

PRINTED.

G.O., No. 1153P

DATED 23. 9. 98.



DESPATCHED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Subordinate
Allowances to Medical Officers on Plague Duty

communicating, with remarks to the
Surgeon-General, the Accountant-General,
the President, Muz. Commr. Madras and
all Collrs. letter from the Govt of
India forwarding copy of correspondence
regarding the grant of—; and regulating
the allowances of Hospital Assistants on
Plague Duty.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Government {1898} of Madras.
 LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1898.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1153 P., 23rd September 1898.

SEPTEMBER.

Allowances to Subordinate Medical Officers on Plague Duty.
 Communicating, with remarks, to the Surgeon-General, the Accountant-General, the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, and all Collectors, letter from the Government of India forwarding copy of correspondence regarding the grant of —; and regulating the allowances of Hospital Assistants on plague duty.

Self responsible

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From R. NATHAN, Esq., Under Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Medical), to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Local and Municipal Department, dated Simla, 20th August 1898, No. 1125.

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Governor in Council, a copy of the correspondence noted in the margin regarding the grant of allowances to medical officers for plague duties.

From the Government of the Punjab, No. 692, dated the 18th April 1898, and enclosure.
To the Government of the Punjab, No. 1123, dated the 20th August 1898.

ENCLOSURES.

From H. J. MAYNARD, Esq., Junior Secretary to Government, Punjab and its Dependencies, Home (Medical and Sanitary), to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, dated Lahore, 18th April 1898, No. 692.

I am directed to forward a copy of the correspondence marginally noted regarding the grant to Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám, on inspection duty at the Kálka Railway Station, of a plague deputation allowance of Rs. 2 per diem, under the terms of Mr. Nathan's letter No. 11-Sanitary—1157, dated 29th March 1897, and to convey the following remarks for the consideration of the Government of India.

2. With effect from the afternoon of the 25th August 1897 Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám, Sanitary Officer, Kálka, has been employed, *in addition to his own duties*, on the medical inspection of passengers arriving at the Kálka Railway Station. Three trains arrive at Kálka each day, the earliest at 5-15 A.M. and the latest at 20-15 (=8-15 P.M.).

3. In Mr. Hewett's letter No. 668, dated 23rd June 1897, it was observed that "the Government of India intended the allowances to be granted only to officers employed exclusively and expressly on plague duty on account more especially of the risks of that duty." It was added that the Government of India were "at present inclined to the opinion that the allowance should only be granted to Subordinate Medical Officers employed at railway or other inspection stations, and such officers have presumably been expressly deputed to plague duty, and would therefore be eligible for the allowance under existing orders." This letter was written in answer to my letters Nos. 81 S. and 132 S., dated respectively the 28th May and the 3rd June 1897, which represented that very few Medical Officers had at that time been employed exclusively on plague work, and suggested that the orders on the subject should be so framed as to allow of the grant of the allowance in cases where this appeared to the Local Government to be desirable, even to officers who were not exclusively employed on plague duty. The letter indicated the willingness of the Government of India to consider the question further, but invited in the first place an estimate of the extra expenditure which the concession would involve. It arrived

at a time when, owing to the diminution in the virulence of the disease, the number of inspections was being considerably diminished, and the Government of India were informed in my letter No. 1264 S., dated 27th August 1897, that the class of officers only partially employed on plague duty had practically ceased to exist, and that the Lieutenant-Governor therefore withdrew the proposal under discussion, more especially as, in any case, he would not have been prepared to suggest that any ruling granting a deputation allowance to officers of that class should have retrospective effect. The case of Bhagat Rám came up for orders after the date of this letter.

4. It would, I am to say, apparently be open to the Lieutenant-Governor to secure some additional emolument to Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám by declaring him appointed to special duty in addition to his ordinary duties and granting him a deputation allowance, or by giving him an honorarium under article 89, Civil Service Regulations, or a local allowance under article 187. All these methods would, however, he thinks, involve something of an evasion of the orders which have already been cited, and he prefers therefore to refer the case for the consideration of the Government of India, the rather that the present appears to him to be a favourable opportunity of ascertaining the principles on which, in the opinion of the Government of India, the plague deputation allowances, admissible to various classes of Medical Officers employed in one way or another on duties connected with the detection, prevention and treatment of the disease, should be regulated.

5. At the present time those duties vary widely in character, from the actual treatment of the sick in hospital, and itineration in actually infected or suspected areas, to the conduct of inspections at places more or less remote from the scene of danger, and the supervision of sanitary precautions in places which are known not to have been infected up to the present time. Where an officer is engaged on the actual treatment of the sick there can be no doubt that he is entitled to the allowance. Where he is engaged merely on preventive sanitary work at a distance from the scene of the actual outbreak, it seems equally clear that he is not entitled to a plague allowance, though it is possible that he may be entitled under ordinary rules, without regard to the existence of plague in the Province or elsewhere in India, to some other allowance on account of additional or exceptionally arduous duties performed, or for some other valid reason. It is in the case of itinerating and inspecting officers that doubts are apt to arise. The Government of India orders appear to contemplate something else beside special risk of infection as a ground for the grant of allowances, for they assume that the allowances should be given to Inspecting Medical Officers expressly deputed to this work, even though (as must obviously be the case when the inspections are conducted at a distance from the scene of the outbreak) it does not expose those who do it to any appreciable danger, and the Lieutenant-Governor has therefore a difficulty in determining the principles which should be applied.

6. Sir Mackworth Young's own view, after a reconsideration of this subject, is that the plague allowances admissible to Medical Officers should be given only in cases where the duty done by them involves the risk of contraction of the disease. Other allowances may be admissible to them where there is no such risk, but these should be given in accordance with ordinary financial rules and precedents which would be equally applicable if their duties were in no way connected with the existence of plague.

7. The effect of the adoption of this principle will be that Inspecting Medical Officers will only in very rare instances, if ever, be entitled to a plague allowance, though they may, as in the case of Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám, be entitled to some other allowance of a different kind. The application of the rule to the itinerating officers will be somewhat more difficult, for in some cases these officers are touring about where plague may be discovered at any time, and they will be expected to deal with slightly infected villages before the disease has developed sufficiently to require them to be made over to the separate executive staff which arranges for evacuation, the establishment of cordons and disinfection prior to the return of the inhabitants, while in other, though fewer cases, the chances of the itinerating staff coming into actual contact with the disease are comparatively small. Probably, however, these itinerating Medical Officers will, as a rule, be entitled to plague allowance if the proposed test of claims be adopted.

8. If these views on the subject of allowances for work done by Medical Officers in connection with plague are accepted, they would take effect from the date on which the Government of India signified its approval of them, arrangements being made that from that date only those officers whose work the Lieutenant-Governor considered to satisfy the prescribed test should be notified as on plague duty and so entitled to draw the allowance.

From J. P. HEWETT, Esq., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India (Home Department—Medical), to the Junior Secretary to the Government of the Punjab, Medical and Sanitary Department, dated Simla, 20th August 1898, No. 1123.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 692, dated the 18th April 1898, submitting, for the orders of the Government of India, the question of the grant of a plague deputation allowance of Rs. 2 per diem to Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám, employed on inspection duty at the Kálka Railway station, in addition to his own duties as Sanitary Officer, Kálka.

2. In view of the intention of the Government of India, expressed in the letter from this office, No. 668, dated the 23rd June 1897, that the grant of plague allowances should be confined to officers employed exclusively and expressly on plague duty on account more especially of the risks of that duty, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor did not feel justified in exercising his powers under the Civil Service Regulations to secure to Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám some additional emolument for the extra work thrown upon him, and has accordingly referred the matter for the consideration of the Government of India. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the same time desires to ascertain the principles on which, in the opinion of the Government of India, the plague deputation allowances admissible to various classes of Medical Officers employed in one way or another on duties connected with the detection, prevention and treatment of the disease should be regulated.

3. In paragraph 6 of your letter it is said that in Sir Mackworth Young's opinion the plague allowances admissible to Medical Officers should be given only in cases where the duty done by them involves the risk of contracting the disease, and it is understood that the Lieutenant-Governor intends that, if such risk exists, the allowance shall be granted to every officer whether wholly or only partly employed on plague work.

4. In reply I am to say that the adoption of this proposal would involve a complete alteration in the orders which now regulate the grant of allowances for plague duty, and the Governor-General in Council does not consider such a change necessary or desirable. Those orders provide adequately for the remuneration of all officers wholly employed on plague duty, and the concessions in regard to leave granted by the Finance Department Resolutions marginally noted afford, in the opinion of the Government of India, a suitable reward in the case of officers of the higher grades of the services employed on plague work, in addition to their ordinary duties. These concessions, however, will be of little practical benefit to Subordinate Medical Officers so employed, and in these circumstances the Governor-General in Council agrees to the grant to them of a local allowance under Article 38 (a), Civil Service Regulations. It should be subject to two restrictions, viz., that the allowance should in no case exceed in amount the deputation allowance authorized under Article 98 of the Civil Service Regulations, and that, it should be given only to officers whose additional plague work, such as that of the medical inspection of passengers by road or railway is entirely separate from and outside the sphere of their ordinary duties, and not to officers whose ordinary and legitimate work, such as that of attending on the sick in hospital, has been increased owing to the occurrence of plague.

5. I am to suggest that Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Ram's case may be disposed of in accordance with these orders.

ORDER—No. 1153 P., dated 23rd September 1898.

Communicated to the Surgeon-General, Accountant-General, President, Municipal Commission, Madras, and all Collectors.

2. The allowances of a Hospital Assistant doing plague work will be regulated as follows:—

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | RS. |
| (a) When deputed to a distance from the scene of his ordinary work. | (i) To do light plague duty such as inspection of passengers at the railway station. | 10 a month. |
| | (ii) To attend on plague patients | 15 " |
| (b) When required to do additional plague work, such as the inspection of passengers by road and railway, which is entirely separate from and outside the sphere of the ordinary duties. | | Local allowance not exceeding one-fifth of the salary. |

No extra allowance is admissible in the case of officers whose ordinary and legitimate work, such as that of attending on the sick in hospital, has been increased owing to the occurrence of plague.

(True Extract.)

H. TREMENHEERE,
Secretary to Government.

To the Plague Commissioner.
" the Surgeon-General.
" the Accountant-General.
" the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" all Collectors (A, C, F, J, K, L).

Copy to the Financial Department.
" " Public Department.
" " Marine Department.
" " Sanitary Commissioner.

Government {1898} of Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

S. A.

Proof for approval.

RR
1/10/98

Recd.

Enclosures

1898.

Regd.

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Pres
Done correct
1/10/98

G.O., No. 1153 P., 23rd September 1898.

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SEPTEMBER.

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Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, No. 3168, dated 7th September 1897.
Punjab Government letter to Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, No. 1366, dated 11th November 1897.
Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals' letter No. 119, dated 12th January 1898.

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ORDER—No. 1153 P., dated 23rd September 1898.

Communicated to the Surgeon-General, Accountant-General, President, Municipal Commission, Madras, and all Collectors.

2. The allowances of a Hospital Assistant doing plague work will be regulated as follows:—

		RS.
(a) When deputed to a distance from the scene of his ordinary work.	(i) To do light plague duty such as inspection of passengers at the railway station.	10 a month.
	(ii) To attend on plague patients	15 "
(b) When required to do additional plague work, such as the inspection of passengers by road and railway from and outside the sphere of the ordinary duties.	which is entirely separate	Local allowance not exceeding one-fifth of the salary.

No extra allowance is admissible in the case of officers whose ordinary and legitimate work, such as that of attending on the sick in hospital, has been increased owing to the occurrence of plague.

(True Extract.)

for Secretary to Government.

To the Plague Commissioner.

„ the Surgeon-General.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
„ all Collectors (A, C, F, J, K, L).

Copy to the Financial Department.

„ „ Public Department.
„ „ Marine Department.
„ „ Sanitary Commissioner.

[L & M.]
50-6-97.

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O., No.	dated	189 .
Again G.O., No.	dated	189 .
Current No.	1474P of 1898, dated 20-8-98	, from Govt of India
" "	" 189 , "	" "
" "	" 189 , "	" "

ORDER. No. 1153 P. dt 23.9.98

H. M.
To Financial
for etc.

Communicated to the Dy. Commr. General.
Assistant General, Resident M.L.
Madras and all Collectors.

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Assistant doing plague work will
be regulated as follows—

(a) When deputed to a distance
from the scene of his ordinary work
to do
(i) ~~and~~ light
plague duty, such
as inspection at
his station — Rs 10 a month
(ii) to attend on
plague patients — Rs 15 a month

(b) When required to do addl plague work, such as the
inspection of passengers by road & railway, which
is entirely separate from and outside the
sphere of the ordinary duties — Local allow-
ance not exceeding 1/5th of
the salary.

No ~~of~~ extra allowance is admissible
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been increased owing to the occurrence of
plague. H. T.

To The Plague Comr.
The Dy. Commr. General
" Assistant Genl.
" Resident M.L. Madras
All C.O.s (A.C., F., T., K.L.).
Cpy to Financial Dept.
" Public Health
" Municipal Dept.
" Sanitary Comr.

(*) G.O. No 1756 M dt 9-8-97
+ G.O. No 77 P. dt 22-2-98.

50

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following paper:—

From the Government of India, Home Department,
No 1125, dated 20th August. 1898.

Order No 1153 P. dated 23 Sep. 1898.

Communicated to the Surgeon General, Accountant General

President Municipal Commission, Madras and all Collectors.

2. The allowances of a Hospital Assistant doing
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the inspection of passengers by road and Railway
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allowance
not exceeding
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on the sick in hospital, has been increased owing to the
occurrence of plague.

(True Extract)
(Sd). H. T. Munro.

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 1474

To

The Plague Commission^b
" Surgeon General^b
" Accountant General^M
" President, Ind. Commission, Madras^b

All Collectors (A.C.F.G.K.F.) ✓

Copy to the Financial Deptt.

" Public Deptt.

" Marine Deptt.

" Sanitary Commis¹³

Order 8/10/98

Order

From

The Govt of India
Home Deptt.

No. 1125

Dated 20-8-1898

Received 28-8-1898

Registered 29-8-1898

Enclosures 4

Spare copies. 7 of encl 4

SUBJECT.

Forwarding for information
copy of correspondence
regarding the grant of
allowance to medical officers
for plague duties.

Recd 28/8/1898

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

From 11530-2349

From the Govt of the Punjab No 692 dated the 18th April 1898 and enclosure. To the Govt of the Punjab No 1125 dated the 20th August 1898.

From

R. Nathan, Esq.,

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

To

The Secy. to the Govt. of Madras.

Home Department.
(Medical).

Simla, the 20th August 1898.

Sir,

I am directed to forward, for the information of the Governor in Council, a copy of the correspondence noted in the margin regarding the grant of allowances to medical officers for plague duties.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Nathan

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 692.

FROM

H. J. MAYNARD, ESQUIRE,
Junior Secretary to Government,
Punjab and its Dependencies,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
HOME DEPARTMENT.

Dated Lahore, 18th April 1898.

Home.

Medical and Sanitary.

SIR,

I AM directed to forward a copy of the correspondence marginally noted regarding the grant to Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám, on inspection duty at the Kálka Railway Station, of a plague deputation allowance of Rs. 2 per diem, under the terms of Mr. Nathan's letter No. ¹¹⁵⁷ 11 Sanitary, dated 29th March 1897, and to convey the following remarks for the consideration of the Government of India.

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suggest that any ruling granting a deputation allowance to officers of that class should have retrospective effect. The case of Bhagat Rám came up for orders after the date of this letter.

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4. It would, I am to say, apparently be open to the Lieutenant-Governor to secure some additional emolument to Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám by declaring him appointed to special duty in addition to his ordinary duties and granting him a deputation allowance, or by giving him an honorarium under Article 89, Civil Service Regulations, or a local allowance under Article 187. All these methods would, however, he thinks, involve something of an evasion of the orders which have already been cited, and he prefers therefore to refer the case for the consideration of the Government of India, the rather that the present appears to him to be a favourable opportunity of ascertaining the principles on which, in the opinion of the Government of India, the plague deputation allowances, admissible to various classes of Medical Officers employed in one way or another on duties connected with the detection, prevention and treatment of the disease, should be regulated.

5. At the present time those duties vary widely in character, from the actual treatment of the sick in hospital, and itineration in actually infected or suspected areas, to the conduct of inspections at places more or less remote from the scene of danger, and the supervision of sanitary precautions in places which are known not to have been infected up to the present time. Where an officer is engaged on the actual treatment of the sick there can be no doubt that he is entitled to the allowance. Where he is engaged merely on preventive sanitary work at a distance from the scene of the actual outbreak, it seems equally clear that he is not entitled to a plague allowance, though it is possible that he may be entitled under ordinary rules, without regard to the existence of plague in the Province or elsewhere in India, to some other allowance on account of additional or exceptionally arduous duties performed, or for some other valid reason. It is in the case of itinerating and inspecting officers that doubts are apt to arise. The Government of India orders appear to contemplate something else beside special risk of infection as a ground for the grant of allowances, for they assume that the allowances should be given to Inspecting Medical Officers expressly deputed to this work, even though (as must obviously be the case when the inspections are conducted at a distance from the scene of the outbreak) it does not expose those who do it to any appreciable danger, and the Lieutenant-Governor has therefore a difficulty in determining the principles

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6. Sir Mackworth Young's own view, after a reconsideration of this subject, is that the plague allowances admissible to Medical Officers should be given only in cases where the duty done by them involves the risk of contraction of the disease. Other allowances may be admissible to them where there is no such risk, but these should be given in accordance with ordinary financial rules and precedents which would be equally applicable if their duties were in no way connected with the existence of plague.

7. The effect of the adoption of this principle will be that Inspecting Medical Officers will only in very rare instances, if ever, be entitled to a plague allowance, though they may, as in the case of Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám, be entitled to some other allowance of a different kind. The application of the rule to the itinerating officers will be somewhat more difficult, for in some cases these officers are touring about where plague may be discovered at any time, and they will be expected to deal with slightly infected villages before the disease has developed sufficiently to require them to be made over to the separate executive staff which arranges for evacuation, the establishment of cordons and disinfection prior to the return of the inhabitants, while in other, though fewer cases, the chances of the itinerating staff coming into actual contact with the disease are comparatively small. Probably, however, these itinerating Medical Officers will, as a rule, be entitled to plague allowance if the proposed test of claims be adopted.

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8. If these views on the subject of allowances for work done by Medical Officers in connection with plague are accepted, they would take effect from the date on which the Government of India signified its approval of them, arrangements being made that from that date only those officers whose work the Lieutenant-Governor considered to satisfy the prescribed test should be notified as on plague duty and so entitled to draw the allowance.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

H. J. MAYNARD,

Junior Secretary to Government, Punjab.

No. 1123

FROM

J. P. HEWETT, Esq., C.I.E.,

Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

THE JUNIOR SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
PUNJAB,
MEDICAL AND SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Home Department.
Medical.

Simla, the 20th August 1898.

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 692, dated the 18th April 1898, submitting, for the orders of the Government of India, the question of the grant of a plague deputation allowance of Rs. 2 per diem to Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Ram, employed on inspection duty at the Kalka Railway station, in addition to his own duties as Sanitary Officer, Kalka.

2. In view of the intention of the Government of India, expressed in the letter from this office, No. 668, dated the 23rd June 1897, that the grant of plague allowances should be confined to officers employed exclusively and expressly on plague duty on account more especially of the risks of that duty, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor did not feel justified in exercising his powers under the Civil Service Regulations to secure to Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Ram some additional emolument for the extra work thrown upon him, and has accordingly referred the matter for the consideration of the Government of India. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor at the same time desires to ascertain the principles on which, in the opinion of the Government of India, the plague deputation allowances admissible to various classes of Medical Officers employed in one way or another on duties connected with the detection, prevention and treatment of the disease should be regulated.

3. In paragraph 6 of your letter it is said that in Sir Mackworth Young's opinion the plague allowances admissible to Medical Officers should be given only in cases where the duty done by them involves the risk of contracting the disease, and it is understood that the Lieutenant-Governor intends that, if such risk exists, the allowance shall be granted to every officer whether wholly or only partly employed on plague work.

4. In reply I am to say that the adoption of this proposal would involve a complete alteration in the orders which now regulate the grant of allowances for plague duty, and the Governor General in Council does not consider such a change necessary or desirable. Those orders provide adequately for the remuneration of all officers wholly employed on plague duty, and the concessions in regard to leave granted by the Finance Department Resolutions marginally noted afford, in the opinion of the Government of India, a suitable reward in the case of officers of the higher grades of the services employed on plague work, in addition to their ordinary duties. These concessions, however, will be of little practical benefit to Subordinate Medical Officers

No. 5047-P., dated the 15th November 1897.
No. 2852-P., dated the 29th June 1898.

90, 992, File, 4125-11-97

90, 622, File, 418-7-98

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so employed, and in these circumstances the Governor General in Council agrees to the grant to them of a local allowance under Article 38 (a), Civil Service Regulations. It should be subject to two restrictions, *vis.*, that the allowance should in no case exceed in amount the deputation allowance authorized under Article 98 of the Civil Service Regulations, and that, it should be given only to officers whose additional plague work, such as that of the medical inspection of passengers by road or railway is entirely separate from and outside the sphere of their ordinary duties, and not to officers whose ordinary and legitimate work, such as that of attending on the sick in hospital, has been increased owing to the occurrence of plague.

5. I am to suggest that Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Ram's case may be disposed of in accordance with these orders.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. P. HEWETT,

Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 3163, dated Lahore, 7th September 1897.

From—Surgeon Colonel D. O'C. RAYE, Inspector General of Civil Hospitals, Punjab,
To—The Junior Secretary to Government, Punjab.

YOUR letter No. 1162 S., dated 18th August 1897, Home (Medical and Sanitary) conveyed to me the wishes of the Government of India that the inspection of passengers at Kálka should in future be conducted by an Assistant Surgeon instead of a Commissioned Officer. I accordingly have directed Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám, Sanitary Officer, Kálka, to carry on the work in addition to his own duties from the afternoon of the 25th August 1897. As this entails considerable fatigue, trains having to be visited at intervals from morning till midnight, I recommend that as a special case a deputation allowance of Rs. 2 per diem may be granted to him. This will be a much more economical arrangement than the appointment of an Assistant Surgeon wholly for inspection duty.

No. 1366, dated 11th November 1897.

From—H. J. MAYNARD, Esquire, Junior Secretary to Government, Punjab,
To—The Inspector General of Civil Hospitals, Punjab.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3163, dated the 7th of September 1897, recommending that Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám, Sanitary Officer, Kálka, should be granted a deputation allowance of Rs. 2 per diem as a special case for the inspection of passengers at the Kálka Railway Station.

2. In reply, I am directed to refer you to the correspondence ending with my endorsement to your address, No. 1265 S., dated the 27th of August 1897, which shows it to be the intention of the Government of India (*vide* Home Department letter No. 668, dated the 23rd of June 1897) that an allowance of the kind should be only admissible to Subordinate Medical Officers who may be "employed exclusively and expressly on plague duty" and "on account more especially of the risks of that duty." Under these circumstances and seeing that there can be no risks worthy of consideration in conducting inspection at a place like Kálka, it seems impossible to make out a special case. His Honor therefore regrets his inability to forward your recommendation on behalf of Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Ram to the Government of India.

No. 119, dated Lahore, 12th January 1898.

From—Surgeon Colonel D. O'C. RAYE, M.D., Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Punjab,
To—The Junior Secretary to Government, Punjab.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1366, dated 11th November 1897, Home (Medical and Sanitary), regarding the plague allowance proposed for Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám, Inspecting Medical Officer, Kálka, and venture once again to submit it for the consideration of Government.

2. I was aware, in recommending an allowance of Rs. 2 a day in September last, that Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Ram was not entitled to it under the terms of Government of India, Home Department, letter No. 668, dated 23rd June 1897, but his case was so special that I had no hesitation in making that recommendation. Perhaps, in doing so, I did not make the special nature of the case clear enough.

3. Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Ram's appointment is that of Sanitary Officer, Kálka, where on account of the traffic to Simla it was held necessary to have a special officer to look after the sanitation of the town and the frequent inspection of people putting up in serais, cartsheds, &c..

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4. Owing to the strain on all branches of the Medical Service, I was obliged some months ago to make Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám take charge of the Kálka Dispensary in addition to his regular duties as Sanitary Officer, in order to set free the Dispensary Hospital Assistant for inspection duty on the road entering Kálka. This, though it added to Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám's work considerably, was not an undue amount of extra duty.

5. At this time the railway inspections were done by a Commissioned Medical Officer, who drew for this work a special allowance of Rs. 300 monthly. Military necessities caused the withdrawal of that officer, and eventually your letter No. 1162 S. of the 18th August last authorized the posting of an Assistant Surgeon for railway inspection work. There was none available, and the only arrangement which could be made was to add the inspections to the double duty already being done by Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám.

Ordinarily speaking, the inspection of a few trains daily is not heavy work, but in the present instance not only was the Assistant Surgeon already fully occupied, but the hour at which the morning train arrived rendered its inspection a sufficiently onerous duty. The first train arrives at 5-15, and to be present at the station on its arrival means that a man must daily leave his house about a quarter before 5 o'clock. There are two other trains, one at 9-50 and one at 20-15. From this it will be seen that although the extra duty imposed on Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám entails, as your letter No. 1366 of the 11th November last remarks, no risks worthy of consideration so far as plague is concerned, it nevertheless is of a very fatiguing nature, and Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám has complained to me, and I believe justly, that he is feeling the strain of it greatly.

If there were an Assistant Surgeon available solely for railway inspection duty, I would place him at Kálka, but at present there is none.

6. Under the above circumstances, as the allowance of Rs. 2 per diem sanctioned by the Government of India is not applicable to Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám's case, I would ask that he may be granted a special allowance to that amount by the Local Government from the date of his taking charge of the train inspection work until such time as he can be relieved of that duty.

Regr. No.

HOME

1898.

DEPT.

From

THE GOVERNMENT, PUNJAB.

No. 692.

Dated Lahore, 18th April 1898.

R.

Enclosures

D. No.

Spare copies

L. No.

Progs.

No.

References.

Abstract.

Proposed grant of a plague deputation allowance of Rs. 2 per diem to Assistant Surgeon Bhagat Rám on inspection duty at the Kálka Railway Station.

Office suggestions.

Orders.