

Local & Munl. (189) Department.
Plague.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1705P.

DATED 29-11-99

[Despatch Abstract.]
Qⁿ XXII asked at the ^{last meeting of the} Legislative Council

Recording the question and answer relating to
the issue of passports to passengers from Kuppam.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

NOTE FOR THE

The Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RATNASABHAPATI PILLAI Avargal :—

XXIX. With reference to the complaint which has appeared in the columns of the *Madras Mail* of the 14th October 1899, I beg to ask whether it is a fact that passengers arriving at Jallarpet from Kuppam and other uninfected areas are examined at Jallarpet and their tickets punched, with the result that they are furnished with passports at the place of their destination compelling their appearance for medical observation for ten days ?

Note for the Secretary

Original Mufassal Regulation 17 (i) imposes the obligation of taking out passports, at the place of destination, on all persons arriving or suspected of having arrived not only (i) from any place declared to be infected with plague, but also (ii) from any place notified by H. E. the Governor of F. S. & C. in Council for the purposes of this regulation unless specially exempted. 2. When any such person passes through a Railway Inspection Station his ticket is marked by a punch with a special device to enable detection at the place of his destination.

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P.C's Prop 4614/21-2-99

The railway stations of Kuppam, Gudupali, Mulanur and Patchur, though they are uninfected, were notified under Muf. Reg 17(i) for the purposes of passport rules, as they are so close to the Mysore Province that passengers from adjacent infected villages may travel by road to these stations and thence book by rail for the purpose of evading the passport rules. Submitted that the question of the Hon'ble Member may be answered in the affirmative with the remark that H.E. has notified the railway station of Kuppam under Orig. Muf. Reg 17(i) specially for the purposes of the passport rules. The annexed draft is submitted for approval.

Co 934 P d/17-6-99

P.C.'s Progs 362 d/24-10-98

NOTE FOR THE Local & Mun. Dept

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Draft answer

XXIX. "Yes. Kuppam and the other three railway stations on the Madras Railway between Jallarpet and the Mysore frontier are not infected with plague, but the passport rules have been extended to them by Notification No 530, Part I-A p. 242, Fort St. George Gazette, dated 20th June 1899 owing to their close proximity to the Mysore Province where plague still exists. It was found that people from this Province ^{were} travelling by road as far as these stations and then booking by railway in order to conceal the fact of their having originated from the

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7/11/99

Started from an infected area + thus to evading the taking of passports at their destination.

7/11/99

Plague Regulations at Jolarpet.

SIR.—I beg to bring to the knowledge of the responsible authorities the irregularities in the working of Plague Rules at Jolarpet. I hardly find any reason why Plague Officers in that Station put passengers who travel through that junction from thoroughly uninfected areas to unnecessary and meaningless medical examination, and detain them for some time for purposes of disinfection, &c. Kuppam, as all know, is an uninfected area, and the local Government has declared it to be such. But yet passengers holding tickets from that station are for no reason greatly annoyed at the junction. Their tickets are punched as a sign that the holders are coming from an infected area and that they shall be given a passport at the destination. This procedure has been continuing during the past several months, and nobody has been wise enough to question this arbitrary and illegal measure adopted by the officials at Jolarpet and represent the grievances to higher authorities for redress. The Plague Regulation lays down a rule that persons from infected areas only must be given passports at the place of destination and makes no exception to the general rule. Though such is the case, passengers from Kuppam are invariably given passports wherever they arrive, because the punching of their tickets at Jolarpet has declared them to be coming from an infected area, whatever the rules of Government be. Surely I believe the continuance of such irregularities in the working of Government rules is the outcome of the want of proper supervision by higher authorities who have been kept in ignorance as to the state of affairs. I hope they will now lose no time to institute proper and early enquiries into the affair above referred to, and issue instructions to officers at Jolarpet to put a stop to their inquisitiveness in infringing the rights of the public.

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