

no 43 w a 6th January /88
13

Recorded
Recorded

mm
30.12.87

Join
5/1/88

2854 w 7/11/86

10668
Govt. of Madras.
JUDICIAL.

Issued

Recd. 28/12/87

Encl.

G.O., 13th December 1887, No. 2827.

no 43 w a 6th January /88

DECEMBER.

Lunatic Asylums.

Reviewing the annual report on — in this
Presidency for the year 1886.

2 Copies only
with order on

80 590

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, dated 30th September 1887, No. O-586.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding annual report on Lunatic Asylums for 1886.

ORDER—dated 13th December 1887, No. 2827, Judicial.

The Surgeon-General with the Government submits the report on the Lunatic Asylums in this Presidency for the year ending 31st December 1886. The previous report having been for nine months only, in consequence of the change in the period of the report from the official to the calendar year, the results of the two periods are again unsusceptible of comparison with each other. The following statement, however, compares the results of the year 1886 with those of the two preceding periods :—

	1884-85.			1885 (nine months.)			1886.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining at end of previous year ..	369	124	493	407	141	548	444	156	600
Admitted	161	53	214	135	44	179	132	36	168
Deduct—									
Died	21	14	35	22	5	27	25	8	33
Cured	75	15	91	45	13	58	89	29	118
Transferred to friends ..	26	7	33	23	11	34	12	3	15
Otherwise	5	..	5	8	..	8	12	..	12
Remaining at the end of year ..	403	140	543	444	156	600	438	152	590
Daily average strength	383.32	137.71	521.03	434.66	146.73	581.39	434.98	153.50	588.48
Do. do. sick	13.07	5.09	18.16	12.32	7.84	20.16	9.66	5.25	14.91

2. The daily average was 588 against 581 in the previous period, but a marked decrease is observed in the number of admissions during 1886, which was even less than the number for the previous nine months, besides being the lowest on record since 1877-78. The cures effected also show a considerable increase, so that the tendency to accumulation in the Asylums' population, referred to in the review of last year's report, was to some extent checked.

3. The admissions during the year were, as usual, mainly composed of patients between 23 and 40 years of age. The figures relating to the religion, sex, and residence of patients admitted show that, as usual, the male sex preponderated; that the Hindus formed the greater proportion; and that Madras contributed the largest number of the Asylums' population for the year.

	Nine months ending 31st December 1885.	1886.
Under 20 years	8	3
20 to 40 „	132	125
40 to 60 „	38	35
Upwards of 60 years ..	1	5

4. As in the previous period, the causes of insanity could not be ascertained in the majority of cases, 533 out of 768 being returned as "unknown." The use of narcotic drugs, hereditary taint, and epilepsy were the chief causes of lunacy among the remainder. Acute mania and chronic mania were among the most prevailing types of insanity.

5. The percentage of recoveries to admission contrasts very favorably with the results in previous years, viz., 73.29 against 32.40 in the previous nine months, and 42.52 and 44.95 in 1884-85 and 1883-84, respectively. The Surgeon-General's attention will be drawn to paragraph 6 of G.O., No. 2816, dated 18th October 1886, as the absence of comment on these figures is again observed in the present report.

6. The number of patients in hospital was not as large as the number in the previous nine months, but the mortality was greater, 33 deaths having occurred against 27 in the previous period. The percentage of deaths to the daily average strength was 5.60 against 4.64, and to total admissions 20.49 against 15.08. These rates are very high, and the Government further observe that, taking the Madras Asylum alone, the mortality was much higher still, being over 69 per mille of the average strength. It is true that 13 deaths out of 29 were due to meningitis, but it is observed that as many as 10 deaths (23 per mille) occurred from pulmonary disease alone. These figures call for the Surgeon-General's attention. One case of small-pox, which terminated fatally, occurred in the Calicut Asylum, but this was the only casualty of the year there. Diarrhoea and dysentery seem also to have been prevailing forms of sickness.

7. The number of criminal lunatics was slightly less at the end, than at the beginning, of the year, although the number of admissions was more than the number discharged, 4 deaths having occurred among newly-admitted patients.

8. The accounts connected with the Asylums show that Rs. 5,576 were received from paying patients and Rs. 23,264 from municipalities and local boards, while the value of articles received from the manufacturing department was Rs. 2,071, the value of medical stores, &c., amounting to Rs. 234. The figures for the previous nine months were, respectively, Rs. 3,473, Rs. 18,418, Rs. 1,445, and Rs. 275. The net charges for the year under review amounted to Rs. 86,817, and were proportionately less than the charges for the previous period, when they stood at Rs. 67,099. The average monthly cost of a patient, excluding the Superintendent's pay in the case of the Madras Asylum, and including the Superintendent's pay in the case of the Waltair and Calicut Asylums, compared with the previous period shows but slight variation.

Madras—	1885.			1886.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
European and Eurasian..	14	12	5	15	7	6
Natives	10	1	5	10	1	2
Waltair	13	0	6	12	4	7
Calicut	10	5	5	10	4	9

The reason for excluding the cost of superintendence in the Madras Asylum is not apparent. In future reports, the financial results should be more fully treated, the cost per head under the several items and classes being deduced and compared with the previous year's results.

9. The individual reports of the several Asylums have not been included in the present report, apparently with reference to the original proposal of the Government of India, concurred in by this G.O., dated 12th July 1886, No. 1455.

Government, to include Lunatic Asylums among those for which statistical tables with brief notes should be submitted for two years, and a full report every third year. But in paragraph 5 of their Resolution of the 15th July 1887, No. 28—1579-95, communicated with G.O., 2nd August 1887, No. 1081, Public, the Government of India have decided that the report on Lunatic Asylums shall be submitted annually in future as heretofore, and this will be done. The Government, however, consider that

the report may easily be kept within very brief limits as in that now under review, and that the separate reports of the Asylums are unnecessary, all requisite information being given in the tables.

(True Extract.)

W. L. White
Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

- " District Magistrate, Malabar.
- " Vizagapatam.
- " Public Works Department.
- " Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
- " Accountant-General.
- " Inspector-General of Jails.

Exd A. Raitt.

no 43 w a/6th January/88

Govt. of 1887 Madras.
JUDICIAL.

Recorded
Recorded

mm
30.12.87

Jan
5/1/88

Issued

Recd. 28/12/87

Encl.

G.O., 13th December 1887, No. 2827.

2854 w 7/11/86

no 43 w a/6th January/88

DECEMBER.

Lunatic Asylums.

Reviewing the annual report on — in this
Presidency for the year 1886.

2 Copies to copy

with order on

80. 89C

no 43 w a/6th January/88

Govt. of 1887 Madras.
JUDICIAL.

Recorded

1st Jan

4

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 13th December 1887, No. 2827.

no 43 w a/6th January/88

DECEMBER.

Lunatic Asylums.

Reviewing the annual report on — in this
Presidency for the year 1886.

no 43 w a / 6th January / 88

Gobt. of 1887 Madras.
JUDICIAL.

Recorded
Recorded

may
30.12.87

Jan
5/1/88

Issued

Recd. 28/12/87

Encl.

G.O., 13th December 1887, No. 2827.

2854 w 7/11/86

no 43 w a / 6th January / 88

DECEMBER.

Lunatic Asylums.

Reviewing the annual report on — in this
Presidency for the year 1886.

20, 29

2 Copies to only
with order

13TH DECEMBER 1887, No. 2827, JUDICIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, dated 30th September 1887, No. O-586.

ABSTRACT.—Forwarding annual report on Lunatic Asylums for 1886.

ORDER—dated 13th December 1887, No. 2827, Judicial.

The Surgeon-General with the Government submits the report on the Lunatic Asylums in this Presidency for the year ending 31st December 1886. The previous report having been for nine months only, in consequence of the change in the period of the report from the official to the calendar year, the results of the two periods are again unsuceptible of comparison with each other. The following statement, however, compares the results of the year 1886 with those of the two preceding periods :—

	1884-85.			1885 (nine months.)			1886.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining at end of previous year ..	369	124	493	407	141	548	444	156	600
Admitted	161	53	214	135	44	179	132	36	168
Deduct—									
Died	21	14	35	22	5	27	25	8	33
Cured	75	15	91	45	13	58	89	29	118
Transferred to friends ..	26	7	33	23	11	34	12	3	15
Otherwise	5	..	5	8	..	8	12	..	12
Remaining at the end of year ..	403	140	543	444	156	600	438	152	590
Daily average strength	383.32	137.71	521.03	434.66	146.73	581.39	434.98	153.50	588.48
Do. do. sick	13.07	5.09	18.16	12.32	7.84	20.16	9.66	5.25	14.91

2. The daily average was 588 against 581 in the previous period, but a marked decrease is observed in the number of admissions during 1886, which was even less than the number for the previous nine months, besides being the lowest on record since 1877-78. The cures effected also show a considerable increase, so that the tendency to accumulation in the Asylums' population, referred to in the review of last year's report, was to some extent checked.

3. The admissions during the year were, as usual, mainly composed of patients between 23 and 40 years of age. The figures relating to the religion, sex, and residence of patients admitted show that, as usual, the male sex preponderated; that the Hindus formed the greater proportion; and that Madras contributed the largest number of the Asylums' population for the year.

	Nine months ending 31st December 1885.	1886.
Under 20 years	8	3
20 to 40	132	125
40 to 60	38	35
Upwards of 60 years ..	1	5

4. As in the previous period, the causes of insanity could not be ascertained in the majority of cases, 533 out of 768 being returned as "unknown." The use of narcotic drugs, hereditary taint, and epilepsy were the chief causes of lunacy among the remainder. Acute mania and chronic mania were among the most prevailing types of insanity.

5. The percentage of recoveries to admission contrasts very favorably with the results in previous years, viz., 73.29 against 32.40 in the previous nine months, and 42.52 and 44.95 in 1884-85 and 1883-84, respectively. The Surgeon-General's attention will be drawn to paragraph 6 of G.O., No. 2816, dated 18th October 1886, as the absence of comment on these figures is again observed in the present report.

6. The number of patients in hospital was not as large as the number in the previous nine months, but the mortality was greater, 33 deaths having occurred against 27 in the previous period. The percentage of deaths to the daily average strength was 5.60 against 4.64, and to total admissions 20.49 against 15.08. These rates are very high, and the Government further observe that, taking the Madras Asylum alone, the mortality was much higher still, being over 69 per mille of the average strength. It is true that 13 deaths out of 29 were due to meningitis, but it is observed that as many as 10 deaths (23 per mille) occurred from pulmonary disease alone. These figures call for the Surgeon-General's attention. One case of small-pox, which terminated fatally, occurred in the Calicut Asylum, but this was the only casualty of the year there. Diarrhoea and dysentery seem also to have been prevailing forms of sickness.

7. The number of criminal lunatics was slightly less at the end, than at the beginning, of the year, although the number of admissions was more than the number discharged, 4 deaths having occurred among newly-admitted patients.

8. The accounts connected with the Asylums show that Rs. 5,576 were received from paying patients and Rs. 23,264 from municipalities and local boards, while the value of articles received from the manufacturing department was Rs. 2,071, the value of medical stores, &c., amounting to Rs. 234. The figures for the previous nine months were, respectively, Rs. 3,473, Rs. 18,418, Rs. 1,445, and Rs. 275. The net charges for the year under review amounted to Rs. 86,817, and were proportionately less than the charges for the previous period, when they stood at Rs. 67,099. The average monthly cost of a patient, excluding the Superintendent's pay in the case of the Madras Asylum, and including the Superintendent's pay in the case of the Waltair and Calicut Asylums, compared with the previous period shows but slight variation.

Madras—	1885.			1886.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
European and Eurasian..	14	12	5	15	7	6
Natives	10	1	5	10	1	2
Waltair	13	0	6	12	4	7
Calicut	10	5	5	10	4	9

The reason for excluding the cost of superintendence in the Madras Asylum is not apparent. In future reports, the financial results should be more fully treated, the cost per head under the several items and classes being deduced and compared with the previous year's results.

9. The individual reports of the several Asylums have not been included in the present report, apparently with reference to the original proposal of the Government of India, concurred in by this G.O., dated 12th July 1886, No. 1455.

Government, to include Lunatic Asylums among those for which statistical tables with brief notes should be submitted for two years, and a full report every third year. But in paragraph 5 of their Resolution of the 15th July 1887, No. 28—1579-95, communicated with G.O., 2nd August 1887, No. 1081, Public, the Government of India have decided that the report on Lunatic Asylums shall be submitted annually in future as heretofore, and this will be done. The Government, however, consider that

the report may easily be kept within very brief limits as in that now under review, and that the separate reports of the Asylums are unnecessary, all requisite information being given in the tables.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.
" District Magistrate, Malabar.
" Vizagapatam.
" Public Works Department.
" Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
" Accountant-General.
" Inspector-General of Jails.

1276

Gobt. of {1886} Madras.

JUDICIAL.

No. 2854 W. d/1st Nov^r 1886

Recorded

(sd) J. C. H.

W.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 18th October 1886, No. 2816.

No. 2854 W. d/1st Nov^r 1886

OCTOBER.

Lunatic Asylums.

Reviewing the annual report on the — of the
Madras Presidency for the nine months ending
31st December 1885.

With order

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From G. BIDIE, Esq., M.B., C.I.E., Acting Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Ootacamund, 20th August 1886, No. O-405.

With reference to G.O., Judicial Department, Mis. No. 20, of 5th January 1886, I have the honor to submit to the Right Honorable the Governor in Council the annual report on the Lunatic Asylums of this Presidency, for the nine months ending 31st December 1885.

ORDER—dated 18th October 1886, No. 2816, Judicial.

The annual report on the Lunatic Asylums of the Madras Presidency, which the Surgeon-General with Government submits with the foregoing letter, only covers the period of nine months ending 31st December 1885, in consequence of the report having, for the first time, been drawn up for the calendar, instead of, as heretofore, for the official year. This change, which was adopted in compliance with the wish of the

G.O., dated 5th January 1886, No. 20.

Government of India expressed in their letter, dated 11th December 1885, No. 654, that the practice in Madras might

be assimilated to that in use in other presidencies, prevents the institution of any close comparison between the figures of the present report and those of previous years.

2. The following statement exhibits the results in the asylums of the presidency for the two preceding years and for the nine months of 1885 :—

	1883-84.			1884-85.			1885.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining at end of previous year.	317	117	434	369	124	493	407	141	548
Admitted	170	48	218	161	53	214	135	44	179
Deduct—									
Died	19	5	24	21	14	35	22	5	27
Cured	75	23	98	75	15	91	45	13	58
Transferred to friends	20	9	29	26	7	33	23	11	34
Otherwise	4	4	8	5	..	5	8	..	8
Remaining at end of year	369	124	493	403	140	543	444	156	600
Daily average strength	353.22	121.95	475.17	383.32	137.71	521.03	434.66	166.73	601.39
Do. do. sick	12.89	6.12	19.01	13.07	5.09	18.16	12.32	7.84	20.16

3. Commenting on these figures, the Surgeon-General remarks that the admissions for the nine months of 1885 were proportionately in excess of the figures of the preceding twelve months—a result which shows, he says, that, as in past years, the number of insanes sent for treatment is steadily increasing, though this may be due, not to lunacy becoming more common, but to the fact that the benefits of treatment in asylums are becoming more generally known and better appreciated. With reference to this remark, the Government observe that both the facts of the Surgeon-General and his deduction from them are incorrect. Past years have not shown an increasing

number of insanes sent for treatment. On the contrary, the admissions since 1882-83 have been almost stationary as shown in the margin, and the proportional increase in the nine months under review is very slight. The steady increase which has appeared in the asylums' population is due, not to larger admissions, but to the fact, pointed out last year, that the number discharged and removed does not keep pace with that admitted. There is a constant tendency to accumulate. The calculation made in last year's review that every hundred admissions raised the population at the end of the year by 21 has been shown to be below, rather than above, the mark. The population of the asylums at the end of the year was 600 against 548 at the commencement—an increase of 52, the admissions having meanwhile numbered 179. The daily average strength rose from 521 in 1884-85 to 581 in the period under review.

4. The figures relating to the age of the patients admitted show, as usual, over 70 per cent. of the cases to be those of persons in the prime of life between 20 and 40 years of age, when, as remarked by the Surgeon-General, the strain on the mental organization is heaviest. As regards the causes of insanity, little definite information is afforded. Out of 727 cases, 507 are returned as of causes unknown. The most frequent physical causes are the use of narcotic drugs, child-birth, and epilepsy, and these may be regarded as really being important factors in the causation of lunacy. The moral causes are much less reliable—two cases are ascribed to "false belief," this would appear to be more probably a symptom, than a cause, of insanity.

5. The percentage of recoveries to admissions was 32.40 during the nine months—a result which was decidedly unfavorable in comparison with those of past years, as shown in paragraph 3 of the report.

6. The Surgeon-General does not make any comment on the fluctuations in the statistics of recoveries from year to year, nor on the differences between the several asylums. The subject seems to merit attention.

7. The ages of the patients who recovered have been supplied in accordance with the remarks made in paragraph 5 of the last review. The results are the same in each of the three asylums. With two exceptions, every recovered patient discharged during the year showed an increase in weight, which was in a majority of cases very considerable. The Superintendent of the Calicut Asylum notices one remarkable case in which improvement in health was followed by mental recovery. Almost all the cures occur in patients under two years' residence, and recoveries are rarest in cases of chronic dementia. As regards age, the results are not very decisive; most cures are found in patients between 20 and 35.

8. The health of the inmates of the asylums was, on the whole, satisfactory. No epidemic occurred. The death-rate in relation to daily average strength was 4.64 per cent. against 6.71 of the previous official year, and in relation to total admissions was 15.08 per cent. From the figures for a series of years commencing from 1877-78, the percentage of the nine months under review was very much the lowest in the last nine years, and was considerably less than half the average ($9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.) death-rate of that period.

9. The number of criminal lunatics admitted during the nine months of 1885 was 14, but there are others in jails awaiting admission so soon as accommodation can be found for them. The total number treated was 109 males and 15 females, of whom 11 males were discharged and 3 died. The number remaining at the end of the year was 110, viz., 73 in the Madras Asylum, 16 at Waltair, and 21 at Calicut. The need for additional accommodation for this class of insanes has been recognized by Government, and the necessary sanction accorded to the several proposals submitted for its provision.

10. The total net cost of the three asylums amounted to Rs. 67,099-1-5 for the period of nine months, against Rs. 82,734-3-3 for the year 1884-85. The result is a slight proportional increase in expenditure.

11. The average monthly cost of a patient in each of the asylums was as follows. In the Madras Asylum, excluding the Superintendent's pay, in the case of Europeans and East Indians, Rs. 14-2-5 against Rs. 15-12-8 in 1884, and that of Natives, Rs. 10-1-5 against Rs. 10-2-5. In Waltair and Calicut, including the Superintendent's pay, the cost of each patient is given at Rs. 13-0-6 and Rs. 10-5-5, respectively, against Rs. 12-8-8 and Rs. 10-5-5 in the preceding year. The only increase thus appeared in the Waltair institution. On the whole, His Excellency in Council considers the report under review to be fairly satisfactory.

(True Extract.)

H. E. STOKES,
Ag. Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

" District Magistrate, Calicut.
" Vizagapatam.
" Public Works Department.
" Sanitary Commissioner for Madras.
" Accountant-General.

Exd. A. Raiff.