

Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 206 Pmis ✓

DATED 8-2-99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Separation of plague infected from healthy families.

Recording letter from the Govt. of India forwarding
Copy of a circular issued by the Govt. of Bombay on the subject
of the — in villages.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Local & Munl. (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 2047

From The Govt of India.

Order No 206 P mis of 8-2-99

Recorded

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21/2/99

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No. 326

Dated 24-
Received 30-
Registered 31- } Jan 7 1899

Enclosures 1

Spare copies. 7 of Encl + 7 of Cur.

Copy to the Plague Committee
" Sanitary Commissioner
" Suggan. Seal
" President, M.C.,
" Madras

Despd
M. 8/12

SUBJECT.

Forwarding copy of a circular issued by the Govt of Bombay on the subject of the separation of plague infected and healthy families in villages, together with a copy of the resolution of that Govt therein referred to.

M
8/12

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No. 6977—7068-P., dated Bombay Castle, the 21st December 1898.

C I R C U L A R .

WITH reference to Government Resolution No. 6013—6105-P., dated the 1st November 1898, General Department (Plague), Government are aware that a large number of villages have now been vacated. The next step is to ensure that proper effect is given to clause (g), the separation of the sick from the healthy.

2. Officers on plague duty when visiting a village should first endeavour to make the people understand the meaning of what they enjoin and the reason for the separation of the sick and for prohibiting visits to infected families, houses and sites. Unless the people understand, their intelligent co-operation cannot be secured and without their good-will no effective organization is possible.

3. Next, the infected families should be completely separated from the rest of the population; and the sick person in an infected family should have a hut apart from that occupied by the as yet healthy members of his family. That is, the healthy should not be suffered to live in the same hut with the sick person. On any case occurring in a healthy family the family should be immediately removed from the neighbourhood of other healthy families.

4. In the towns and larger villages a proper organization can be established with means for treating the sick. But in all villages the danger of infection must be taught and guarded against or plague will linger on. Wherever cases are occurring in the fields, the officer on plague duty should give his earnest attention to these points, and endeavour to get at and remove the cause of infection continuing.

5. Collectors will be held responsible for the efficient working of these instructions and that officers on plague duty understand what they have to do. His Excellency the Governor in Council feels confident that no efforts will be spared during this favourable season and coming hot weather to free the districts from the disease. As cases diminish, the establishment should be massed on the place remaining infected and the last cases should be sought for and segregated with ever-increasing vigilance.

A. WINGATE,

*Acting Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Bombay,
General Department (Plague).*

To

The Plague Commissioner,
The Surgeon General with the Government of Bombay,
The Sanitary Commissioner for the Government of Bombay,
The Commissioner in Sind,
The Commissioner, N. D.,
The Commissioner, C. D.,
The Commissioner, S. D.,
All Collectors, including the Collectors and Deputy Commissioners in Sind,
(For communication to District Superintendents of Police.)
The Political Agents, Kolhapur and Southern Maratha Country, Kathiawar, Cutch, Rewa Kantha and Mahi Kantha,
The Political Superintendents, Palanpur and Savantvadi,
The Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay,
(With a copy of Government Resolution No. 6013—6105-P., dated the 1st November 1898.)
All Departments of the Secretariat (except the Separate, Ecclesiastical and Legislative Departments),
The Chairman, Poona Cantonment and Suburban Plague Committee,
The Chairman, Belgaum Plague Committee,
The Chairman, Karachi Plague Committee,
The Chairman, Hyderabad Plague Committee,
The Supervising Medical Officer, Railway Medical Inspection,
The Chief Plague Authority, Poona City,
The Accountant General,
The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor.

*e of each sent to
P.C. 3/11*

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the General Department (Plague),—No. 6013—6105-P., dated Bombay Castle, the 1st November 1898.

RESOLUTION.

His Excellency the Governor in Council has watched with grave concern the recent increase in the number of villages attacked by plague, specially in the Southern Maratha Country. So long as the rains continued, Government recognise the extreme difficulty of doing anything to check the rising mortality and to prevent the disease spreading from village to village. Now, however, that the drier weather is approaching, His Excellency the Governor in Council desires to impress upon all officers that Government continue to attach the highest importance to the following measures:—

- (a) Early and accurate information of the appearance of any suspicious cases of sickness and death.
- (b) Prompt and complete evacuation of a village on the occurrence of the first well ascertained local cases or where mortality among rats is apparent.

N.B.—The people should receive sufficient notice and all their reasonable requests be met as far as possible.

- (c) A sufficiently accurate census of the population of the infected village to prevent people leaving the village lands and entering other villages.
- (d) Well-organised arrangements to prevent surreptitious access to the houses vacated and to permit access when necessary, under due precautions.

N.B.—When cases occur among the evacuated population, the reason may in almost every case be traced to surreptitious communication with the vacated village.

- (e) Thorough and careful disinfection under responsible supervision of infected houses and clothing and admission of light and air.

N.B.—In small villages where the entire effects of the people can be exposed to the sun and the houses can be easily opened out to sun and air and two or three months can elapse before re-occupation is permitted, it may be left to the discretion of the Collector, advised by medical opinion, whether disinfection is necessary. Unless disinfection is conducted by a trusted officer, it is no use.

- (f) Maintenance of the prohibition that no one from a village which has been vacated must be allowed to take up his residence in another village, except with the written permission of the Plague Authority. This prohibition must be enforced by a Circle Inspector or other authority (according to the extent of infection) systematically moving in the villages round the infected area. As soon as any population is pronounced to be healthy, the prohibition should be cancelled and the population be free to move about.

N.B.—As a rule no passes should be given to leave an infected village till the population have been ten days in the open. The Circle Inspector's work must be carefully supervised.

- (g) The separation of the sick and infected families from the healthy.

N.B.—The healthy families should first be moved into the open. Then the sick with their families should be moved to a separate spot, for example, the opposite side of the village site.

2. For the effective supervision of these measures, the plague-infected area must be sub-divided under responsible officers, Staff Corps officers being employed where necessary. These officers should enlist to the utmost possible extent volunteer agency to assist in carrying out the measures. The measures are new to the people, particularly in fresh areas of infection and, if injudiciously or overzealously pressed, must defeat themselves by exciting opposition instead of gradually winning the co-operation of the people, or by scattering the people instead of inducing each village as soon as it is infected to settle

down quietly on its own lands. His Excellency in Council trusts that every officer on plague duty will continue to make it his special aim to train his subordinates to work with sympathy and consideration. Complaints should be encouraged and, where possible, the objection should be removed. The importance of these considerations cannot be overrated.

3. To enable officers to afford necessary relief where measures in the case of the poor press too harshly, and so to convince the people that the measures are undertaken for their benefit, a sum of money for discretionary relief as described in a separate Resolution of Government will be available. Collectors should from time to time apply to the Plague Commissioner for an allotment, but should, as far as possible, enlist private benevolence to assist.

4. The progress of evacuation should be particularly described in the weekly plague progress report.

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6.258

Chro 204P

No. 326 .



FROM
R. NATHAN, Esq.,
Under Secretary to the Government of India,

To
The Secy to the Govt. of Madras,
Local & Municipal Department.

Home Department.
Sanitary—Plague.

Calcutta, the 24 January 1899.

SIR,
I AM directed to forward, for the information of the Governor
in Council,
a copy of a circular* which has been issued
by the Government of Bombay on the
subject of the separation of plague-
infected and healthy families in villages.
A copy of the Resolution† referred to in the circular is also enclosed.

* No. 6977—7068-P., dated the 21st December 1898.
† No. 6013—6105-P., dated the 1st November 1898.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

R. Nathan

Under Secretary to the Government of India.

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Chro 204P 998

When given for copying 9/2
When copied 9/2 } 189
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READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATED
189 .

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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IN ORIGINAL.

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A = Copy in full.
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