

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLAGUE COMMISSIONER.

(189 8)

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 733

Dated 19/11/98

Despatched 22/11/98
delh

[Despatch Abstract.]

Inform the residents of Tuticorin thro: the Collector of
Tinnevely, that all necessary steps are being taken
in the dt to keep plague away from it, and that
the examination of travellers at Kasambur is unnecessary

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.	No.	Date.

PLAGUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE. (1898)

CURRENT No. *137A*

Prop: *(Lancet)*
Order No. *7338* 19/11/28

From The collector of
Lincoln

No. 998

Copies of Prop called
for by Council are
put up.

Dated 16-11-1898

Received 16-11-1898

Registered 16-11-1898

Enclosures *C to 211 with*

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Reporting on the arrange-
ments made in the
Lincolnshire for
preventing the importa-
tion of plague.

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

PLAQUE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE.

(1898)

Cholera 998/98
to be done

CURRENT No. 977

1/5/11/98

Ref in Cho 977

Order 6295

From

A. Roland Esq.
& others Inticorin.

urgent

Ref. in No.

998
1898
1898

Forwarded

To the Colls of Inticorin
for report as to what
arrangements to prevent the
importation of plague into
his district are in force
at present.

Mammich.

Plague Com's

To the Colls of Inticorin
(to be returned)

4/11/98

Dated 28-10-1898

Received 3-11-1898

Registered 3-11-1898

Enclosures — one

Spare copies

no report is
called for on the
suggestions in

SUBJECT.

Praying that energetic
steps be at once taken
to prevent the outbreak
of plague in the town.

To the Colls of Inticorin

BACK PAPERS.

No.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

To

The Plague Commissioner
Madras

We the undersigned residents of Tuticorin (representing the various professions and interests) most respectfully beg to lay before you the following facts in the hope, that after a careful perusal of our representations and suggestions, you will be pleased to sanction the adoption of urgent measures with a view to safeguard the vital interests of this important town.

It is scarcely necessary for us to state that this town with a population of nearly 30,000 and with a large trade second only to Madras in this Presidency is the most important town in the district. That our town is within 2 hours' journey from Tinnevely, and being the terminus of the South Indian Railway, is a station where many passengers daily arrive from several distant stations in India on their way to Colombo are facts too well-known to require any lengthy mention.

Suffice it to say that the large influx of passengers from distant stations in the North is a matter which we cannot but view with serious concern in the present state of affairs when the much-dreaded monster the plague is advancing with rapid strides towards the South—notwithstanding the precautions which our benign Government is taking to check its advance.

With serious alarm do we note the fact that during the last two weeks, we have had, in this station, 117 arrivals from the northern district, 60 from Malabar and 57 from the affected districts in the North where the plague is raging with virulence. In spite of inspection and strict vigilance, the number of such arrivals from the affected parts is constantly on the increase. We have also among us, a Medical Officer specially deputed by the Ceylon Government to scrutinise emigrants and passengers to Colombo.

This strict medical examination by Ceylon Government of intending passengers to Colombo coupled with the absence (till now) of any measures undertaken by our Government to prevent the rapid influx of passengers into this port, makes us feel very anxious that should the present state of things continue, our station will at no distant date become an asylum for all panic-stricken people of the North who, in their eager desire to escape the danger of the situation, will fly away in large numbers to the Southernmost corner of the Presidency.

We, therefore, feel it a duty incumbent upon us to bring to your notice the grave and impending danger which threatens this station the danger of its becoming a source of infection to the whole district (which God forbid.)

With a view to avert this danger and protect ourselves and our district against the importation of the plague we beg to lay before you the following scheme—a purely protective measure in the interest of the district. In so doing, we hope that you will be pleased to give your best consideration to it. Should our scheme meet with your approval, we request that energetic steps be at once taken to carry it out.

Passengers from affected localities or places declared to be under Vigilance may be examined at Kadumbur, and any suspected case or a case of real plague, may be detained in a segregation camp erected for the purpose either at Kadumbur or in any open plain within easy reach of the station. A sequestered spot on a highground situated in an open plain not far from Kadumbur will, we believe, best answer the purpose. Such examination and detention of passengers when necessary will effectively prevent the rush of all sorts of passengers into large towns like Tuticorin and Tinnevely and serve the purpose of protecting the other towns of the district from the danger of infection.

When the financial aspect of the scheme comes to be considered, we believe due weight will be given to the circumstance, that it is not a purely local measure intended for the benefit of the inhabitants of Tuticorin, but it has a wider scope as it concerns the well being of the inhabitants of Tinnevely as well.

In conclusion, we request that having regard to the imperative necessity of protecting this town and through it, the whole district, energetic steps be at once taken to prevent the outbreak among us of this dangerous epidemic which has wrought terrible havoc wherever it has appeared.

We remain

Sir

Your obedient and humble Servants

Tuticorin

28 October 1898

Signature

A. Robert

Chambers

J. S. S. S.

Ansathen

Med. H. H. H.

Navadia

Designation

Agent. Bank of India, Tuticorin

Agent. National Bank of India, Tuticorin

Merchant Tuticorin

Agent. D. S. S.

Agent. D. S. S.

Agent. D. S. S.

Signatures

P. X. Rayappa

P. X. Rayappa

P. X. Rayappa

P. X. Rayappa

P. X. Rayappa

P. X. Rayappa

P. X. Rayappa

P. X. Rayappa

Designation

R. C. Missionary

R. C. Missionary

R. C. Missionary

R. C. Missionary

R. C. Missionary

R. C. Missionary

R. C. Missionary

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[illegible]

Sept. 22/11/98.

86/11/61 Gellert
Muller

No. Ref. ar. cur. 998 of 1898 Tinnevely Collector's Office,
SBP Dated 10th, November 1898.

through their sanitary staff. The Agent of the S.I.R. Company has issued instructions to the Station Masters for the destruction of rats found in grain bags &c. within railway good-sheds. In Tuticorin grain bags arriving by sea from Bombay and other infected areas, before being allowed into the ^{town} ~~port~~, are or should be carefully examined by a Medical Officer.

4. In Tuticorin a special plague medical officer named --- Mr. Bowie-a retired Assistant Surgeon and a nurse Mrs. Hillier-on salaries of 250 and 100 per mensem, respectively, have been specially appointed. They inspect on the Railway platform all passengers arriving by rail and in the steamers all persons -- ~~from infected places~~ coming by sea. Dr. Bowie also issues passports under Regulation 17. In the examination of passengers they are assisted by ---- Dr. Bava, Colonial Surgeon of the Ceylon Government, who has been deputed by that Government to inspect medically at Tuticorin all passengers bound for Ceylon, with a view to prevent the -- importation of plague into that island.

5. The precautionary measures in regard to the importation of Bangalore vegetables prescribed in the Commissioner's Proceedings No. 3/109-dated 8-10-98 have been widely published and the importers have been warned of the risk ~~of~~ arising from the importation of such vegetables.

6. A copy of the Tuticorin petition has been sent to me, and I proposed to reply that the idea of an inspection station at Kadambur was premature in reference to G.Os. 98-P/25-2-98 and 1090-P/17-9-98, and that all the steps considered necessary by Government for the protection of the District were being taken, and that the best course for the petitioners to adopt for --- their own safety and that of their fellow citizens is to get themselves inoculated. Arrangements for inoculation are just being started in Tuticorin. Probably an endorsement to this effect will come with greater force from the Plague Commissioner, and I would suggest that it might be sent through this office.

7. The endorsement under re- I have the honour to be,
-ply is herewith returned. Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Amsteggen

Collector.

Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

Recd no 2361.8/7-11-98

*To the Plague Commissioner n.o.
for forwarding disposal.*

*Recd
8/11/98*

7/11/98

*File with the file already
recd show long
8/11/98*

Order

CURRENT No. 2393 P

From The Residents
of Tuticorin.

No.

Dated 28-10-98

Received } 3-11-98
Registered }

Enclosures

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Submitting petition request-
ing that steps may be taken
to prevent the importation
of plague into their town
and District.

Out up

12/11/98

*Defence
End. as per
large head*

*Secretary
about inoculation
as there is
a new case
in Tuticorin*

S.T.T. 12/11/98

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

To

*The Chief Secretary -
to the
Government of Madras*

CHIEF SECRETARY
3 NOV. 1898
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

We the undersigned residents of Tuticorin (representing the various professions and interests) most respectfully beg to lay before you the following facts in the hope, that after a careful perusal of our representations and suggestions, you will be pleased to sanction the adoption of urgent measures with a view to safeguard the vital interests of this important town.

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9/11/98

