[L. & M. 1,000—16-5-98.]

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# Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

## Plague.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1244

DATED 12-8-99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Notifications

Reading letter from the Chief Comm.r Ajmer-Merwara forwarding copies of certain —— issued under the Epidemic Diseases Act for preventing the importation and spread of plague in Ajmere-Merwara

## BACK PAPERS.

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

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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L. & M.
1,000—1c. 8-99.

Plague.

# Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

**CURRENT No.** 2304P

12/8

**From** The Chief Commissioner Ajmer-Merwara

**Order No** 1244 P. reis. 9/12-8-99.

Recorded.

No. 787

10/VIII/99

**Dated** 28-7-1899

**Received** at Delhi 3-8-99 at Simla 7-8-99

**Registered** 7-8-99

**Enclosures** 4

**Spare copies** 5 each.

8/8/99

V. h.

all these subjects must be taken note of & filed separately for easy reference by

will be attended to.

Mcl. 12.8.99

## SUBJECT.

Forwarding copies of certain notifications issued under the Epidemic Diseases Act for preventing the importation and spread of bubonic plague in Ajmer-Merwara.

Mcl. 8/8/99.

## BACK PAPERS.

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

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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# Orders by the Chief Commissioner, Ajmere-Merwara.

## Precautions against the importation of Plague into Municipal Towns and Cantonments.

### NOTIFICATION No. 616.

*Dated Mount Abu, the 22nd June* 1899.

*In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, and by the Notification of the Government of India in the Home Department No. 834, dated 6th March 1897, and in supersession of the Rules contained in Part I of Notification No. 245, dated the 18th March 1897, the Chief Commissioner of Ajmere-Merwara is pleased to issue the following Rules for preventing the importation of the bubonic plague into Municipal towns and Cantonments in Ajmere-Merwara:—*

**Date of taking effect.**

1. These rules shall come into force at once.

**Health Officer defined.**

2. The words "Health Officer" in the following rules mean the Civil Surgeon of Ajmere, and any other Medical Officer duly appointed as Health Officer of a Municipality or Cantonment, under Notification issued by the Chief Commissioner, and shall include an Inspecting Medical Officer at a Railway Inspecting Station, and any other Medical or Subordinate Officer appointed as an Assistant Health Officer under these Rules. All the above officers are invested with powers to enforce the rules made by the Government of India and the Chief Commissioner, under the Epidemic Diseases Act, and to issue such orders in any particular case as may be necessary for the carrying out of those rules.

**Appointment of Health Officers.**

3. In every Municipality or Cantonment a Health Officer shall be appointed

under Notification issued by the Chief Commissioner, either by name or by virtue of office, to devise and carry out under the general directions of the Commissioner, all measures necessary to prevent the spread of the plague.

For every Municipality or Cantonment in which a Health Officer is appointed a scheme shall be prepared under the direction of the Commissioner, showing in detail the arrangements for public and private hospitals and camps, medical staff, medicines, disinfectants, etc., which it is proposed to bring into force in the event of plague breaking out.

Subject to confirmation by the Chief Commissioner, the Commissioner may appoint in any Municipality or Cantonment one or more Assistant Health Officers, with such Subordinate Staff or establishment as may be required, to assist the Health Officer in carrying out his duties.

**Appointment of Plague Committees.**

4. For every Municipality or Cantonment in which the Commissioner may consider such action to be necessary, a Plague Committee shall be appointed, under the presidency of the Health Officer, consisting of European and Native Gentlemen of position (Hindu and Muhammadan), including Honorary Magistrates, Municipal Commissioners and other residents. The members of the Committee shall be distributed as equally as possible for service in each ward of the Municipality or Mohalla of the Cantonment, and the duties required of them shall be performed by roster or other convenient arrangement.

**Duties of Plague Committees.**

5. The objects and duties of a Plague Committee shall be :—

(*a*) To assist the Health Officer and the District or Cantonment authorities in all measures adopted to protect the Municipality or Cantonment from the importation of plague or to eradicate it, by explaining to all persons affected by those measures the reasons and necessity for the same, and by giving advice on all points referred to it, with a view to mitigate as far as may be possible the inconvenience and hardship arising from plague precautions.



(*b*) To organize and promote the formation of private and caste hospitals and camps, and to administer any charitable funds which may be collected with the above object.

(*c*) To visit and inspect all public detention or segregation camps, and to attend at the arrival of trains at the Railway Station, in order to assist the Medical Inspecting Officers, and to bring to notice any reasonable complaints made by passengers or persons under detention.

(*d*) To accompany the Health Officer when investigating cases of suspected plague, and to assist in the enforcement of all rules regarding evacuation of infected premises, and the segregation of all plague-stricken or infected persons. A copy of the proceedings of every Meeting of a Plague Committee shall be transmitted through the District or Cantonment Magistrate, as the case may be, for the information of the Commissioner.

**Report by householder.**

6. If there is, or has been, resident in any house a person who has come from any area infected with bubonic plague, the owner of such house, or if the owner be non-resident, the occupier and every head of a family resident therein, shall report at the nearest Police Station (1) all cases of illness accompanied by fever occurring within 10 days of the arrival of such person, (2) the death of any person from such illness.

**Report by Medical practitioner.**

7. Any Medical practitioner who (1) attends a case of illness in a house in which there is present a person who has come from an area infected with bubonic plague, or

who (2) attends in any house a case in which he has reason to believe the sick person to be infected with bubonic plague, shall immediately report such illness to the nearest Police Station.

**Report by the Police.**

8. On receiving a report under Rule 6 or 7, the officer in charge of the Police Station shall immediately report the matter to the District Superintendent of Police, the District or Cantonment Magistrate and the Health Officer. On receipt of a report as above described the Health Officer shall, accompanied, if possible, by a member of the Plague Committee, visit the house and enquire into and deal with the case in the manner provided by Rules 5 and 6, Notification No. 617, dated the 22nd June 1899, which will then come into force as far as is necessary for the purposes of the particular case.

**Private Hospitals and Camps.**

9. When the members of a particular caste or private family desire to provide a Hospital and Camp for the reception of those among them who may be attacked by plague or become infected, they may apply in writing to the Health Officer for permission to construct and use such Hospital or Camp. If after such enquiry as may be necessary the Health Officer approves of the site and arrangements made for management, he shall give a written license for such Hospital and Camp.

It shall be the duty of the applicant or applicants to arrange so that the Hospital and Camp may be constructed without delay as soon as a case of plague occurs.

**Expenses.**

10. All expenses incurred in carrying out these rules shall be paid from the Municipal or Cantonment Fund, or from any allotment or special grant sanctioned by Government for the purpose.

**Registration of burial and burning grounds.**

11. In every Municipality and Cantonment the District or Cantonment Magistrate shall cause to be registered any place used as a burial or burning ground which has not been already registered under the Ajmere Municipalities Regulation or the Cantonment Act and Rules, and no place which has not been registered shall be used as a burial or burning ground.



**Control.**

The general supervision of the arrangements for dealing with plague in Ajmere-Merwara is in the hands of the Administrative Medical Officer, under the control of and subject to report to the Chief Commissioner.

The responsibility for the due enforcement and application of these rules rests with the Commissioner, but he is empowered to distribute the duties so entailed between the Civil Surgeon, the Assistant Commissioners, and Cantonment Magistrates, as he may think fit.

All powers conferred upon District and Cantonment Magistrates and Health Officers by these rules shall be exercised subject to the general control of the Commissioner.

Any orders issued by the Administrative Medical Officer to the Civil Surgeon in connection with plague matters shall be communicated to the Commissioner.

# Orders by the Chief Commissioner, Ajmere-Merwara.

## Prevention of the spread of Bubonic Plague in Municipal towns and Cantonments.

### NOTIFICATION No. 617.

*Dated Mount Abu, the 22nd June* 1899.

*In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-section* (1) *of Section* 2 *of the Epidemic Diseases Act*, 1897, *and by the Notification of the Government of India in the Home Department No.* 834, *dated the 6th March* 1897, *and in supersession of the Rules contained in Part I of this office Notification No.* 245 *of the* 18*th March* 1897, *the Chief Commissioner of Ajmere-Merwara is pleased to prescribe the following rules for preventing the spread of bubonic Plague in Municipal towns and Cantonments in Ajmere-Merwara:—*

**Date of taking effect.**

1. Except as provided in Rule 8 of Notification No. 616, dated the 22nd June 1899, these rules shall come into force in any Municipality or Cantonment from the date on which the Commissioner may, by proclamation issued with the sanction of the Chief Commissioner, declare the plague to be prevalent there, and shall continue in force until by a similar proclamation he shall declare the plague to have ceased.

**Health Officer defined.**

2. The words "Health Officer" in the following rules mean the Civil Surgeon of Ajmere and any other Medical Officer duly appointed as Health Officer of a Municipality or Cantonment, under Notification issued by the Chief Commissioner, and shall include an Inspecting Medical Officer at a Railway Inspecting Station, and any other Medical or Subordinate Officer appointed as an Assistant Health Officer under these rules.

All the above officers are invested with powers to enforce the rules made by the Government of India and the Chief Commissioner under the Epidemic Diseases Act, and to issue such orders in any particular case as may be necessary for the carrying out of these rules.

**Appointment of Health Officers.**

3. Subject to confirmation by the Chief Commissioner, the Commissioner may appoint in any Municipality or Cantonment where plague has been declared to be prevalent, one or more Assistant Health Officers, with such Subordinate Staff or establishment as may be required to assist the Health Officer in taking steps to prevent the spread of the disease.

**Appointment of Plague Mohulladars.**

4. On the outbreak of plague in any Municipality or Cantonment, and the consequent publication and enforcement of these rules, in cases in which the Commissioner may consider such action to be advisable, the Municipality or Cantonment shall be divided into circles, each containing 300 houses, more or less, as may be convenient.

For every circle a sufficient number of representative persons resident in the locality shall be enrolled as Plague Mohulladars, and shall be detailed for duty by roster or otherwise.

**Duties of Plague Mohulladars.**

5. It shall be the duty of Plague Mohalladars to attend daily, or as may be directed at the Health Office of their circle, and to report to the Health Officer the names and addresses of all persons who may have come to reside in or may have left their circle during the previous 24 hours.

The Mohulladars on duty will daily visit every portion of their circle, and will report immediately to the officer on duty at the Health Office of the Circle any case of suspicious illness which may come to their notice.

All orders and notices issued by the Health Officer under these rules regarding the removal and segregation of sick persons or of those infected through contact with them, for the evacuation and disinfection of buildings



and other matters herein provided for, shall be served through the Mohulladar, who is the representative of the person or persons on whom such order or notice is issued, and shall jointly with such person or persons, be responsible for the due compliance with the order or notice in question.

All compensation that may be awarded for the destruction of infected property, or by reason of anything done under these rules, shall be paid in the presence of the Plague Mohulladar concerned, and he shall generally form the channel of communication between the Health Officer or other authority and the residents of the Circle of whom he is the representative.

**Procedure in case of suspected plague.**

6. When the Health Officer has reason to believe that a case of Plague has occurred in a house within his charge he shall proceed with, if possible, the Plague Mohalladars of the Circle to enquire into the case. The owner and occupier of the house shall permit the Health Officer to enter his premises and examine any person whom such Health Officer has reason to believe to be infected with bubonic Plague. In case of resistance or refusal the Health Officer may call in the Police Officer in charge of the station, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance, and shall take such other steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule. If the person is a female the examination shall be made through female agency.

**Segregation.**

7. (i) If on enquiry under the last preceding rule the Health Officer finds that a fatal case of Plague has occurred in the house, or that any person therein is suffering from or infected with Plague, he shall in the latter case cause such person to be removed to a hospital or Plague Camp, except when the person attacked by Plague is found to be in a moribund condition, in which case he shall not be removed until after death against the will of his or her family.

All the above officers are invested with powers to enforce the rules made by the Government of India and the Chief Commissioner under the Epidemic Diseases Act, and to issue such orders in any particular case as may be necessary for the carrying out of these rules.

**Appointment of Health Officers.**

3. Subject to confirmation by the Chief Commissioner, the Commissioner may appoint in any Municipality or Cantonment where plague has been declared to be prevalent, one or more Assistant Health Officers, with such Subordinate Staff or establishment as may be required to assist the Health Officer in taking steps to prevent the spread of the disease.

**Appointment of Plague Mohulladars.**

4. On the outbreak of plague in any Municipality or Cantonment, and the consequent publication and enforcement of these rules, in cases in which the Commissioner may consider such action to be advisable, the Municipality or Cantonment shall be divided into circles, each containing 300 houses, more or less, as may be convenient.

For every circle a sufficient number of representative persons resident in the locality shall be enrolled as Plague Mohulladars, and shall be detailed for duty by roster or otherwise.

**Duties of Plague Mohulladars.**

5. It shall be the duty of Plague Mohalladars to attend daily, or as may be directed at the Health Office of their circle, and to report to the Health Officer the names and addresses of all persons who may have come to reside in or may have left their circle during the previous 24 hours.

The Mohulladars on duty will daily visit every portion of their circle, and will report immediately to the officer on duty at the Health Office of the Circle any case of suspicious illness which may come to their notice.

All orders and notices issued by the Health Officer under these rules regarding the removal and segregation of sick persons or of those infected through contact with them, for the evacuation and disinfection of buildings



and other matters herein provided for, shall be served through the Mohulladar, who is the representative of the person or persons on whom such order or notice is issued, and shall jointly with such person or persons, be responsible for the due compliance with the order or notice in question.

All compensation that may be awarded for the destruction of infected property, or by reason of anything done under these rules, shall be paid in the presence of the Plague Mohulladar concerned, and he shall generally form the channel of communication between the Health Officer or other authority and the residents of the Circle of whom he is the representative.

**Procedure in case of suspected plague.**

6. When the Health Officer has reason to believe that a case of Plague has occurred in a house within his charge he shall proceed with, if possible, the Plague Mohalladars of the Circle to enquire into the case. The owner and occupier of the house shall permit the Health Officer to enter his premises and examine any person whom such Health Officer has reason to believe to be infected with bubonic Plague. In case of resistance or refusal the Health Officer may call in the Police Officer in charge of the station, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance, and shall take such other steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule. If the person is a female the examination shall be made through female agency.

**Segregation.**

7. (i) If on enquiry under the last preceding rule the Health Officer finds that a fatal case of Plague has occurred in the house, or that any person therein is suffering from or infected with Plague, he shall in the latter case cause such person to be removed to a hospital or Plague Camp, except when the person attacked by Plague is found to be in a moribund condition, in which case he shall not be removed until after death against the will of his or her family.

He shall a'so, in either case, cause the other occupants of the house in which the case of Plague has occurred to be removed to a Segregation Camp, and to be detained under observation for 10 days. Every order for the removal of a person suffering from or infected with Plague, or for the segregation of other persons infected by contact with him, shall be in writing and signed by the Health Officer. Such order shall be served on the owner or occupier of the house or head of the family concerned personally, and as a general rule no steps shall be taken to enforce it until the expiry of a maximum period of six hours from the time of service. In the event of the person responsible being absent or himself attacked with Plague the order shall be served on the representative Mohulladar of the Circle.

(ii) Subject to any special instructions received by him in this respect, the Health Officer is empowered to carry out by order in writing served as above described, the evacuation of those houses in the vicinity of that in which a case of Plague has occurred, the occupants of which are likely to have become infected, and to cause such occupants to be removed to a Segregation Camp and detained under observation for 10 days.

As a general rule no steps shall be taken to enforce any such order until the expiry of 12 hours from the time of service.

(iii) When private Hospitals and Camps have been provided under Rule 9 of Plague Notification No. 616, dated the 22nd June 1899, sick or suspected persons may, if they so desire, and if accommo-



dation is available, be removed to such Hospital or Camp instead of to a public Hospital or Segregation Camp.

(iv) In all Hospitals public or private the patients may be treated on such system, and by such Medical practitioners, as they or their friends may desire.

(v) In all Hospitals separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, and they shall, so far as is possible, be treated by female agency.

(vi) In all Hospitals the relatives, friends, *hakims*, *baids* and priests of sick persons shall be allowed free access to them at all times, subject to such precautions as the Health Officer may consider necessary.

(vii) All persons who may accompany and remain in attendance on a sick person in a public or private Hospital shall be accommodated in a Segregation Camp in the immediate vicinity, and shall not depart therefrom without the written permission of the Health Officer in charge.

(viii) Any person who may be attacked with Plague whilst under detention in a Segregation Camp, shall be removed to a Hospital, and become subject to the above rules.

(ix) All Hospitals' and Camps shall be suitably guarded, and in the case of private Hospitals and Camps the arrangements for guarding must be approved by the District or Cantonment Magistrate, and their cost will be met by the persons on whose application the Hospital or Camp was sanctioned.

(x) Any private Hospital or Camp may be closed by order of the

District or Cantonment Magistrate if the Health Officer reports that the conditions on which such Hospital or Camp was sanctioned have not been complied with, or that its continuance is objectionable or a source of danger to the neighbourhood.

**Disinfection and cleansing of houses, etc., by Health Officer.**

8. In any house in which a case of Plague has occurred the Health Officer shall take measures for the disinfection and cleansing of the house, and the destruction of bedding, clothing and articles of a similar nature which have become infected. The District or Cantonment Magistrate may, on the report of the Health Officer, order the burning or destruction of any hut or other temporary structure, if disinfection cannot be satisfactorily effected otherwise.

**Right of entry.**

9. The owner or occupier of any house in which a case of Plague has occurred, or which has otherwise become infected, shall permit the Health Officer and his staff to enter his house or premises for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the preceding rule. In case of resistance or refusal the Health Officer may call in the Police Officer in charge of the Station, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance, and shall take such further steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule: Provided that when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country, does not appear in public, the Health Officer shall not enter such apartment without giving notice and affording time to such female to withdraw.

**Evacuation of street or quarter.**

10. If bubonic Plague has become prevalent in a portion of a Municipality or Cantonment, the Magistrate of the District or the Cantonment Magistrate may, with the sanction of the Commissioner, direct the inhabitants of any street, mohalla, or other locality to vacate their houses, and to remove to a temporary settlement at a distance from the infected quarter.



The District Magistrate or the Cantonment Magistrate may, when necessary, provide such persons with temporary accommodation.

The Health Officer shall then arrange for the thorough disinfection and cleansing of the empty premises, and no person shall be permitted to return until the premises have been certified to be free from infection.

No order, issued by a District or Cantonment Magistrate under this rule, shall take effect until the expiry of at least 24 hours after the date of publication.

**Watch and Ward of houses.**

11. Whenever houses are vacated under Rules 7 (ii) or (10) each householder shall be permitted to make suitable arrangements for the care of his house and property during his absence, provided that the house is not occupied. He may remove any valuable property, or place seals upon it, and the District Magistrate or Cantonment Magistrate, as the case may be, will arrange for the watch and ward of empty houses, and will see that they are properly padlocked and secured.

**Duty of compliance.**

12. A person dealt with under the foregoing rules shall comply with any directions that may be given to him by a Health Officer, with regard to his removal to and his detention in a public or private Plague Hospital or Segregation Camp, and with respect to the disinfection or destruction by fire of his clothing and other personal effects or other similar matter. He shall not depart from any Plague Hospital, Segregation Camp or other place of detention without the permission of the Health Officer.

**Death reports and disposal of the dead.**

13. From the date on which the proclamation referred to in rule 1 of this Notification has been issued, the owner or occupier of any house and every head of a family resident therein shall, immediately on the occurrence of the death of any person in such house, report the fact to the officer in charge of the Health Office of his circle and to his representative Plague Mohulladar.

The corpse shall be removed from the house as soon as possible after death.

No medical examination shall be made of any corpse without the consent of the relatives of the deceased, but in the event of such examination being refused, or if the deceased has not been attended during his last illness by a qualified medical practitioner, whose certificate of the cause of death is satisfactory in the opinion of the Health Officer, the deceased may be held to have died from Plague, and all the provisions of these rules as regards segregation and detention may be applied to the other inmates of the house in which the death occurred.

The friends and relatives of any person dying from or held to have died from Plague shall be permitted to dispose of the corpse by cremation or burial in accordance with their religious practices, but they shall obey the directions of the Health Officer or other sanitary or executive authority as to the route and method of removing the corpse to the cremation or burial place. In the event of the failure or refusal of the relatives or friends of the deceased to dispose of the body, the Health Officer shall dispose of it in accordance with the religion of the deceased. The graves of all persons dying from Plague, who may be buried shall be dug at least six feet deep, and at a safe distance from any well or other source of water supply. In cases where cremation is carried out the body shall be completely burned, the clothes which have been in contact with the body, the bier or other funeral properties being either burnt according to custom or disinfected before removal.

**Establishment of Health Offices.**

14. Immediately on the appearance of Plague in any Municipality or Cantonment the Heath Officer shall, in consultation with the District or Cantonment Magistrate, establish a Health Office, with as many branch offices as may be required.

These offices will form the head-quarters of the Plague Administration of the Municipal or Cantonment area or sub-division of the



same, and shall remain open, as far as may be possible, day and night for the registration of all reports of illness or death from plague, and for the prompt issue of orders for dealing with each case. Under the orders of the Health Officer a subordinate official will always remain in charge of each office, and will form the channel of communication between the Medical and District Authorities and the Plague Mohalladars and the public generally. At each Health Office will be kept a supply of disinfectants and the implements required by the sanitary establishments maintained for combating the Plague. A sufficient number of ambulances or other means of conveyance for Plague cases, and the families of persons removed to hospitals and camps will also be provided.

**Disinfection of public conveyances.**

15. Any conveyance public or private that has been used by a person infected with or suspected of being infected with Plague, shall be thoroughly disinfected and exposed to air and sunlight for not less than 24 hours before being again used.

**Compensation.**

16. When any bedding, clothing or other articles of a similar nature are burnt or destroyed under the provisions of rule 8, the Health Officer shall be provided with sufficient funds, and empowered to award immediate compensation to the owner or owners to any amount not exceeding rupees five; should the property destroyed exceed in value the sum above named, compensation may be paid to the extent required on the order of the District or Cantonment Magistrate, who may consult the members of the Plague Committee appointed for the ward or mohalla, but shall not be bound by their award.

In all other cases the District or Cantonment Magistrate may in his discretion pay compensation to any person who has sustained substantial loss or damage by reason of anything done under these Rules, provided, however, that no person shall be entitled as of right to claim any compensation whatsoever.

**Control.**

17. All powers conferred upon a Health Officer, a District Magistrate or a Canton-

ment Magistrate, by these rules, shall be exercised subject to the general control of the Commissioner.

Delegation of powers.

18. All or any of the powers vested in the Commissioner under these rules may, with the sanction of the Chief Commissioner, be delegated to the Officer Commanding a Cantonment or to a District Magistrate, and all or any of the powers of a District or Cantonment Magistrate may, with the sanction of the Commissioner, be exercised by any other Gazetted Civil or Military Officer of Government.

Expenses.

19. All expenses incurred in carrying out these rules shall in the first instance be paid from the Municipal or Cantonment Fund, or from any general allotment or special grant made for the purpose by the Government of India, but the District Magistrate or the Cantonment Magistrate may recover from any person any amount which such person would under similar circumstances be liable to pay to the Commissioners under the Ajmere Municipalities Regulation or the Cantonment Act or Rules, as the case may be.

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# Orders by the Chief Commissioner, Ajmere-Merwara.

## Precautions against the importation of Plague into villages and non-Municipal towns.

### NOTIFICATION No. 618.

*Dated Mount Abu the 22nd June* 1899.

*In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-section (1) of Section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act,* 1897, *and by the Notification of the Government of India in the Home Department, No.* 834, *dated the 6th March* 1897, *and in supersession of the Rules contained in Part II of this office Notification No.* 245, *dated the* 18*th March* 1897, *the Chief Commissioner of Ajmere-Merwara is pleased to prescribe the following rules for preventing the importation of bubonic Plague into villages and non-Municipal towns in Ajmere-Merwara:—*

**Date of taking effect.**

1. These rules shall come into force at once.

**Health Officer defined.**

2. The words "Health Officer" in the following rules mean the Civil Surgeon of Ajmere and any other Medical or Subordinate Officer appointed as an Assistant Health Officer under these rules.

The above officers are invested with powers to enforce the rules made by the Government of India and the Chief Commissioner under the Epidemic Diseases Act, and to issue such orders in any particular case as may be necessary for giving effect to the rules.

**Appointment of Health Officers.**

3. A Health Officer shall be appointed for each of the Districts of Ajmere and Merwara, either by name or by virtue of office, to devise and carry out under the general directions of the Commissioner all measures necessary to prevent the spread of the Plague. Subject to confirmation by the Chief Commissioner, the Commissioner may appoint in any District

or Revenue Sub-Division of a District one or more Assistant Health Officers, with such subordinate staff or establishment as may be required, to assist the Health Officer in carrying out his duties.

**Report by owner or occupier of land and the head of every family.**

4. Every owner or occupier of land or Agent of such person, and the head of every family resident in a village or non-Municipal town, shall report at once through the village Chowkidar or "Balai" to the Officer in charge of the nearest Police Station the occurrence of any suspicious case of illness in his house, if either he or any other person staying or who has stayed on his premises has recently arrived from an infected area, or has been on pilgrimage, or has attended any religious fair or gathering beyond the limits of Rajputana.

**Duties of Village Officials and head men.**

5. Every Patwari, Bhumia, Lumberdar or Patel and every officer employed by the Court of Wards or by an estate owner as a Kamdar or Havildar is responsible that the report prescribed in rule 4 is duly made, and that temporary arrangements are carried out for the segregation of any person suffering from illness of a suspicious nature until the Health Officer arrives. They shall also render every assistance to the Health Officer in the execution of his office, and shall be employed to give effect to the orders issued by the Health Officer and by the District Magistrate or by any officer appointed to assist the District Magistrate.

**Report by the Police.**

6. On receipt of a report under Rule 4 the Officer in charge of the Police Station shall immediately report the matter to the District Superintendent of Police, to the District Magistrate and to the Health Officer. He shall also at once depute a subordinate Police Officer to the village concerned to ensure that the temporary arrangements prescribed in rule 5 are carried out.

**Inquiry by Health Officer.**

7. On receipt of a report under rule 6 the Health Officer shall proceed in person or shall depute a subordinate Health Officer to visit the village in which the suspicious illness has occurred, and investigate the case in the



manner provided by rules 3, 4 and 5 of Notification No. 619, dated the 22nd June 1899, which will then come into force so far as is necessary for the purposes of the particular case.

**Expenses.**

8. All expenses incurred in carrying out these rules shall be paid from the District Fund or from any allotment or special grant sanctioned by Government for the purpose.

**Control.**

9. The responsibility for the due enforcement and application of these rules rests with the Commissioner, but he is empowered to distribute the duties so entailed between the Civil Surgeon, the District Magistrate and any Military officer appointed to assist the District Magistrate as he may think fit.

All powers conferred upon any of the officers above named by these rules shall be exercised subject to the general control of the Commissioner.

# Orders by the Chief Commissioner, Ajmere-Merwara.

## Prevention of the spread of Bubonic Plague in villages and non-Municipal towns.

### NOTIFICATION No. 619.

*Dated Mount Abu, the 22nd June* 1899.

*In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-section* (1) *of Section* 2 *of the Epidemic Diseases Act,* 1897, *and by the Notification of the Government of India in the Home Department No.* 834 *of the 6th March* 1897, *and in supersession of the rules contained in Part II of this office Notification No.* 245, *dated the* 18*th March* 1897, *the Chief Commissioner of Ajmere-Merwara is pleased to prescribe the following rules for preventing the spread of bubonic Plague in villages and non-Municipal towns:—*

**Date of taking effect.**

1. Except as provided in rule 7 of Notification No. 618, dated the 22nd June 1899, these rules shall come into force in any District or Revenue Sub-division of a District from the date on which the Commissioner may, by proclamation, issued with the sanction of the Chief Commissioner, declare the Plague to be prevalent, and shall continue in force until by a similar proclamation he shall declare the Plague to have ceased.

**Appointment of Assistant Health Officers.**

2. On Plague being declared prevalent in any District or Revenue Sub-Division of a District, the Commissioner may, subject to confirmation by the Chief Commissioner, appoint one or more Assistant Health Officers, with such subordinate staff or establishment as may be required, to assist the Health Officer in taking steps to prevent the spread of the disease.

**Procedure in case of Suspected Plague.**

3. When the Health Officer has reason to believe that a case of Plague has occurred in any village or non-Municipal town in his charge he shall proceed to enquire into the

case, and shall be accompanied if possible by the headman of the village, or some other of the responsible officials named in rule 5 of Notification No. 618, dated the 22nd June 1899.

The owner and occupier of the house shall permit the Health Officer to enter his premises and examine any person whom such Health Officer has reason to believe to be infected with bubonic Plague.

In case of resistance or refusal the Health Officer may call in any Police Officer, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance, and shall take such other steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule. If the person is a female the examination shall be made through female agency.

**Segregation.**

4. (i) If on enquiry under the last preceding rule the Health Officer finds that a fatal case of Plague has occurred in the house, or that any person therein is suffering from or infected with Plague, he shall in the latter case cause such person to be removed to a hospital or Plague Camp, except when the person so suffering from Plague is in a moribund condition, when he or she shall not be removed until after death against the will of his or her family.

He shall also, in either case, cause the other occupants of the house in which the case of Plague has occurred to be removed to a segregation camp, and to be detained under observation for 10 days. Every order for the removal of a person suffering from or infected with Plague, or for the segregation of other persons infected by contact with him, shall be in writing, and signed by the Health Officer. Such order shall be served on the owner or occupier of the house or head of the family concerned personally, and no steps shall be taken to enforce it until the expiry of six hours from the time of service. In the event of the person responsible being absent or himself attacked with Plague, the order shall be served on the Lumbardar or Patel of his "thok."



(ii) Subject to any special directions received by him in this respect the Health Officer is empowered to carry out, by order in writing served as above described, the evacuation of those houses in the vicinity of that in which a case of Plague has occurred, the occupants of which are likely to have become infected, and to cause such occupants to be removed to a Segregation Camp and detained under observation for 10 days.

As a general rule no steps shall be taken to enforce any such order until the expiry of 12 hours from the time of service.

(iii) In all Plague Hospitals or Camps the patients may be treated on such system and by such medical practitioners as they or their friends desire.

(iv) In all Plague Hospitals and Camps separate and suitable accommodation shall be provided for females, and they shall, so far as is possible, be treated by female agency.

(v) In all Plague Hospitals and Camps the relatives, friends, *hakims*, *baids* and priests of sick persons shall be allowed free access to them at all times, subject to such precautions as the Health Officer may consider necessary.

(vi) All persons who may accompany and remain in attendance on a sick person in a Plague Hospital or Camp shall be accommodated in a Segregation Camp in the immediate

vicinity, and shall not depart therefrom without the written permission of the Health Officer in charge.

(vii) Any person who may be attacked with Plague whilst under detention in a Segregation Camp shall be removed to a hospital and become subject to the above rules.

(viii) All Plague Hospitals and Segregation Camps shall be suitably guarded, under the directions of the District Magistrate or any other officer empowered by him.

**Disinfection and cleansing of houses, &c., by Health Officer.**

5. In any house in which a case of Plague has occurred, the Health Officer shall take measures for the disinfection and cleansing of the house, and the destruction of bedding, clothing and articles of a similar nature which have become infected. The District Magistrate or any Military Officer appointed as an Assistant to the District Magistrate for Plague purposes, may, on the report of the Health Officer, order the burning or destruction of any hut or other temporary structure if disinfection cannot be satisfactorily effected otherwise.

**Right of entry.**

6. The owner or occupier of any house in which a case of Plague has occurred or which has otherwise become infected, shall permit the Health Officer and his staff to enter his house or premises for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the preceding rule. In case of resistance or refusal the Health Officer may call in any Police Officer, who may arrest without warrant any person offering active resistance, and shall take such further steps as may be necessary to give effect to the rule, provided that when an apartment is occupied by a female who, according to the custom of the country does not appear in public, the Health Officer shall not enter such apartment without giving notice and affording time to such female to withdraw.

**Evacuation of village.**

7. If bubonic Plague appears in any village or non-Municipal town, the District Magistrate may, with the sanction of the Commissioner, direct the inhabitants of any



village or hamlet of a village or of any town or portion of a town to vacate their houses, and to remove to a temporary settlement at a distance from the infected quarter. The District Magistrate may, when necessary, provide such persons with temporary accommodation.

The Health Officer shall then arrange for the thorough disinfection and cleansing of the empty premises, and no person shall return to such premises until they have been certified to be free from infection and permission to return notified by the District Magistrate.

In order to secure compliance with the above rule a *cordon* of police or chowkidars should be posted round the vacated area, under the directions of the District Magistrate, and should be maintained day and night until occupation is again permitted.

As a general rule no order of vacation issued by a District Magistrate under this rule shall take effect untill the expiry of 24 hours after the date of publication.

**Watch and ward of vacated areas.**

8. Whenever a house or area is vacated under rules 4 and 7, each householder shall be permitted to make suitable arrangements for the care of his house and property during his absence, provided that the house is not occupied. He may remove any valuable property or place seals upon it, and the District Magistrate will arrange for the watch and ward of empty houses, and will take steps to have them properly padlocked and secured.

**Duty of compliance.**

9. A person dealt with under the foregoing rules shall comply with any directions that may be given to him by a Health Officer with regard to his removal to and his detention in a Plague Hospital or Segregation Camp, and with respect to the disinfection or destruction by fire of his clothing and other personal effects, or other similar matter.

He shall not depart from any Plague Hospital or Camp or Segregation Camp or other place of detention without the permission of the Health Officer.

Disposal of the dead.

10. From the date on which the proclamation referred to in Rule 1 of this Notification has been issued, the friends of any person dying within the limits of a village or non-Municipal town shall be permitted to dispose of the corpse by cremation or burial in accordance with their religious practices, but they shall obey the directions of the District Magistrate or Health Officer as to the place and method of cremation or burial, or route of removal of the corpse. The coffin and cloth used to cover the corpse when not interred with the corpse shall be destroyed. In cases where cremation is the custom the cloths brought in contact with the corpse shall be either burnt or disinfected.

Compensation.

11. When any bedding, clothing or other articles of a similar nature are burnt or destroyed under the provisions of Rule 4 the Health Officer shall be provided with sufficient funds and empowered to award immediate compensation to the owner or owners to any amount not exceeding Rupees five. Should the property destroyed exceed in value the sum above named, compensation may be paid to the extent required on the order of the District Magistrate, who may consult the village headmen and other village officials, but shall not be bound by their award.

In all other cases the District Magistrate may in his discretion pay compensation to any person who has sustained substantial loss or damage by reason of anything done under these rules, provided however that no person shall be entitled as of right to claim any compensation whatsoever.

Control.

12. All powers conferred upon a Health Officer, a District Magistrate or a Military Officer appointed as an Assistant to a District Magistrate by these rules shall be exercised subject to the general control of the Commissioner.

Delegation of powers.

13. All or any of the powers vested in the Commissioner under these rules may, with the sanction of the Chief Commissioner, be delegated to a District Magistrate, and all or any



of the powers of a District Magistrate may, with the sanction of the Commissioner, be exercised by any other gazetted Civil or Military Officer of Government.

Expenses.

14. All expenses incurred in carrying out these rules shall in the first instance be paid from the District Fund or from any general allotment or special grant made for the purpose by the Government of India, but the District Magistrate may recover from any person any amount which such person would under similar circumstances be liable to pay to the District Fund Committee under the Ajmere Rural Boards Regulation (VI of 1886) or any other law.

No. 789 of 1899.

From

The Chief Commissioner,
Ajmer-Merwara.

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government
of Madras.

HOME SECRETARIAT
-3 AUG. 1899
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Dated Abu, the 28 July 1899.

Sir,

In continuation of the correspondence ending with letter No. 1494, dated the 13th December 1898, from this office, I have the honour to forward a copy of each of the Notifications noted in the margin containing revised Rules issued under Section 2 Sub-section (1) of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, for preventing the importation and spread of bubonic plague in Ajmer-Merwara.

x with one spare copy

Nos. 616, 617, 618 and 619, dated the 22nd June 1899

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

For Chief Commissioner,
Ajmer-Merwara.