

12-1887 May 21-1-87

Communicated to the
Supg Engineer II Circle
in continuation of G.O. No
62 W dated 7th January 1886
2. G.O. No 344 W dated
31st January 1883 is cancelled

1887 J.O.A.
h.

Supg Engr II Circle

Govt. of (1887) Madras.
JUDICIAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 5th January 1887, No. 11.

13-1887 May 21-1-87

JANUARY.

Nellore District Jail.

Accepting the opinion of the committee appointed
by Government that a new jail is unnecessary, and
directing that steps be taken to acquire a piece of
the high ground to the west of the jail to increase
its area.

With order.

5TH JANUARY 1887, No. 11, JUDICIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From H. R. GRIMES, Esq., Inspector-General of Jails, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 25th November 1886, No. 340.

I have the honor to submit the report of the committee, ordered by Government in its order, dated 22nd December 1885, No. 3469, Judicial. The cause of the delays in the assembling of the committee has already been reported on by me in my letters, dated respectively 13th May and 21st August 1886, and the committee would have assembled in September last as sanctioned in G.O., dated 28th August 1886, Mis. No. 2320, but was unable to do so owing to the Sanitary Commissioner and myself being directed to be present in Madras during the visit of the Finance Committee to this Presidency. Further delay then occurred owing to the change of officers in the appointment of the Sanitary Commissioner.

ENCLOSURES.

PROCEEDINGS of a committee convened by G.O., dated 22nd December 1885, No. 3469, Judicial, to report upon the condition of the District Jail at Nellore, and the necessity for building a new one.

PRESENT:

L. A. Campbell, Esq., District Judge.
W. G. Underwood, Esq., District Magistrate.
Surgeon-Major J. A. Laing, Acting Sanitary Commissioner.
H. R. Grimes, Esq., Inspector-General of Jails.

We, the undersigned members of a committee appointed by Government in its order, dated 22nd December 1885, No. 3469, Judicial, assembled on the 12th November 1886 at Nellore, and inspected the district jail and its surroundings, as also the site proposed for the new jail.

2. We examined the returns of the hospital from the year 1881 up to the date of our meeting, and have ascertained that the jail cannot be considered an unhealthy one, as will be observed from the accompanying statement of admissions to hospital and deaths for the last six years. The mortality in 1885 was quite exceptional, and cannot be attributed to any insanitary state of the jail. The deaths, four in number, were owing to the following causes:—

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| (1) Meningitis. | (3) Abscess. |
| (2) Pneumonia. | (4) Rupture of the spleen. |

The medical officer considers that these deaths were not due to anything connected with the surroundings or local condition of the jail, nor to the work or food of the convicts. We further ascertained that in the year 1883, when cholera was prevalent in Nellore, there were only two cases of it in the jail, and there was not a single death amongst the convicts during that year from any cause. Again, in the current year, up to the date of our meeting, no deaths have occurred, and on a perusal of the weighment registers, we find that the majority of prisoners, during the past five years, have gained weight. The jail is well supplied with excellent water.

3. We are of opinion that, since the proposal to build a new jail in 1883, the introduction of the railway to Nellore has altered the aspect of affairs, and that should the jail become overcrowded from any unforeseen circumstances, it will now be easy to relieve it by transferring the prisoners to jails in other districts; but at present the accommodation is far in excess of existing requirements. The jail can contain 278 prisoners of all classes, the average daily strength for the past three years has been as follows, viz. :—

In 1884	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78.96
„ 1885	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	83.34
„ 1886	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	66.94

4. Taking all these circumstances into consideration, we are of opinion that the condition of the Nellore jail is satisfactory, and there is no necessity to build a new one.

5. We are of opinion that it is desirable to extend the area of the jail, which can be done if a piece of the high ground to the west of the present jail limits is acquired, the acquisition of this land would be advantageous, as a means of increasing the jail garden, and thereby giving full employment to the convicts in the immediate vicinity of the jail, and should excessive floods again occur, as happened in 1874 and 1882, the convicts could be at once removed to it, and, if necessary, accommodated in huts until the floods subsided.

(Signed) L. A. CAMPBELL,
District Judge.
(„) W. G. UNDERWOOD,
District Magistrate.
(„) J. A. LAING,
Ag. Sanitary Commissioner.
(„) H. R. GRIMES,
Inspector-General of Jails.

District Jail, Nellore.

Years.	Admissions	Deaths	Total	Remarks.	With excep- tion of ulcers and boils, which are frequent- ly due to the irritation caused by fetters, it will be seen that these admis- sions are not due to jail life or conditions.
1881	3	42	45	Total	110
1882	2	23	25	1,117. Wounds.	139
1883	1	12	13	1,116. Sprain.	127
1884	1	13	14	1,115. Contusion.	108
1885	1	23	24	1,104. Fracture.	63
1886	1	1	2	1,066. Rupture of spleen.	48
Total	5	102	107	992. Scald.	1
				905. General debility.	3
				894. Itch.	1
				865. Whitlow.	1
				862. Carbuncle.	1
				861. Boil.	1
				859. Ulcer.	1
				843. Eczema.	1
				841. Herpes.	1
				825. Guinea worm.	1
				819. Abscess.	1
				818. Inflammation of cellular tissue.	1
				799. Sympovitis.	1
				756. Pericostitis.	1
				704. Premature labor.	1
				620. Orchitis.	1
				589. Rube.	1
				586. Balanitis.	1
				585. Gonorrhoea.	1
				524. Splentis.	1
				513. Jaundice.	1
				491. Hemorrhoids.	1
				490. Fistula in ano.	1
				487. Constipation.	1
				486. Colic.	1
				484. Diarrhoea.	1
				483. Ascari lumbricoides.	1
				480 (c). Hernia.	1
				466. Dysentery.	1
				460. Dyspepsia.	1
				366. Caries of tooth.	1
				315. Pneumonia.	1
				314. Asthma.	1
				308. Bronchitis.	1
				271. Inflammation of glands.	1
				225. Valvular disease of the heart.	1
				190. Inflammation of external meatus.	1
				128. Ulceration of cornea.	1
				111. Conjunctivitis.	1
				99. Hysteria.	1
				90. Tetanus.	1
				60. Meningitis.	1
				67. General dropsy.	1
				56. Anæmia.	1
				49. Phthisis.	1
				46. Fatty tumour.	1
				44 A-39. Cancer of the liver.	1
				43 (c). Tertiary syphilis.	1
				43 (b). Secondary syphilis.	1
				43 (a). Primary syphilis.	1
				38. Chronic rheumatism.	1
				37. Muscular rheumatism.	1
				34. Acute rheumatism.	1
				18. Malignant cholera.	1
				16. Remittent fever.	1
				15. Ague.	1
				12. Febricula.	1
				3. Chicken-pox.	1

• Of these four deaths the Hospital Assistant says that remittent fever occurred in a very old man. Two of the others, cancer and hernia, have evidently nothing to do with jail. The death in 1884 was admitted into jail in bad health. I have tried to explain fully in my annual report that the four deaths in 1885 were not due to jail condition. † Age 62 years. He was admitted in bad health, was kept alive for two years in the jail by extras and treatment, doing no work, but died at last.

(Signed) W. PRICE, M.D., Surgeon-Major,
Office in Medical charge, District Jail, Nellore.

NELLORE, 1886.
18th November

ORDER—dated 5th January 1887, No. 11, Judicial.

The opinion of the committee, that a new jail is unnecessary, is accepted by the Government. Steps should be taken to acquire a piece of the high ground to the west of the existing jail.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Jails.
„ Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
„ Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
„ District Magistrate, Nellore.
„ Judge
„ Public Works Department.
„ Revenue Department, with G.O., No. 3469, dated 22nd December 1885.