

PRINTED.

G.O., No. 4187

DATED 17/3/99

[Despatch Abstract.]

Chincheput Observation System Scheme

*Agreeing with the ~~Collyer~~ Plague
Commissioners in considering that the
land frontier observation system
proposed by the Collyer of Chincheput
would effect no useful purpose.*

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Government {1899} of Madras. LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

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Enclosures

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G.O., No. 418 P., 17th March 1899.

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Chingleput Observation Scheme.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

From D. W. G. COWIE, Esq., Acting Collector of Chingleput, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated Saidapet, 10th January 1899, Ref. on No. 1981-G1.

In view of the reported appearance of the bubonic plague in an indigenous form in the district of North Arcot which marches with this district for some 150 miles, I have the honour to submit a scheme which I would propose to bring into force whenever the Government may decide that the time has come to place this district under observation. I would recommend that the scheme, if approved, be introduced in part or in full immediately plague in an indigenous form becomes established in North Arcot.

2. My proposals so far as the two * border taluks of the sub-division are concerned

* Madurántakam. | † Tiruvallúr.
Conjeeveram.

are those made by you when in this district: those relating to the third taluk † are a modification of the suggestions of the Divisional officer, the Deputy Collector, Tiruvallúr division. They are in brief to establish frontier inspection stations close to the boundary on all the main lines of communication with North Arcot and to divide the border taluks to a depth of ten miles from the border into observation circles, each with a radius of, as nearly as possible, five miles. This should, I think, suffice (at any rate at first) to protect this district, and would materially assist in the protection of the city of Madras.

3. *Frontier Inspection Stations.*—The main lines of communication to be watched are nine in number. Commencing from the south and travelling northwards, there are—

(a) in the Madurántakam taluk—

(1) the road leading from Wandiwash to Cheyur entering this district at Velamur.

(2) the road from Wandiwash *via* Uttramerur to Chingleput entering at Perunagar.

(b) in the Conjeeveram taluk—

(1) the road from Wandiwash to Conjeeveram entering at Punja Arasantangal.

(2) the High Western trunk road entering at Damal.

(3) the road from Arkonam to Conjeeveram entering at Padunelli;

(c) in the Tiruvallúr taluk—

(1) the road from Tirutani to Tiruvallúr entering at Ramanjeri.

(2) the road from Nagari to Utukottai entering at Rajanagaram.

(3) the road from Tirupati to Utukottai (which unites with No. 2 at Ramagiri not far from the boundary) entering at Pisatur.

(4) the road from Kálahasti to Varadayapaliem entering the district at Nelvoy.

To guard these nine routes eight frontier inspection stations will be necessary, that is, one on each route with the exception of Nos. 2 and 3 in the Tiruvallúr taluk for which one station at Ramagiri will suffice. The stations will be—

Madurántakam Taluk—(1) Velamur; (2) Perunagar.

Conjeeveram Taluk—(1) Punja Arasantangal; (2) Damal; (3) Padunelli.

Tiruvallúr Taluk—(1) Ramanjeri; (2) Ramagiri; (3) Nelvoy.

4. At each of the proposed stations I would recommend the establishment detailed

One hospital assistant.
One gumastah.
One conservancy maistry.
One toty.
Two police constables.

in the margin, a segregation camp to accommodate 12 persons and hospital sheds for three patients. The above is the establishment provided for such stations in the North Arcot and Cuddapah observation schemes. The hospital assist-

ants should, if possible, be provided by the Surgeon-General; but if that is impracticable, some of the minor dispensaries in the district may be closed and the officers in charge deputed to the frontier inspection stations. The remainder of the staff must be obtained locally.

5. *Observation Circles.*—In order that the traffic on the numerous foot-paths and cart-tracks all along the frontier may be effectually watched, it will be necessary to establish observation circles as described in paragraph 2 *supra*. Of these, I would propose seven in the Madurántakam and Conjeeveram taluks and four in the Tiruvallúr taluk, or eleven in all.

The number of villages in each circle, the head-quarter station (by the name of which each circle may be called), are given in a statement appended to this letter. Each circle will require a sanitary inspector on Rs. 40 *plus* travelling allowance and horse allowance (to be obtained through the Sanitary Commissioner), and I would give each of these men a peon on Rs. 7. The head-quarters of each circle has been fixed as nearly as possible at the centre of the circle.

6. Three circle supervisors will be required, one will have charge of circles I, II and III, one of circles IV, V, VI and VII and the third of VIII, IX, X and XI. Their head-quarters should be Madurántakam, Conjeeveram and Tiruvallúr. These stations are on the whole most conveniently placed and it will be as well for each supervisor to have his head-quarters at the same station as the Tahsildar of the taluk in which his work lies. The supervisors will be recruited from Europeans or Eurasians in the service of Government, will be paid Rs. 80 per mensem *plus* travelling and horse allowances as in the Cuddapah district, and each will have two peons on Rs. 7 each. Taluk peons will be deputed to do duty with the supervisors and inspectors and their places filled by temporary hands.

7. I would further propose to form two ambulance staffs according to the scale laid down in the Plague Regulations and keep them in readiness, one at Madurántakam and the other at Tiruvallúr. Two stretchers, &c., medical stores and disinfectants will be kept ready at each of those stations.

8. I enclose a statement showing (a) the initial outlay required, (b) the estimated monthly expenditure on the establishments proposed, (c) detailed information relating to the proposed observation circles and a map of the district (scale 4 miles to an inch) showing the main routes to be guarded, the proposed inspection stations and circles.

From D. W. G. COWIE, Esq., Acting Collector of Chingleput, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated Saidapet, 30th January 1899, Dis. No. D. 343.

With reference to my letter, No. 1981-Genl., dated 10th January 1899, I have the honour to forward revised statement showing the detailed information for the proposed observation circles and revised list of villages comprised in the four circles in the Tiruvallúr taluk to be substituted for the one already sent.

Telegram from the Collector of Chingleput, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated 11th February 1899.

My telegram yesterday. Suggest observation scheme recently submitted introduced forthwith Conjeeveram taluk, guard three main roads Madras. Constant arrivals from North Arcot.

Ref. on C. Nos. 606, 1373 and 1848, dated 21st February 1899.

The papers read above will be submitted for the early orders of Government. The Collector's scheme has been drawn up in accordance with the principles adopted in other districts, and, if it is considered desirable to bring such a scheme into force, it may be approved, with a few corrections of the rates of pay to be allowed.

2. Road frontier stations are in existence in Bellary and Kurnool, in parts of Anantapur and in North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Malabar and South Canara on the frontier of the Presidency. They are working fairly satisfactorily, considering the difficulty of attaining the result they are intended to ensure; but many are situated in flat open country, where there can be little difficulty in evading them even where they are supported by circle inspection staffs. From what I have seen of their working in open country I should be slow to recommend the introduction of such a system in the Chingleput district, where the country is flat and open, where bye-paths are numerous, and the traffic converging on Madras is likely to be far greater than in the localities where stations already exist.

3. Plague exists in an indigenous form in Vellore, Arcot and Wallajah and this undoubtedly is a serious menace to Madras. Circles have been formed for 20 miles round Vellore, and the Collector has been asked to extend them to cover 10 miles round Wallajah. The question to be answered practically amounts to this: "Is any system of land frontier stations to be introduced to protect Madras?" I have been told by the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, that he attempted to inspect all arrivals by road, but found it impossible. He has given me to understand that he considers a land frontier observation system (except so far as the rail roads are concerned) is impracticable. I am of opinion that such a scheme is unlikely to produce a result which will justify its cost, and the annoyance it must cause. The proposal in the last of the papers read above to introduce the scheme so far as it relates to the three main roads leading to Madras will not entail a very great cost, but it will undoubtedly cause much annoyance to *bona fide* travellers, while those who are the very people to be stopped will do all they can to evade the stations and in this they must in the majority of cases succeed, especially when the stations are not supported by circles.

4. If, however, the principle is accepted as sound, the question arises, "Should the land frontier line be drawn on the boundary of the Chingleput district, or nearer Madras?" The wider boundary will of course protect the wider area, it will be nearer the seat of danger and in some ways may be easier to work and less harassing to the public, for nearer the line is to Madras, the greater the traffic will be, while the number of passengers from infected areas will be no greater. If the principle is to be accepted, I prefer the district boundary, which will leave Conjeeveram and Tiruvallūr within the line of defence.

5. The Collector will be informed that it is considered unnecessary at present to have two ambulance staffs in readiness. In a district like Chingleput, which is near Madras, it should be possible to organize a second staff at very short notice, and this need be done only when the first staff is called out for active duty.

(Signed) M. S. MASCARENHAS,
for Plague Commissioner.

To the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department.
Copy to the Collector of Chingleput.

From D. W. G. COWIE, Esq., Acting Collector of Chingleput, to the Plague Commissioner, Madras, dated Camp, Ayenkolam, 12th February 1899, Ref. on No. 383-Genl.

In continuation of my telegrams, dated 10th and 11th instant, relating to a case of plague in Conjeeveram, I have the honour to inform you that people from the infected portions of North Arcot are coming into this (Conjeeveram) taluk in large numbers and that the plague patient came to Conjeeveram direct from Wallajapet, a town in which plague has appeared in an indigenous form and which is only 23 miles from Conjeeveram. Further, a case of imported plague has occurred at Dusi Maman-dur, North Arcot district, within a few miles of Conjeeveram, and in this case the patient passed through the town of Conjeeveram. In view of these facts, I venture to refer you to your proceedings, No. 150, dated 19th ultimo, requesting the Collectors of South Arcot and Chingleput to address you as soon as they considered it necessary to open road inspection stations, &c., in their districts, and to say that in my opinion the protection of the town of Conjeeveram, this district and the city of Madras would be materially facilitated by the Conjeeveram taluk being placed under observation.

2. I said as much in a telegram to you yesterday and I regret that, owing to my absence from head-quarters, I cannot at once give you in detail my proposals for the establishment of frontier inspection stations and observation circles; but I would refer to the scheme recently sent in for guarding the whole of the frontier of the district. The portion of that scheme that relates to the Conjeeveram taluk should be introduced as soon as possible.

Ref. on C. No. 1951, dated 24th February 1899.

The letter of the Collector of Chingleput will be submitted to Government in continuation of this office Ref. on C. Nos. 606, 1373 and 1848, dated 21st February 1899. It is regretted that the paper has been so long delayed. The packet was wrongly forwarded by the post office at Hosūr.

(Signed) M. S. MASCARENHAS,
for Plague Commissioner.

ORDER—No. 418 P., dated 17th March 1899.

The Government agrees with the view expressed by the Plague Commissioner in paragraph 3 of his proceedings that the land frontier observation system proposed would effect no useful purpose.

(True Extract.)

H. TREMENHEERE,
Secretary to Government.

To the Plague Commissioner.
„ the Collector of Chingleput (A—L).
„ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ the Surgeon-General.
„ all other Collectors (A, F, G).

215
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4. At each of the proposed stations I would recommend the establishment detailed in the margin, a segregation camp to accommodate 12 persons and hospital sheds for three patients. The above is the establishment provided for such stations in the North Arcot and Cuddapah observation schemes. The hospital assistants should, if possible, be provided by the Surgeon-General; but if that is impracticable, some of the minor dispensaries in the district may be closed and the officers in charge deputed to the frontier inspection stations. The remainder of the staff must be obtained locally.

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Ref. on C. Nos. 606, 1373 and 1848, dated 21st February 1899.

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2. Road frontier stations are in existence in Bellary and Kurnool, in parts of Anantapur and in North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Malabar and South Canara on the frontier of the Presidency. They are working fairly satisfactorily, considering the difficulty of attaining the result they are intended to ensure; but many are situated in flat open country, where there can be little difficulty in evading them even where they are supported by circle inspection staffs. From what I have seen of their working in open country I should be slow to recommend the introduction of such a system in the Chingleput district, where the country is flat and open, where bye-paths are numerous, and the traffic converging on Madras is likely to be far greater than in the localities where stations already exist.

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(Signed) M. S. MASCARENHAS,
for Plague Commissioner.

To the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department.
Copy to the Collector of Chingleput.

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(Signed) M. S. MASCARENHAS,
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ORDER—No. 418 P., dated 17th March 1899.

The Government agrees with the view expressed by the Plague Commissioner in paragraph 3 of his proceedings that the land frontier observation system proposed would effect no useful purpose.

(True Extract.)

for Secretary to Government.

To the Plague Commissioner,
" the Collector of Chingleput (A-L).
" the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
" the Sanitary Commissioner.
" the Surgeon-General.
" all other Collectors (A, F, G).

Exd. A. F. Eccleston.

Please see the query under 21/3
Government {1899} of Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

No. original

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revised proof
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G.O., No. 418 P., 17th March 1899.

MARCH.

Advances to C. COWIE, Esq., Collector of Chingleput, to
be deposited in the hands of the Deputy Collector, Camp Avenkolam, 12th February 1899,
relating to a case
in the Court of the District Judge, Madras.

Chingleput Observation Scheme.

Agreeing with the Plague Commissioner in considering that the land frontier observation system, proposed by the Collector of Chingleput, would effect no useful purpose.

ENCLOSURE.

REVISED statement showing the detailed information for the proposed observation circles.

Circle.	Number of villages.	Taluk.	Head-quarter station.
I	80	Madurantakam	Velangadda.
II	89	Do.	Perinbykkam.
III	67	Do.	Marudam.
IV	15	Do.	Wallajabad.
V	44	Conjeeveram	Kiambi.
VI	96	Do.	Parandur.
VII	74	Do.	Kottayam.
VIII	63	Do.	Tiruppesur.
IX	97	Tiruvallur	Ganipalayam.
X	84	Do.	Kunnayaram.
XI	56	Do.	Varadayapalayam.
	27	Do.	

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2. Road frontier stations are in existence in Bellary and Kurnool, in parts of Anantapur and in North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Malabar and South Canara on the frontier of the Presidency. They are working fairly satisfactorily, considering the difficulty of attaining the result they are intended to ensure; but many are situated in flat open country, where there can be little difficulty in evading them even where they are supported by circle inspection staffs. From what I have seen of their working in open country I should be slow to recommend or, as nearly as possible, of such a system in the Chingleput district, since (at any rate at first) bye-paths are numerous, and assist in the protection of the city than in the localities where they are intended to be used.

~~Inspection Stations~~.—The main lines of inspection are—

4. If, however, the principle is accepted as sound, the question arises, "Should the land frontier line be drawn on the boundary of the Chingleput district, or nearer Madras?" The wider boundary will of course protect the wider area, it will be nearer the seat of danger and in some ways may be easier to work and less harassing to the public, for nearer the line is to Madras, the greater the traffic will be, while the number of passengers from infected areas will be no greater. If the principle is to be accepted, I prefer the district boundary, which will leave Conjeeveram and Tiruvallur within the line of defence.

5. The Collector will be informed that it is considered unnecessary at present to have two ambulance staffs in readiness. In a district like Chingleput, which is near Madras, it should be possible to organize a second staff at very short notice, and this need be done only when the first staff is called out for active duty.

(Signed) M. S. MASCARENHAS,
for Plague Commissioner.

To the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department.
Copy to the Collector of Chingleput.

~~Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner~~ Ref. on C. No. 1951, dated 24th February 1899.

~~Proceedings~~—Ref. on C. No. 1951, dated 24th February 1899.

The letter of the Collector of Chingleput will be submitted to Government in continuation of this office Ref. on C. Nos. 606, 1373 and 1848, dated 21st February 1899. It is regretted that the paper has been so long delayed. The packet was wrongly forwarded by the post office at Hosur.

(Signed) M. S. MASCARENHAS,
for Plague Commissioner.

~~Read the following paper:~~
From

Local & Munl. (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 399P

C. nos 399P and 398P.

Am.

Kindly see note on
P C's letter.

From The Plague Commission

AT
1355.

Order

Please see
order within.

Refer C. No. 1373 4/848

Dated 21. }
Received 24. } Feb 1997
Registered 24. }

Enclosures 9

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Forwarding with remarks for the
approval of Govt the observation
Scheme for dividing the portion
of the Chinglaput Dh into circles
submitted to him by the Collr, and
submitting certain proposals
as regards staff to be organised
for the purpose.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Proceedings of the Plague Commissioner.

READ—

Letter from the Collector of Chingleput, dated 10th January 1899, Ref. on C. 1981/G1. submitting for approval the scheme for dividing the frontier of the Chingleput District into observation circles.

Also letter from the same officer dated 30th January 1899, Dis. No. D.343 forwarding revised statement showing the detailed information for the proposed observation circles and revised list of villages comprised in the four circles in the Tiruvallur Taluk.

Also telegram from the same officer dated 11-2-99, suggesting that the observation scheme recently submitted by him may be introduced forthwith in the Cojedo-veram Taluk to guard the three main roads to Madras.

Ref. on C. No. 666, 1373 and 1848 d/21.2.99

The papers read above will be submitted for the early orders of Government. The Collector's scheme has been drawn up in accordance with the principles adopted in other districts and, if it is considered desirable to bring such a scheme into force, may be approved, with a few corrections of the rates of pay to be allowed.

2. Road frontier stations are in existence in Bellary and Kurnool, in parts of Anantapur and in North Arcot, Salem, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris, Malabar and South Canara on the frontier of the Presidency. They are working fairly satisfactorily, considering the difficulty of attaining the result they are intended to ensure, but many are situated in flat open country, where there can be little difficulty in evading them even where they are supported by circle inspection staffs. From what I have seen of their working in open country I should be slow to recommend the

introduction of such a system in the Chingleput District, where the country is flat and open, where bye-paths are numerous, and the traffic converging on Madras is likely to be far greater than in the localities where stations already exist.

3. Plague exists in ^{an} indigenous form in Vellore, Arcot, and Wallajah and this undoubtedly is a serious menace to Madras.

Circles have been formed for 20 miles round Vellore and the Collector has been asked to extend them to cover 10 miles round Wallajah. The question to be answered practically amounts

to this: "Is a system of land frontier stations to be introduced to protect Madras?" I have been ~~asked~~ by the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, that he attempted to inspect all arrivals by road but found it impossible. He has given me to understand that he considers a land frontier observation system (except so far as the rail roads are concerned) is impracticable. I am of opinion that such a scheme is unlikely to produce a result which will justify the cost, and the annoyance it must cause. The proposal in the last of the papers read above to introduce the scheme so far as it relates to the 3 main roads leading to Madras will not entail a very great cost, but it will undoubtedly cause some annoyance

to some ~~of the~~ travellers, while those who are the very ~~likely~~ to be stopped will do all they can to evade the stations and in

this they must in the majority of cases succeed, especially when the stations are not supported by circles.

However, the principle is accepted as sound the question arises "Should the land frontier line be drawn on the

boundary of the Chingleput District or nearer Madras?" The wider boundary will of course protect the wider area, it will

be nearer the seat of danger and in some ways may be easier to work and less harassing to the public, for nearer the line is

to Madras, the greater the traffic will be, while the number of passengers from infected areas will be no greater. If the principle

is to be accepted, I prefer the district boundary, which will leave Cojipooram and Tiruvallur within the line of defence.

5. The Collector will be informed that it is considered necessary at present to have two ambulance staffs in readiness.

In a district like Chingleput, which is near Madras, it should be possible to organise a second staff at very short notice, and this need be done ^{only} when the first staff is called out for active duty.

For Madras
24/2/81
For Plague Commissioner.

To
The Secretary to Government, Local & Municipal Dept., with papers in original to be returned.
Copy to the Collector of Chingleput.

H.P. *H.M.* The danger-line is from the Patas below
23.2.99 Cojipooram to Tiruvallur just N. of the Madras

(v. n. n.)
Ry. The rest of the district may be put out of question for the time.

The greatest danger is from Bellare, Rampet, Arcot, Coatala - bet etc., & towards Cojipooram. This line will be covered by the Road Stations & Circles proposed for the Cojipooram Taluk. I think these might be approved - omitting that at Kottayam. I have drawn a blue pencil round the area I suggest.

H.M. will however see that apparently the P.C. thinks no action necessary.

1.3.20
P. 7. 0.

I agree with him & P.C. that the proposals of the Comr should not be carried into effect. They will be very costly, & they will cause a great amount of trouble vexation & probably oppression to the travelling population generally, and they cannot prevent plague-infected persons from evading the ^{inspecting} stations. The whole country is ~~not~~ in this season a pathway to any one who can walk, and it is useless to guard a few road ways under the supposition that this will ensure security.

C. nos 399 + 398 P.

3-99 7.6H 16.3.99

The Com^r agrees with the view expressed
by the P^r C in para 3 of his ^{Refrs} Reference
that the land frontier observation
system proposed would effect no
useful purpose.

To, The P. C. with the papers returned.

Order

While recognizing the value
 of land frontier stations - if
 the system could be worked -
 but I am satisfied that it is
 impracticable. The two great
 factors against it are nature
 and humanity. Nature as
 far as the country is concerned
 and humanity as to the agency.
 So far back as Oct. last Mr. Kim-
 ber and I came to the conclusion
 that we must put our trust in
 rail defense and in this view
 Mr. Buckley also concurred -
 I think that if all the Southern
 rail approaches are carefully
 guarded we are as safe as we
 can hope to be.

Such refusal to pay is of bit / Nothing
 While I should prefer the nearer
 explain from the Madras interest
 as. if it is any check at all - it will
 be a check on the Great number
 likely to enter Madras.

If any action in this direction is
to be adopted: I think a check on
grants from affected localities
would be more efficacious - but
this approaches dangerously
near intervention.
On the whole I adhere to the 2nd
alternative.

$\frac{7.3.99}{7.3.99}$

RENT No. 3987

Print

The Plague Commissioner

Ref. No. 1951

24 - }
124 - } Feb 199
ed 24 - }

opies

SUBJECT.

iting, in continuation of his
Reference on C No: 606, 1373, & 1868
Feb 4, letter from the Coler of
gleport requesting that the
of Conjeeveram may be place
observation to prevent the
of people from the infected
ions of North Arcot Dt.

BACK PAPERS

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

In a district like Chingleput, which is near Madras it should be possible to organise a second staff at very short notice, and this need be done only when the first staff is called out for active duty.

(Sd) M. S. Mascarenhas
for Plague Commr.

To

The Secy: to Govt.

Lt. M. Deptt with papers in original to be returned.

Copy to the Collector of Chingleput.

2.50

2.50