

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper :—

G.O., dated 16th February 1895, No. 348, Judicial.

ABSTRACT.—Directing that the rules under sections 3 and 18 of the Indian Factories Act, 1881, as further amended, be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, and issuing instructions on the subject of the allowances admissible to medical officers on account of the inspection of factories.

READ—also the following paper :—

From F. A. NICHOLSON, Esq., District Magistrate of Anantapur, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 12th July 1895, Ref. No. 378-Magl.

In forwarding herewith a copy of letter, No. 395, dated 9th April 1895, from the District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Anantapur, I have the honour to solicit instructions on the following points :—

There are three factories (cotton presses) in the district which generally work from May to November for irregular periods, and sometimes a few days during a month. Inspections of these factories by the Medical Inspector should, since they are situated more than five miles from his head-quarters, take place at least once in every four months of the calendar year (*vide* clause ii (b), paragraph 8 of the amended rules under section 18 of the Indian Factories Act, 1881). But as the presses only begin work in May, there cannot be an inspection in the first four-month period of the calendar year, viz., from 1st January to 30th April. I have the honour therefore to suggest for consideration whether it may not be ordered that the inspections shall be not less than three in working period at intervals not ordinarily less than two months.

Secondly—The business in the above presses is generally irregular, and they work only when a quantity of cotton comes in; the Agents of the factories expressly state that they themselves do not know on what days in a month they will be at work, and the Agents at Guntakal and Thimmancherla have expressed their inability to submit to this office monthly returns (III) giving notice on the last day of each month of the days on which the factories will be closed during the ensuing month. In the absence of this information, it is not possible for the Medical Inspector always to inspect the factories while at work. Since drafting the above, the Inspector has visited the three presses, and found two of them not at work though this is the middle of the cotton season. As the remuneration for the four-month period to be drawn in respect of each factory is to be determined by the number of persons employed on the day of inspection, the question is—What remuneration should the District Medical and Sanitary Officer get, if at the time of inspection the factory is not working? I think the fee, viz., Rs. 5, should be paid even if the press is not at work, provided that it has been working during the month. As I am not free from doubt, I solicit a decisive order.

ENCLOSURE.

From Surgeon-Major H. M. HAKIM, District Medical and Sanitary Officer, Anantapur, to the District Magistrate, Anantapur, dated 9th April 1895, No. 395.

With reference to G.O., No. 348, dated 16th February 1895, Judicial, I have the honour to request the favour of your instructions on the points given below.

2. The factories under the Factory Act in this district are cotton presses, which generally work from May to November for irregular periods and sometimes a few days during a month. As the inspections are to be carried out once in every four months, I request to be informed how the time during which the press may work is to be divided, which in any case would not be three four-month periods, and it will be difficult to fix such, as the Agents are not able to furnish information beforehand as to the periods the factory will be working for the season.

3. As the remuneration for the four-month period to be drawn in respect of such factory is to be determined by the persons employed on the day of inspection, I request to be informed how this question is to be disposed of, if on the day of inspection the press may not be working, as the Agents are unable to give the days on which the press is likely to work during a month and even particular information could be obtained from them that the press may be working on certain day for the purpose of inspection, the object for which such inspection is instituted will be defeated.

4. An early reply is requested.

ORDER—dated 17th August 1895, No. 1726, Judicial.

With reference to the first question raised in his letter, Mr. Nicholson will be informed that the Government sees no sufficient reason to alter the existing rule which prescribes merely the *minimum* number of inspections. If the District Magistrate considers further inspection of a factory to be required, there appears no reason why he should not direct the Medical Inspector to visit it more frequently, as that officer is officially subordinate to him under clause 2 (a) of Notification I published in the appendix to G.O., dated 20th May 1892, No. 953, Judicial.

2. With reference to Mr. Nicholson's second query, the Government considers that a visit paid on an occasion when a factory is not working cannot be held to entitle the Medical Inspector to the periodical fee allowed by the rules. Visits so made are practically valueless for the purposes of this Act, and having regard to the high rate at which his remuneration is fixed, the Medical Inspector has no reasonable cause for complaint if his visits occasionally prove fruitless.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the District Magistrate, Anantapur.

- " all other District Magistrates.
- " the Surgeon-General.
- " the Public Department.
- " the Public Works Department.
- " the Financial Department.
- " the Revenue Department.
- " the President of the Madras Municipal Commission,
through the Local and Municipal Department.
- " the Commissioner of Police, Madras.
- " the Sanitary Commissioner.
- Copy to the Inspector-General of Police.

Govt. of {1895} Madras.
JUDICIAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 17th August 1895, No. 1726.

AUGUST.

Factories.

Informing the District Magistrate of Anantapur that there is not sufficient reason for altering the existing rule prescribing the minimum number of inspections of — by Medical Officers, and that a visit paid on an occasion when a factory is not working cannot be held to entitle the Medical Inspector to the periodical fee allowed by the rules.

N^o 2260 Wg/10th Sep. 1895

Communicated to
officers concerned, in con-
tinuation of G.O. No. 4936
of 2^d March 1895.

(Sd) J.P.W.

S. Es I, II & IV circles.
C. E. for Rys.

P. W. D.
From the Madras Govt.
Read the following.

17TH AUGUST 1895, No. 1726, JUDICIAL.

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No 2260 Wg 10th September 1895

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d/2^d March 1895.

(Sd) J P W.

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