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[Despatch Abstract.]

*Recording per Lord
d. Hupl. dept. receiving
the Sunday Camp
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to 1092-*

Back Paper, No.

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2055

of 18

94

23RD JUNE 1893, Nos. 1394, L., LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

GOVERNMENT MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From HORMUSJI NOWROJI, Esq., Assistant Sanitary Engineer to Government, in charge of Sanitary Engineer's office, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George 23rd February 1893, No. 354.

I have the honour to forward four advices of the administration report of this department for the year 1892.

2. The report was written by Mr. J. A. Es, Sanitary Engineer to Government, just before going on leave.

3. The report will, as usual, be bound that of the Sanitary Commissioner when ready.

From Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel J. LAING, Sanitary Commissioner, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 1st June 1893, No. 1367-S.

I have the honour to forward four stencilled copies of my sanitary report for 1892.

2. Two copies have, as usual, been forwarded to the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of India.

3. The title page, table of contents, chart map and the diagrams will be inserted in the bound copies.

ORDER—dated 23rd June 1893, No. 1394 Local and Municipal.

With the letters read above the Sanitary Commissioner and the Sanitary Engineer submit the reports on the administration of their departments during the year 1892.

2. The constitution of the Sanitary Board and the rules for the conduct of its business continued the same as in the two years preceding.

GENERAL SANATION.

3. *Rainfall and Prices of Food-grains.*—The mean quantity of rain registered was 58.43 inches and was below the average of the districts of Chingleput, Coimbatore, Madras, Madura, Nellore, North Arcot, Nilgiris, Salem, South Arcot, Tanjore, Tinnevely and Trichinopoly, the decrease being most marked in Madras, South Arcot and Tanjore. The west coast districts of Malabar and South Canara received, respectively, 30 and 42 inches above the average of the 10 years ending with 1889. In future, means for the whole Presidency should be calculated with reference to the monsoon currents, the districts being grouped according as the heaviest periods of rainfall occur in them during the south-west or the north-east monsoon, and a separate mean struck for each group. Where, as in the case of Nellore, part of the district

READ AGAIN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
18, No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

ENCLOSURES.

CURRENT No.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESTRUCTION
IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

N.B.—

A — Copy in full.

B — Not to be copied.

P — Copy abstract only.

Q — Copy heading only.

is affected by one and part by the current, a division by taluks should be made. A mean into which such different elements as the rainfall in Wynad and that in South Nellore enter can be of no valuable use for any purpose.

Notwithstanding the heavy rain referred to above, the prices of food-grains, which had been steadily rising since 1887, continued at a high level and advanced on the failure of the north-east monsoon. The prices of the principal grains during the three years beginning with 1890 and the average for the last five years are shown below:—

	Number of seers for the rupee.			Average for the last five years.
	1892.	1891.	1890.	
Rice	10.3	11.8	12.7	13.8
Ragi	17.3	22.4	26.2	27.1
Cholum	16.1	21.1	21.6	24.6

The prices were above the average of the ten years ending with 1889 in all districts except Chingleput, where the price of cholum was slightly below it. Compared with 1891, however, there was a slight improvement in Tinnevely and Malabar as regards rice, while there was a marked rise in Ganjam and Vizagapatam.

4. *Vital Statistics.*—The total population for which returns of births and deaths were received rose by 10,000 and records are now obtained in the case of all but 1,944,000 of the inhabitants of the Presidency. It has not been yet found possible to arrange for vital statistics in the zamindari tracts of Madura and in the Vizagapatam agency.

5. *Births.*—The number of births registered during the year was less than that of the three preceding years and the decrease is ascribed to the distress which prevailed in the Presidency during the past years. If, however, the large variations in the birth-rates reported from the several districts, ranging from 17.8 per mille in Ganjam to 36.8 per mille in Madras are considered, it is probable that the fall in the number is also due in great measure to defective registration. In comparison with the previous year, there was a fall in all districts except South Canara, Tinnevely and Gódvári. In no district was the proposed standard rate of 40 per mille reached. The rate was above 30 in Madras, Bery, South Canara and Kurnool, and below 20 in Ganjam. The returns from Mahur (20.4), Vizagapatam (21.5), Nellore (21.9), Gódvári (22.1), and North Arcot (26) were unsatisfactory; the figures in the last-named district were, however, the result of the bad season of the previous year. The special attention of the Collector concerned is again drawn to the matter. The birth-rate exceeded the death-rate in fifteen out of the twenty-two districts. The death-rate exceeded the birth-rate in Madras and Gódvári, a high mortality from fevers, dysentery and diarrhoea in the former and the prevalence of cholera and small-pox in the latter district being the causes.

The average birth-rate for all District Municipalities was 29.9 per mille against 30.0 in 1891. In Dindigul and Vánambádi alone the rate exceeded 40 per mille; in 33 towns it was between 30 and 40; in the remaining 20 it was less than 30, while in Trichinopoly and Vizianagaram it was only 20.9. This great variation in the rates clearly evidences defective registration, although the Sanitary Commissioner states that he has found on personal inspection some improvement on the whole. The average rural birth-rate for the Presidency was lower than the urban, 24.9 against 28.3. In six districts, however, the rural exceeded the urban rate, while in Ganjam and Malabar the difference between the two was very marked. Such inequalities very probably are due in part to the untrustworthiness of the returns.

6. *Deaths.*—The following statement exhibits the number of deaths per mille and those according to the returns of the past five years:—

	1887.*	1888.	1889.*	1890.*	1891.†	1892.†
Cholera	1.0		2.7	1.2	2.9	2.3
Small-pox	0.7		1.0	1.0	1.2	1.3
Fevers	8.6		8.2	9.2	7.3	8.3
Bowel-complaints	0.9		1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0
Injuries	0.6		0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Other causes	9.8		10.2	10.1	9.4	9.1
Total	21.6	21	23.5	22.8	22.2	22.3

* Calculated on the census of 1881. † Calculated on census of 1891. ‡ Dysentery and diarrhoea only.

The number of deaths registered during the year was larger than that recorded in any year since 1878, the increase occurring chiefly under fevers, which carried off 280,627 persons against 247,029 in 1891 (an average of 223,427 for the preceding ten years). In comparison with that of 1889 however, the total mortality of the year did not show much difference, as the increase under fevers was counterbalanced to some extent by a decrease under cholera. The year was generally an unhealthy one in consequence of the distress which prevailed over a considerable portion of the Presidency. The mortality among infants under one year of age amounted to 173.9 per mille of the children born during the year and 167.4 in 1891. The high rate of infantile mortality may be ascribed to the general prevalence of insanitary conditions in combination with the other causes enumerated by the Sanitary Commissioner in the twenty-fourth paragraph of the report.

Taking the districts individually, the highest mortality (46.5 per mille) was recorded, as usual, in Madras. As observed in the reviews of the reports for the past two years, this is attributable partly to inexact accuracy in registration and partly to the extremely insanitary condition of the place. The city was inspected by the Sanitary Commissioner during the year and full report submitted which is now in the hands of the Municipal Commissioners.

The death-rate was also high in Kurnool (35.1 per mille), Bellary (27.5), Kistna (27.5) and Gódvári (27.1), while it was low 20 in Madura, South Arcot, North Arcot, Salem and Coimbatore, and in Ganjam, only 14.3. The accuracy of the Ganjam returns in particular may be doubted, and the great inequalities observable in the rates are doubtless due for the most part to the incompleteness of registration. The Collectors of the districts named are requested to report the steps they propose to take for improving matters in this direction. It is observed that the report called for in this connection from the Collector of South Canara in paragraph 6 of G.O., dated 9th July 1892, No. 1596 L., has not been received. This omission should now be supplied.

The average death-rate for the District Municipalities was 29.4 per mille or 7.5

	1892.	1891.
Mannargudi	24.2	24.5
Nellore	19.7	36.0
Ongole	24.3	28.8
Cuddalore	18.8	28.1
Chidambaram	24.5	35.4
Dindigul	20.5	40.0
Palni	21.4	49.7
Salem	18.2	28.3
Tiruppattur	19.2	36.9
Erode	21.7	33.6
Karur	23.1	38.2
Chicacole	23.8	19.1
Parlákimedi	22.9	23.2

higher than the district rate, while the individual rate varied from 55.2 in Kurnool to 18.2 in Salem. The high mortality in Kurnool is ascribed to the prevalence of cholera and that (50.3 per mille) in Cochin to the large number of deaths registered under small-pox. The death-rate in the towns noted in the margin was in every case, excepting Chicacole, below the figure for 1891. In the absence of any other reasonable explanation, there can be no doubt that this is the result of neglected registration, and the Municipal Councils concerned should give the matter their attention.

7. *Principal Diseases—Cholera.*—Mortality from this disease, though smaller than that recorded in 1891, was larger than that of any previous year since 1882. The disease was most virulent in January and August. In the last three months of the year very few cases were recorded. No district in the presidency was free from this scourge, while in nine it prevailed throughout the year. Godavari, Kurnool and Tanjore suffered the most, the rates being respectively 6.5, 6.0 and 4.1 per mille of the population, while in Ajmer the deaths registered were only 0.2. The average death-rate from cholera in municipal areas was 3.2 and that in the districts 2.3 per mille. Of the 55 District Municipalities, only two, Palni and Ootacamund, were free from this disease; Periyakulam and Anantapur, with a mortality of 14.7 and 11.5 respectively headed the list.

8. *Small-pox.*—The number of deaths from small-pox was 43,757 against 41,322 in 1891 and was the highest on record since 1885. The Sanitary Commissioner ascribes the great increase in the mortality from this disease in 1891 and 1892 to deficiency of rainfall in the years immediately preceding and states that a copious rainfall is accompanied by immunity from the epidemic. The proportion of the mortality among children under 12 years of age to the total number of deaths from small-pox, which had fallen from 66 to 5 per cent. in 1891, declined to 47 per cent. The disease was very severe in Malabar and Godavari; the lowest death-rate occurred, as usual, in Madras, where vaccination is carried on in a very efficient and satisfactory manner. The table in the next paragraph of the report is of much interest as tending to show the efficacy of compulsory vaccination when really enforced. Among Municipalities, Cochin heads the list with a rate of 19.9 per mille and is followed by Palghat, Tellicherry and Licut, all in the Malabar district where it ranged between 9 and 5 per mille. The Collector of Malabar and the Chairmen of the Municipal Councils concerned are requested to report the steps which they propose to take for the spread of vaccination in the areas under their charge. The results achieved in the remaining Municipalities were generally fair, and 8 towns enjoyed perfect immunity. This subject will more fully dealt with when the vaccination report for 1892-93 is reviewed.

9. *Fevers.*—The mortality under this head was greater than in any year since 1880 and numbered 280,627 against 247,029 in 1891. This large increase is attributed to the heavy rainfall of the year and also to the rise in the prices of food-grains and the consequent distress which prevailed. The highest death-rate occurred, as in the previous year, in Kurnool (22.8 per mille), followed by Nilgiris (17.7), Cuddapah (16.8), Vizagapatam (16.5) and Madras (15.6). The least affected district on the other hand was Tanjore (2.2), Tinnevel and Trichinopoly coming next with 3.1 and 4.0 per mille respectively. The death-rate in municipal areas was, as usual, lower than that in rural tracts, a ratio of 10 per mille having been reached in only 10 towns. The town of Kurnool, like the rest of the district, recorded the highest mortality (31.4 per mille). It is to be regretted that the health of Coonoor, which had improved in 1891, again declined in the year under review, the rate of deaths from fever having risen from 8.4 to 17.7 per mille. A similar result is also observable in Cuddapah, the rate having risen from 13.3 to 16.9 per mille.

10. *Dysentery and Diarrhoea.*—The deaths recorded from these causes numbered 32,293 against 34,223 in 1891. The average rate for the districts was only 1.0 per mille; the individual proportion range from 8.9 in Madras to 0.3 in Anantapur. The district municipalities returned an average rate of 3.4 per mille, the list being headed by Bimlipatam (10.7), followed by Tanjore (8.3), Vizagapatam (6.8) and Bezvada (6.0). The lowest rate (0.3) was registered in Dindigul and Vaniyambadi.

11. *Injuries, &c.*—There was a small increase (770) in the number of deaths attributed to injuries, but the deaths from unspecified causes decreased from 315,664 to 303,733.

12. *Sanitary improvements carried out by Municipal Councils and District Boards.*—The subjects dealt with by the Sanitary Commissioner under these heads will be noticed at length in the reviews of the administration reports of the local bodies concerned and in the general Municipal and Local Fund reviews, and do not at present call for remark.

SANITARY ENGINEERING.

13. The Sanitary Engineer's report for 1892, which is the third of its kind, is a record of considerable progress both in the execution of works and in the preparation of schemes. In the course of the year the Sanitary Engineer visited 18 and the Assistant Sanitary Engineer 10 towns.

14. Nine water-supply and drainage works estimated to cost Rs. 14,61,000 in the aggregate, were in course of construction during the year, while schemes for the improvement of water-supply in 5 towns and that of drainage in another, estimated to cost some Rs. 24,18,000, were submitted to Government. Of the nine works under execution, the Kandal drainage and south water-supply schemes in Ootacamund were carried out, while the Coonoor drainage and Ootacamund main-sewer-realignment schemes were in a fair way towards completion. Satisfactory progress was also made in the Madura and Cuddapah water-supply works and in the drainage scheme of Kumbakonam, the expenditure thereon at the close of the year having amounted to 39, 73 and 63 per cent. respectively of the estimated cost. Very little was, however, done with respect to the Trichinopoly and Tanjore water-supply schemes, as the works could not be taken in hand until late in the year. Tables 2 to 10 appended to the report exhibit the details of the works executed up to the end of the year. Of the six new schemes submitted to Government for sanction, the Bellary, Cocanada and Coimbatore water-supply projects have been abandoned as beyond the means of the Municipal Councils and the others are still under consideration. With reference to the Sanitary Engineer's remark in paragraph 24 of his report, it is observed that his proposal to improve the water-supply of Chingleput has not found favour with the Municipal Council, which has allotted Rs. 500 for cleansing and repairing the existing sources of supply, which are considered sufficient for the needs of the town.

15. The Sanitary Engineering department also scrutinised 165 plans and 202 estimates for sanitary works of the value of Rs. 2,17,708, and furnished plans and designs wherever necessary. In addition to this, the Sanitary Engineer deputed his Assistant to report on the drainage and water-supply of Chittoor (North Arcot) and on the suggestion to convert the Ammantham tank in Tiruchengudi (Salem) into a drinking-water reservoir. The report furnished regarding Chittoor was referred to the Taluk Board for information as to what action it intended to take. The scheme for the improvement of the water-supply of Tiruchengudi was reported to be impracticable.

GENERAL REMARKS.

16. During the year under review, the Sanitary Commissioner or his Deputy visited 128 minor towns and villages in the residency and the reports thereon submitted to Government in many cases show that although much yet remains to be done, sanitation is engaging the attention of the district authorities and that an improvement has been effected in all districts. The inspection work done by the District Medical and Sanitary officers was very satisfactory, as they visited 51 places each, on an average, against the prescribed minimum of 40. The medical officers of Cuddapah, Coimbatore, Chingleput, Nellore and Salem were specially energetic as they visited from 146 to 61 villages each, while those of Anantapur, Malabar and Vizagapatam appear not to have fulfilled as they should have done, this important part of their duties. In the district last named only six villages were inspected. It is not stated how far this was due to the absence of an Assistant Surgeon during a portion of the year. The Surgeon-General is requested to report on the point. The subject of sewage farming seems to have received but scant attention, but the Sanitary Commissioner explains that this is due to want of proper drainage systems for towns. The farm started at Salem two years ago is reported to have been abandoned, as the owner of the land declined to lease it out. Some other ground should, if possible, now be selected and operations renewed. A good beginning is reported to have been made in Tanjore with a farm of 65 acres in extent which has been leased, to the benefit of municipal revenues, for Rs. 1,950. The progress of this scheme will be watched with interest. The Government is pleased to note the testimony borne by the Sanitary Commissioner to the

good services of Surgeon-Major Dott, the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, and by the Sanitary Engineer to those of Mr. Hormusji Nowroji, the Assistant Sanitary Engineer.

(Le Extract.)

M. M. M.

Under Secretary, P.W.D.,
for Chief Secretary.

To the Sanitary Commissioner.
„ the „ Engineer.
„ the „ Board.
„ the Surgeon-General.
„ the Public Department.
„ the Military „
„ the Revenue „
„ the Inspector-General of Police.
„ the „ of Jails.
„ the Accountant-General.
„ all Collectors.
„ all Presidents of District Boards.
„ all Chairmen of Municipal Councils,
„ the President, Municipal Commission, adras,
through the Collectors concerned.
Editors' Table.

ENDORSEMENT—dated 23rd June 1893, No. 1395 L., Local and Municipal.

Copy to the Government of India, Home Department.

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

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G.O., &c., 23rd June 1893,
Nos. 1394, 1395.

JUNE.

Reports.

Reviewing the Sanitary Commissioner's and
the Sanitary Engineer's — for 1892.

made 1/7/93
3/7

with an order