# Local & Munl. (~~190~~ 1897) Department.

## Plague.

PRINTED.

**G.O., No.** 261 M

**DATED** 22. 2. 97

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Despt. Stn

Ordering the publication of a notification appointing Podanur to be an —

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | |

## FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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1001

Pro 125

# Government {1897} of Madras.

## LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Proof for approval

Press
strike off as revised
1/3

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|---|---|---|---|
| *Recd.* | } 1897. | *Enclosures* | |
| *Regd.* | | *Spare copies* | |

Mem. This has been unnecessarily delayed for forty days. It is not satisfactory
1/3

## G.O., No. 261 M., 22nd February 1897.

## FEBRUARY.

### Bubonic Plague.

Informing the Sanitary Commissioner with remarks that any observation of railway passengers at Adóni, Bezwada, Raichur or Hospet is unnecessary and that a Commissioned Medical officer has been deputed to Guntakal, ordering the publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of a notification appointing Pódanúr as an inspection station, and requesting the President, District Board, Coimbatore, and the Surgeon-General to make the necessary arrangements for inspection there.

## GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

## LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

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**Read**—the following paper :—

From Surgeon-Lieut.-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated 11th February 1897, No. 362-S.

I have the honour to forward, for the information of Government, copies of the correspondence with the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, in which he has refused the services of the Railway apothecary at Raichur, with reference to the inspection of passengers. He apparently feels that I should have communicated with the apothecary through the Medical officer of the railway; but the instruction conveyed in G.O., Mis. No. 2259 L., dated 30th November 1896, which was first to hand, in which I was informed that "the Agent and Manager has been asked to instruct the apothecary to place himself in communication with the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, on the subject," led me to open communication with this subordinate direct. I have duly expressed my regret to the Agent for this apparent want of etiquette, which in the midst of routine office work escaped my attention.

2. The Agent, however, shows that trusting to the apothecary at Raichur is useless, as he is liable to be called from Raichur on other duty. Government is aware that in October last, I pressed upon its attention the advisability of using the services of a Commissioned Medical officer at Bezwada and at Raichur; at Bezwada by requiring the District Medical and Sanitary officer, Kistna, to give up touring and reside at Bezwada, leaving the head-quarters to the Assistant Surgeon, and that the services of the medical officer in military employ at Raichur Cantonment should be also engaged. Government, however, refused to accept my recommendations as to Bezwada, and after appointing the Commissioned Medical officer at Raichur, on letters, No. 3170, dated 4th November 1896 and No. 2-4, dated 18th November 1896, from the Resident at Hyderabad and the Surgeon-General with the Government, respectively, also permitted his withdrawal, substituting the Railway apothecary.

3. As since I made those recommendations the seriousness of the situation has much increased, I would again respectfully invite the attention of Government to the desirability of these being established correct "observation stations" at Government expense. Government is aware that I have established, in communication with local authorities, observation-posts at Guntakal and Adóni, which are watched by civil apothecaries; whilst Hospet and Bellary have also been systematically watched, irrespective of all municipal stations throughout the Presidency. It is, however, desirable that these efforts be supplemented by better organized measures, and I now advise that Government require that at Bezwada and at Raichur be stationed Commissioned Medical officers, and at Hospet a Civil Assistant Surgeon. The existing arrangement of a civil apothecary at Guntakal might remain. Examination of the West Coast ports (*plus* the method of observation by municipalities at railway stations) has hitherto been relied upon for protection by invasion by the South-West line; but as large numbers have emigrated from Bombay to Malabar and South Canara, it is now desirable that more attention be paid here. I would, therefore, advise maintaining a Commissioned Medical officer at Erode, or, if one cannot be spared, at least an Assistant Surgeon. At these places, the trains should be stopped sufficiently long to allow of full examination of all passengers, and the taking down of the names and addresses of those arriving from infected localities for transmission to the local authorities in charge of the area to which they wish to travel, so that domiciliary observation be maintained. At each should be provided temporary but carefully equipped isolation

hospitals. In this latter matter, I pressed upon the attention of the District Boards of Bellary and Anantapur the desirability of providing at Adóni and Guntakal, respectively, isolation sheds from their own funds sometime back, but without result, and as the matter would seem more of provincial than local interest, I trust that funds may be found for this object accordingly.

4. I may add that distrusting the arrangements at Raichur, I have throughout retained the system of observation at Adóni. Should Government approve of the above arrangements, this observation-post might be abolished.

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**Order**—No. 261 M., dated 22nd February 1897.

The Sanitary Commissioner will be referred to the regulations recently issued under the Epidemic Diseases Act III of 1897 and to G.Os., No. 195-A M., dated 10th February 1897, and No. 237 M., dated 18th February 1897. Adequate arrangements having been made by the Bombay Government for the inspection of railway passengers at Hotgi, Kaljyan and Londa and provision having been made for similar inspection at Bangalore, Perambur and Guntakal, the Government does not consider that any further observation is at present necessary at Adóni, Bezwada, Raichur or Hospet beyond what is required in the rules notified in G.O., No. 1035 M., dated 18th November 1896.

2. With reference to his suggestion that the civil apothecary stationed at Guntakal may be allowed to continue there, the Sanitary Commissioner will be informed that a Commissioned Medical officer has already been posted to that station (*vide* G.O., Mis. No. 228 M., dated 16th February 1897).

3. With reference to the inspection of persons travelling from the West Coast, the Government is of opinion that it is desirable that the post of observation should be nearer to that coast than Erode is, and in this view considers the Pódanúr railway station to be better fitted for the purpose. This will accordingly be appointed an inspection station under No. 14 of the Mufassal Regulations under the Epidemic Diseases Act. The following notification will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* :—

### NOTIFICATION.

The Governor in Council hereby appoints the railway station at Pódanúr Junction in the Coimbatore district to be an inspection station under No. 14 of the regulations prescribed for district municipalities and towns and villages under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.

4. The President, District Board, Coimbatore, is requested to take steps at once to provide hospital accommodation and one or two small isolation huts at Pódanúr and to arrange for the private inspection of females where such inspection is deemed requisite. The Surgeon-General will be requested to depute a civil apothecary and "female hospital assistant" for the inspection of passengers at this station.

(True Extract.)

*Secretary to Government.*

To the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ Surgeon-General.
„ Public Department.
„ President, District Board, Coimbatore.
„ Collector of Coimbatore.
„ Public Works Department.
Gazette.

Exd. T. D. Ryan.

Very urgent

# Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

**CURRENT No.** 567 M

**From**

The Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras.

12-2-1897 **No.** 362/S

**Order**

**Dated** 11 February 1897.

**Received** 12-2-1897

**Registered** 12-2-1897

**Enclosures** 1

**Spare copies**

## SUBJECT.

Forwards with remarks copy of letter from the Agent and Manager Madras Railway wherein he requests that the Company's apothecary may be relieved at once of the medical examination of all passengers.

12/2/97

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No | Department. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|
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## FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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Very urgent

No. 362/8.

Camp Guzullapalle ~~Fort St. George~~, 11 Feby 1897.

OFFICE OF SANITARY COMMISSIONER,

LOCAL & MUNICIPAL DEPT.
CURRENT No. 567 M

From

SURGEON LIEUT.-COL. W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H.,
SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE Secretary to Government
Local & Municipal Dept.

Enclosure.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward for the information of Government copies of the correspondence with the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, in which he has refused the services of the Railway Apothecary at Raichur, with reference to the inspection of passengers. He apparently feels that I should have communicated with the Apothecary through the Medical Officer of the Railway; but, the instruction conveyed in G.O. No. 2259 Mun. dated 30 November 1896, which was first to hand, in which I was informed that "the Agent and Manager has been asked to instruct the Apothecary to place himself in communication with the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras" on the subject, l

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me to open communication with this subordinate direct. I have duly expressed my regret to the Agent for this apparent want of etiquette, which in the midst of routine office work escaped my attention.

2. The Agent, however, shows that trusting to the Apothecary at Raichur is useless; as he is liable to be called from Raichur on other duty. Government is aware that in October last, I pressed upon its attention the advisability of using the services of a Commissioned Medical Officer at Bezwada and at Raichur; at Bezwada, by requiring the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Kistna, to give up touring and reside at Bezwada — leaving the headquarters to the Assistant Surgeon, and that the services of the Medical Officer in Military employ at Raichur Cantonment should be also engaged. Government however refused to accept my recommendations as to Bezwada, and, after appointing the Commissioned Medical Officer at Raichur, letters No. $\frac{3170}{4.11.96}$ and No. San. 2/4 dated Novr: 1896 from the Resident at Hyderabad

D.O. dated 14th October 1896.

D.O dated 7th October 1896

and

and the Surgeon General with the Government respectively, also permitted his withdrawal — substitu the Railway Apothecary.

3. As since I made these recommendations the seriousness of the situation has much increased, I would again respectfully invite the attention of Government to the desirability of there being established correct "observation stations" at Government expense. Government is aware that I have established in communication with local authorities observation posts at Guntakul and Adoni which are watched by Civil Apothecaries; whilst Hospet and Bellary have also been systematically watched, irrespective of all Municipal stations throughout the Presidency. It is however desirable that these efforts be supplemented by better organized measures, and I now advise that Government require that at Bezwada and at Raichur be stationed Commissioned Medical Officers, and at Hospet a Civil Assistant Surgeon. The existing arrangement of a Civil Apothecary at

Guntakul

Guntakul might remain. Examination of the West Coast Ports (plus the method of observation by municipalities at railway stations) has hitherto been relied upon for protection by invasion by the South West line, but as large numbers have emigrated from Bombay to Malabar and South Canara, it is now desirable that more attention be paid here. I would therefore advise maintaining a Commissioned Medical Officer at Erode, or, if one cannot be spared, at least an Assistant Surgeon. At these places, the trains should be stopped sufficiently long to allow of full examination of all passengers, and the taking down of the names and addresses of those arriving from infected localities for transmission to the local authorities in charge of the area to which they wish to travel, so that domiciliary observation be maintained. At each should be provided temporary, but but carefully equipped isolation hospitals. In this latter matter, I pressed upon the attention of the District Boards of Bellary and Anantapur the desirability of providing

at

Please see G.O. (Munl) 8th February 1897.

at Adoni and Guntakul, respectively, isolation sheds from their own funds sometime back but without result, and as the matter would seem "more of provincial than local interest," I trust that funds may be found for this object accordingly.

4. I may add that disturbing the arrangements at Raichur, I have throughout retained the system of observation at Adoni. Should Government approve of the above arrangements, the observation post might be abolished.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed. Servant
W G King
Surgn Lt Col.
Sanitary Commissioner
for Madras

No 9553/1105.

Madras Railway
Agent & Manager's Office
Madras 28th January 1897

From

The Agent & Manager
Madras Railway Company

To

The Sanitary Commissioner
Madras

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that my attention has been called to the instructions issued by you to the Railway Apothecary at Raichur in regard to Bubonic plague subjects without having forwarded such instructions through the Company's Medical Officer. On the 26th November last, I informed the Consulting Engineer for Railways in reply to a communication from him that instructions had been given to the Apothecary by Dr J Currie the Company's Medical Officer and requested that if these required to be added to or modified in any way, you might be asked to communicate with Dr Currie.

The instructions you have issued to the Apothecary direct impose

on

1/567 M of 1897

on him duties of such an arduous nature that he is unable to attend to his legitimate work in connection with the sanitation of all the railway stations in his charge between Raichur and Guntakul, and he is liable to be called away to render medical aid to a sick employé or members of his family.

The Company's Medical Officer complains that as matters stand, the whole of the work entailed by this out-post duty is thrown upon the Apothecary, and it is scarcely reasonable to expect him to take down the names and addresses of passengers passing through Raichur, when he has other and more important duties to attend to.

I therefore request that you will make such arrangements as will relieve the Company's Apothecary at once of the work of medical examination of all passengers, the registration of their names & address, and the transmission of these to Madras, which duties are now demanded of him.

I have &c

Sd/ Henry Chwest

Ag: Agent & Manager

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Office of Sanitary Commissioner

Camp Gazullapalle 11 Feby 1897.

From

Surgn. Lt Col. W. G. King M.B. C.M. D.P.H.

Sanitary Commissioner for Madras

To

The Agent & Manager

Madras Railway.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No 9553/1105 dated 28th January 1897, I have the honor to state that I have directed the Railway Apothecary at Raichur to regard all orders from this office as cancelled. I need hardly state that I view with surprise the fact conveyed in your letter that the duties involved in taking down the names and addresses of persons arriving *via* Raichur are such as to prevent his undertaking his more "important duties." Had it been understood that this subordinate would be liable to be sent on duty out of Raichur, and thus neglect the important duty he was called upon to fulfil, this office would certainly have advised Government not to accept your offer of his services.

En al

In regard to my not communicating with the apothecary through your Medical Officer, I would point out that the first order from Government by me recorded the following intimation:—

"2. The Agent & Manager has been asked "to instruct the Apothecary at Raichur "to place himself in communication "with the Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, "on the subject."

It is true a subsequent order was received, No. 2273 L. Min, dated 2d Decr/96 in continuation of the former order in which your letter No. $\frac{9583}{1058}$ dated 26 Novr/96 was communicated. In this you desired that I should address the Apothecary through your Medical Officer. Government did not however pass any orders to this effect in communicating your letter. Nevertheless, ~~I have to express~~ I have to express my regret that the usual etiquette was not followed in this case, and to assure you that the matter did not occur to me at the time of opening correspondence.

I have &c

Sd/ W. G. King Surgn. Lt Col.
Sanitary Commissioner

True copies

Surgn. Lt Col.
Sanitary Commr.

---

Local and Municipal Department.

Current No. 566+567M

From

FOR ORDERS.

C.No 567M

In his letter read above, the Sanitary Commissioner reports that the Agent and Manager of the Madras Railway Company has refused the services of the Railway apothecary at Raichur for the purpose of inspecting the passengers at that station and suggests that, in consideration of the seriousness of the situation, it is desirable for Government to establish correct observation stations at its own expense, and thus supplement the measures he has already adopted in communication with ~~the~~ local authorities for the observation of railway passengers. He accordingly makes the following recommendations:—

(i) A Commissioned medical officer should be placed at Bezwada, and at Raichur and a Civil Assistant Surgeon at Hospet.

We donot want Ast^n at Bezwada now, nor at Hospet. Bombay takes Hotgi Kalijan & Londa: Mysore, Bangalore; & we have Guntakal & Perambore

(ii) The existing arrangement under which a Civil apothecary is stationed at Guntakal for the examination of passengers might continue.

A commd. med offr (D^r Macrae) has been posted there.

(iii) As large numbers have migrated from Bombay to Malabar and South Canara, a Commissioned medical officer, and if ~~one~~ an officer of that grade cannot be spared, an assistant surgeon should be maintained at Erode.

The question of Erode has to be considered

If the Bangalore inspn. is efficient I dont see the need of any inspection at Erode. Ask the Resdt. to ~~inform~~ send us copy of ~~the instructions~~ the regulations for the inspection made at Bangalore —

(iv) At these places the trains should be stopped sufficiently long to allow of full examination of passengers and the addresses of those coming from infected areas should be taken.

See Regulations just issued

S.V.R. 15/2/97

(v) At each of these places temporary, but carefully equipped isolation hospitals should be provided

Ditto

(vi)

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Yes

Regn No. 12 for the city & 13, & 14 for mufassal towns.

(Put the Gaz. copy in the file)

Regn No. 8 for the city & No 11 for mufassal towns.

Surgeon Captain J.L. Macrae

(vi) S[illegible] ment approve of the a[illegible]ngements the system [illegible]ion which is now [illegible]d at Adoni, may be abolished.

2. As regards recommendations (iv) & (v) it is observed that the Regulations issued under the Epidemic Diseases Act 1897 ~~authorize~~ ~~the~~ detention of trains at the railway station of Perambur and at such other stations as may hereafter be appointed by notification in the Fort Saint George Gazette to be inspection stations and ~~for~~ the provision of hospital & other accommodation for persons suffering or suspected to be suffering from the bubonic plague: the other measures recommended by the Sanitary Commissioner seem worthy of adoption, but it has to be pointed out that the Surgeon General has already ordered a Commissioned medical officer to proceed to Guntakal to conduct the inspection of passengers there. The papers relating to the examination of passengers at Raichur by the Nizam's Govt. are now with H.S.Y.

We need not trouble further about Raichur

Yes

3. The Public Department ~~forwards a letter from the Surgeon~~ ~~General also~~ enquires whether

CNo 566m

the Services of the Surgeon Major W. F. Thomas and Surgeon Captain P. K. Mitter should be placed on ~~this~~ ~~[illegible] for~~ special duty. ~~[illegible]~~

P.R.
15/2/97

H.O.

We may refer the San. Commr. to the new Regulns. of the Govt. (which he must have got by this time) intimating what the Bombay Govt. are doing

As to Erode, I think we shd ~~have~~ constitute that an inspection station for passengers coming from the West coast. It will give additional protection to Madras, but more especially to South India & Tuticorin & Negapatam. An Asst Surgn. wd. do for the present office at Erode. If we are ~~especially~~ particularly bound to safeguard Colombo, the Clapham junction of the East.

At Tuticorin there shd be, of a comsd. Med. Offr.; an Asst Surgn ast. ~~[illegible]~~

I can't say until I know whether a Comd. officer is wanted at Perambore-[illegible] connection, I may say that I saw Col: Moore & Mr. West at the Club last night & they both seemed to think that, after the [illegible] inspection had been properly established, Arconam would be the best place for the second inspection. They were to consider the matter further & Col. M. was to see the Health Officer & report conclusions.

**FOR ORDERS.**

Virchos letter in CRO. 566m

17/2/97

I overlooked when writing the ~~[illegible]~~ above that what was meant was the inspection of people coming up from the West Coast. Erode does not seem to me a good place for this purpose. It is too far away from the West coast. The best place, probably, would be Olavakkot Junction, but the Mal: Dt. officers have enough to do at present and we had better not put more on them. Podanur had better therefore be the inspection station. No plague whatever having as yet appeared on the West Coast, an Apothecary (perhaps with a female Hospl. Asstt. to aid him) should do for that place. The Dist. Coimb: L. Bd. should be told to arrange for the private inspection of females and to run up a two small isolation sheds. The S.G. must see about apothecary & female Hospl. Asstt.

I daresay, but as the G.O. below mentioned has not been put up, I don't know what has been done already and in the absence of such knowledge can't say what should be done. So far as I can see, there is not much chance of plague coming in from Colombo. What is needed at Tuticorin is apparently an inspection of vessels sailing thence to Colombo. For this, special regns under III of 1897 will be needed.

17/2/97

The Municipal Council has already selected a site for the isolation of suspected persons &c; a special establt was sanctioned in G.O. 2081 Md. 7.12.9[illegible]

17/2/97

[ 5 ]
700—6-4-96.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings :—

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

~~Current No 566M of 1897, dated 12th Feby 97 from the Public Depth~~

Current No. 567M of 1897, dated 11th Feby 97 from the Sanitary Commr.

H.M.

Sen
Despatch in this first & return SKA 20/2/97

KA 19/2/97

PS Order. No. 261 M. 22-2-97

The Sanitary Commissioner wil be referred to the regulations recentl issued under the Epidemic Diseas Act III of 1897 and to G.Os No. 195A- dated 10th February 1897 and No. 237 dated 18th February 1897. Adequat arrangements having been made by the Bombay Government for the inspection of railway passenger at Hotgi, Kaliyan, and Londa an provision having been made for similar inspection at Bangal Perambur and Guntakal, the Gove-ment does not consider that any further observation is at present necess at Adoni Bezwada, Raichur ~~or~~ Hospe

beyond what is required in G.O. the rules notified in G.O. 18/11/96 no 1985 M.

~~as recommended by Dr King~~ ~~and The observation that [illegible]~~ ~~maintained at Adoni may b~~ ~~abolish~~

2. With reference to his suggestion that the civil apothecary stationed at Guntakal may be allowed to continue there, the Sanitary Commissioner will be informed that a Commissioned Medical officer has already been posted to that station - vide G.O. 228 Mun. 16-2-97

3. ~~The Government does not consider that Erode which is too far away from the west coast~~ is a ~~suitable place for the inspection of passengers coming from that direction~~. The Pothanur railway station seems to be better fitted for the purpose, ~~and~~ this will accordingly be appointed an inspection station under No. 14 of the Mufassal regulations under the Epidemic Diseases Act. The following notification will be published in the Fort St. George Gazette:—

X

With regard to the inspection of persons travelling from the west coast, the Govt. is of opinion that it is desirable that the post of observation shd be nearer to that Coast than Erode is, & in this view considers

Notification

The Governor in Council hereby appoints the railway station at [Po]thanur junction in the [C]oimbatore district to be an inspection station under No. 14 of the regulations prescribed under the Epidemic Diseases Act 1897 for district municipalities and towns and villages.

4. The President, District Board, Coimbatore is requested to take steps at once to provide hospital ~~accommodation~~ and one or two small isolation huts at Pothanur and to arrange for the private inspection of females, where such inspection is deemed requisite. The Surgeon-General will be requested to depute a civil apothecary and a female hospital assistant for the inspection of passengers at this station.

(From orders)

V.R.
18/2/97

To

The Sanitary Commissioner. P&O
" Surgeon General.
" Public Department.
" President, District Bd. Coimbatore.
" Collr of Coimbatore.
" Public Works Deptt.

L&O

Gazette 20/2/97

Despd in Ms. 23/2/97

Note

(1) No definite orders have been passed on the question raised in the Public Deptt. endorsement on cur No. 566 M.

The officers will be reqd as inspection stations are apptd.

…opy sent to Press.

…ed for signature.

…tched in print.

NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED.
Order complete.
Letter only.
Order complete with Letter.

t.

…G.O., No. 190 . DATED

of … district … towns and villages.

2. The President District Coimbatore is requested to take prompt steps at once to provide two small isolation huts … Pollachi and to arrange … private inspection of … The Surgeon General … requested to depute a … carry out …

…NT No.

…URES TO G. No.

…OF GOVERNMENT.

…TER OF GOVERNMENT.

…EMENT WITH DITTO.

…ERS NOT FILLED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

The Sanitary Commissioner
Surgeon General
Public Department

N.B.—
A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
F = Print abstract only.
G = Print heading only.