of vaccination, Medical Subordinates and vaccinators can do much towards the improvement of registration. Their attention will again be drawn to this matter.

The District medical and Sanitary Officer has recently submitted proposals for increasing the number of vaccinators in the District and this increase, if approved by the District Board, will give greater facilities for improving registration.

5. Some of the other divisional officers, and Tahsildars are of opinion that registration must be made Compulsory before any improvement can be looked for. It may be necessary in amending Act V of 1884 to enact provisions similar to Sections 247-249 of the District Municipalities' Act

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

T. Varadachar
Asst. For acting Collector

Municipal Dep.

P.R. CURRENT No. 3764

From,

The Ag Collector of Malabar
Calicut.

To,

The Chief Secretary to Govt
Local and Municipal
Department - Madras

Dated 12th December 1894

Rec'd CHIEF SECRETARY'S GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS No. 2

Encl 2

Reporting on the measures to be adopted in view to improve the registration of vital statistics in the district.

(With order)

H.M. Order
Dmise

Recorded 16/1/95

2. The suggestion made in para 6 of the President's letter will be considered in connection with the amendment of the Local Boards Act.

17.11.95

27/11/94

Note

The wording of the draft commits Govt. to no opinion on the point. The Govt. of India appear still to think that the draft proposal would be premature, (para 2. of the Resolution in G.O. 6.8.94 No. 1464-2.), & the present Insp. Genl. of Regs. thinks the same (para 8 of his letter in G.O. 3.12.94 No. 855. R.D.)

17.11.95

Anyway the matter must lie over until we get replies from the offices whose the Indian Rules was referred. They might be struck out, but say that perhaps replies have been issued in the Public dept.

To Collector of Malabar
" Sanitary Commissioner
To the Legislative No. 2 Dated 19/1

Please see and returned to the Public dept

19/1

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

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.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.