

Public (1896) Department.

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G.O., No. 509

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INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

DIETS AND EXTRAS IN THE GOVERNMENT LEPER HOSPITAL.

Approving, with remarks, the revised scale of diets proposed for the European inmates of the Government Leper Hospital, Madras; and sanctioning the inclusion, under extras, of the issue of certain articles to the inmates of the Leper Hospital and the Pallipore Asylum.

BACK PAPERS.

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

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G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	409	Pub	9-4-97				

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G.O., No. 509, 4th May 1896.

MAY.

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Approving, with remarks, the revised scale of diets proposed for the European inmates of the Government Leper Hospital; and sanctioning the inclusion under extras of the issue of certain articles to the inmates of the Leper Hospital and the Pallipore Asylum.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From Surgeon-Major G. L. WALKER, M.D., Superintendent, Government Leper Hospital, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 23rd July 1895, No. 1123.

I have the honour to forward herewith a petition from the European and Eurasian inmates of the Government Leper Hospital complaining that they do not appreciate the present "full" and "half" diets, owing to the fact that these diets do not include rice and hoppers, which they feel a great deprivation; they also state that the rice and mutton in the present "mixed" diet is deficient and the bread in excess. As rice in large proportion and hoppers form staple articles of diet amongst the class in their own homes, and as the applicants are practically patients for life in the Leper Hospital as urged by them, I think their application is worthy of consideration.

2. The applicants submit a scale of diet comprising rice, hoppers and bread, with mutton or chicken (curry), in alternate months which they state they would appreciate; the cost of this diet is given in attached list (marked A) and will not exceed the sum of As. 8 daily as sanctioned in G.O., No. 1, Public, dated 1st January 1889.

3. The cost of the suggested diet with mutton curry would be As. 6-7 $\frac{3}{4}$, or with chicken curry As. 8 $\frac{1}{4}$; the average annual cost of which, including such extras as might occasionally be necessary, would not exceed As. 8 per diem per annum; the average cost of the present European and Eurasian diet for the past three months has been As. 7-9.

4. The patients desire to have the existing "half" and "full" diets abolished and to have the existing "mixed" diet modified in accordance with their suggested scale. A copy of the hospital diet scale is herewith forwarded for reference.

5. The proposed alteration is not calculated to increase expenditure, because the new diet being more appreciated by the patients, all will be satisfied with it, and the expenditure on extras will be reduced accordingly, I therefore recommend its adaption.

ENCLOSURE.

MEMORIAL from the Patients of the Government Leper Hospital, Madras, to His Excellency Lord Wenlock, Governor of Madras, dated 19th November 1895.

We, the European and Eurasian patients of this hospital, unite in welcoming you, and in expressing our heartfelt thanks for your kind visit to us, we have all of us heard with regret that your Excellency and Lady Wenlock will shortly be leaving India to return to your native land, and since that is so, we crave one boon of you before you leave Madras, namely, that your Excellency will graciously be pleased to give your kind and favourable consideration to a petition which we have lately addressed to our good and kind Superintendent, Dr. G. L. Walker, regarding the introduction of a special diet for us—one, we may remark, which is not more expensive than those already in force here, but which latter does not agree with many of us, causing us to frequently fall ill.

Craving your Excellency's pardon for taking up your time with this short address, and thanking you for so kindly listening to us, we now presume to wish Lady Wenlock and you good-bye, from our hearts, with the prayers that Heaven may ever prosper you.

A.

The proposed diet for the use of the European inmates of the Government Leper Hospital, Madras.

Articles.	Quantity.		Value.	
			A.	P.
Bread	8	0	0	8
Rice	12	0	0	7½
Mutton or	12	0	1	10½
Chicken	10	0	3	3
Vegetable	6	0	0	3
Butter	1	0	0	5
Ghee	1	0	0	5½
Salt	0	12	0	½
Tamarind	0	8	0	½
Curry powder	0	8	0	½
Cocoanut	1	0	0	½
Hoppers	No. 6	0	0	9
Tea or Coffee	Pts. 2	0	1	2½
Firewood	lb. 4	0	0	3

Total cost with Mutton .. 6 4½
Total cost with Chicken .. 7 9½

B.

PRESENT scale of diets for the Government Leper Hospital, Madras.

European.

Spoon.		Milk.		Mixed.	
Sago or arrowroot congee	2 pt.	Bread	12 oz.	Bread	12 oz.
Tea or coffee	2 "	Butter	1 "	Rice	8 "
		Milk	2 pt.	Mutton	8 "
		Tea or coffee	2 "	Country vegetable	6 "
				Butter	1 "
				Ghee	1 "
				Salt	½ "
				Tamarind	½ "
				Curry powder	½ "
				Hoppers	4 No.
				Tea or coffee	2 pt.

NOTE.—Extras may be ordered on all diets except "full" and "mixed."

Native.

Spoon.		Milk.		Half.		Full.	
Rice	10 oz.	Rice	12 oz.	Rice	18 oz.	Rice	1½ lb.
Tamarind	6½ drs.	Bread	4 "	Vegetable	4 "	Vegetable	8 oz.
Salt	4 "	Mutton	4 "	Mutton	3 "	Mutton	4 "
Curry powder	4 "	Tamarind	1 "	Dholl	1½ "	Dholl	2 "
Dholl	3 "	Ghee	1 "	Curry powder	½ "	Curry powder	½ "
Ghee	3 "	Curry powder	½ "	Salt	½ "	Onions	2 "
Green gram	1 "	Salt	½ "	Tamarind	7 drs.	Green gram	2 "
Onions	1 "	Onions	1 "	Ghee	6 "	Tamarind	14½ drs.
		Coffee	1 pt.	Green gram	6 "	Salt	12 "
		Milk	1 "	Onions	3 "	Ghee	8 "
				Carapillay	4 "	Carapillay	4 "

NOTE.—On Full diet—Tuesday and Friday are vegetable days and the rest mutton days.

On vegetable days 6 oz. vegetable and dholl to be given.

On mutton days 2 oz. vegetable and mutton to be given.

Half diet also has vegetable and mutton days just as full diet.

Extras may be ordered on spoon and milk diets only.

Memorandum No. 2827, dated 25th November 1895.

From Surgeon-Major-General C. SIBTHORPE, F.R.C.P.I., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 19th December 1895, No. 576.

With reference to your endorsement No. 2827 of 25th November 1895, and in continuation of this office letters No. 405 of 23rd September 1895 and No. 470 of the 30th October 1895, forwarding the diet committee's report, I have the honour to state that I referred the subject to the late diet committee, and subjoin their report for the information of Government:—

"The committee having met and considered the subject, referred to in your minute No. 1202, dated 29th November 1895, are of opinion that the grounds given by the Superintendent of Leper Hospital for considering the wishes of the lepers are reasonable, and that therefore their request may be complied with. After all, though in the strictest interpretation the establishment occupied by the lepers is a hospital, yet for purposes of administration it is an asylum, i.e., practically permanent residence. A little more latitude might therefore be allowed to its Superintendent to enable him to meet the wishes of the inmates, always, of course, limiting him to a fixed *minimum* cost per diem for Europeans and Natives respectively. He should also furnish the Surgeon-General with a statement of such variations in dieting as he may in endeavouring to meet the wishes of the lepers, from time to time, propose."

I fully agree in the view taken by the committee of the case and submit their proposals for the favourable consideration of Government. The change should in all cases be subject to the condition that the fixed *minimum* cost, 8 annas for Europeans and 4 annas for Natives per diem, is not exceeded.

From Surgeon-Major-General C. SIBTHORPE, F.R.C.P.I., Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated 2nd April 1896, No. 279.

In continuation of my letter, No. 576, dated 19th December 1895, I have the honour to bring to the notice of Government that the Superintendent of the Government Leper Hospital has called my attention to a practice which has existed in the Leper Hospital for the past seven or eight years, i.e., the issue to the patients in the hospital of the following articles under the head of "Hospital necessities" and included under "Miscellaneous charges" in the annual returns, statement V:—

Each male European or Eurasian, two cheroots a day.

Each native, one of the following articles to the value of one pie a day: betel and nut, or tobacco; or one cheroot, or one bundle of snuff. It is customary to withhold the seindulgences as a punishment in the case of misbehaviour or disobedience of orders.

2. The cost of these articles has averaged about forty rupees a month and has been passed in my office on contingent bills.

3. I cannot find any trace of authority for these indulgences, nor can the late Superintendent, Surgeon-Lieutenant-Colonel Cook, under whom the unauthorised practice seems to have commenced, throw any light on the subject. He says he believes he did not start it.

4. The present Superintendent points out that if this issue was stopped, great dissatisfaction would ensue, and I have authorised its continuation, pending the orders of Government. He also points out that the inmates of the Leper Hospital differ materially from ordinary hospital patients; in that, they are practically patients *for life*, that the incurable nature of the disease and the hopelessness engendered thereby render indulgences advisable that are not necessary in the case of patients suffering from curable affections. Suffering as they are from a loathsome disease characterised by painful ulcers, irritability of the skin, restlessness and sleeplessness, the consumption of tobacco and the chewing of betel and nut afford a measure of relief and induce

rest and sleep; hence the articles become practically a necessity in their case. The lepers being accustomed to the consumption of these articles outside and, if deprived of them in hospital, numbers will leave and wander about the city as vagrants; they cannot obtain these indulgences from outside at their own expense whilst inmates of the hospital, as it is forbidden by the orders of the hospital and the large majority are actually paupers.

5. No such indulgence has been allowed to the inmates of the Pallipott Lazaretto, where the Medical officer informs me that such issues would cost about Rs. 5 a month.

6. Under the rules of the Lunatic Asylum such issues to the insane have been authorised for years.

7. I strongly urge that the indulgence should *not* be authorised and that such issues should be treated as "extras" and dealt with under diets under the rule in G.O., No. 1 of the 1st January 1889, that the annual average daily cost of a diet for Europeans and Eurasians should not exceed 8 annas and natives 4 annas. These "extras" should be issuable on all diets and should not require the special initials of the Medical officer as other extras do—as such initialling would add enormously to his work without any adequate advantage.

8. I would also suggest that the indulgences should be extended to the inmates of the Pallipott Asylum.

ORDER—No. 509, Public, dated 4th May 1896.

The Government has no objection to the revised scale of diets proposed for the European inmates of the Government Leper Hospital, Madras, subject to the understanding that the cost is not increased beyond the fixed *maximum* of 8 annas *per diem*. It is observed that the Surgeon-General erroneously uses the word "*minimum*" for "*maximum*" in two places in his letter, No. 576, dated 19th December 1895.

2. The proposals in paragraphs 7 and 8 of his letter, No. 279, dated 2nd April 1896, are sanctioned; but here again it is noticed that the word "*not*" has been erroneously inserted for "*now*" in paragraph 7.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

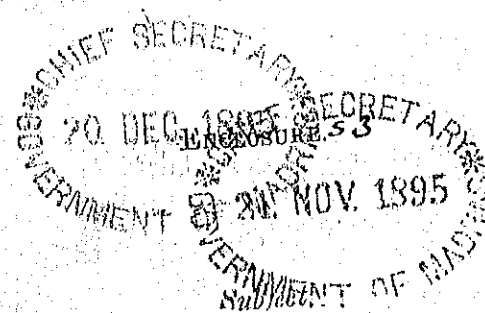
To the Surgeon-General.

Ed. C. M. Thambuswamy.

CURRENT No. 3975
(1895) DEPARTMENT.

From C. J. Mac Cartie Esq. J.C.S.
THE PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE
RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR,
To Chief
THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
DEPARTMENT.

Dated 20 } November 1895.
Received 21 }



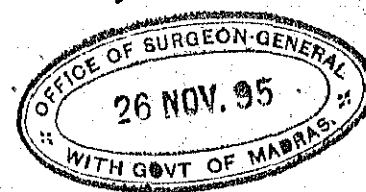
TRANSFERS a petition from the European
and Eurasian inmates of the
Government Leper Hospital
Madras, praying for the intro-
-duction of a special diet for
them.

Current No. 120201 895

Est No 2827 25-11-95

Referred to the Surgeon
General for favour of
early remarks.

Indenichee
Chief Secretary



To the Surgeon-General.



Petition from European &
Eurasian patients of the Govern-
ment Leper Hospital, Madras.

DATED 19 November 1895.

TRANSFERRED to the Chief Secretary to
Government for disposal.

(By Order.)

Private Secretary.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
Quindip.
20 November 1895.

CURRENT No. 1232

(1896.)

Public

DEPARTMENT.

From

SURGN.-MAJOR-GENERAL C. SIBTHORPE, F.R.C.P.I.,

SURGEON-GENERAL WITH THE

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

No. 279

Dated

2nd

Received

April 1896.

UNDER SECRETARY
23 APR 96
SIBTHORPE

Recommending the
issue to the Lepers of the
Leper Hosp^l Madras and the
Palliput Lazaretto of Cherooti,
beetel & nut, tobacco & snuff
as extras on all diets.

Refco

The Surg^l gen^l is
requested to report the
practice in these Residential
hospitals, & if possible
in their provinces, as regards
the supply of the articles
referred to. Put up Report
9/10/96

AB. ~~Here~~ I doubt see that a
slight reference to the Provinces will
add anything to the case for decision. This
Govt is quite competent to in a matter
of this sort to reach its own con-
clusions. The question is whether
these small indulgences sh^d be allowed
or not. The S. G. regards them as almost
necessaries. The average daily no.
of Surg^l gen^l of sick in 1894 was

in Leper Hospital 219
Lazaretto 39.

Rs 40 a month is the average cost
in the former: but whether it is capable
of reduction ~~and whether~~ has been care-
fully scrutinized has not been taken
similar indulgence in the latter
cost Rs 5.

S. G. 9/10/96
Let these poor people have their
cheroots or. This case is quite differ-
ent from that of ordinary hospital patients
MS
10/4/96

average daily cost of a diet for Europeans and
 Eurakians should not exceed annas eight and
 natives annas four. These "extras" should be
 issuable on all diets and should not require the
 special initials of the Medical Officer as other
 extras do - as such initialling would add enormous-
 ly to his work without any adequate advantage.

I would also suggest that the
 indulgences should be extended to the inmates
 of the Pallipore Asylum.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. J. F. M. M. M.

Surgeon-Major-General

Surgeon-General

with the Govt. of Madras.

Amos

C. 3925

I see no objection, provided
 the cost is not increased.
 In two places in the S.G.'s
 letter the word "minimum"
 is entered instead of
 "maximum" - Point this
 out.

MS
 13/4/96

In Orders

The Surgeon General sub-
 mits his remarks (C. 4326) on
 the petition from the patients
 of the Govt Leprosy Hospital
 praying for a more convenient
 diet. Statements A & B contain
 details of the proposed and
 present diets.

The members of the late
 Diet Committee recommend
 that the request may be
 complied with, & suggest
 that, as the hospital is for
 administrative purposes an
 asylum, the Suptt may be
 allowed a little more latitude
 to enable him to meet the wishes
 of the inmates. The Surgeon Genl
 concurs, with the proviso that
 in all cases "the fixed ^{maximum} minimum
 cost 8as for Europeans, & 4as for Natives
 per diem is not exceeded".

Submitted that these
 recommendations may be
 approved.

S.D.B.
 26.12.5

MS
 25/12/95

Diet
for the Govt Leper Hospital

Hon W. H. W. Bliss C.I.E

In Reply to No. 509
8th April 1896

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(True Extract.)

(From order)

2/5/96

Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General
6/5/96

*Diet & Extras
to the
Leprosy hospital*

(From order)

C.S.

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
180

DATE

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES to G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DIARY

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