

22/11
Public (1897) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 1514

DATED 23. 11. 97

INDEXED.

1/11/97

Bills of Health [Despatch Abstract.]

Recording Proceedings, Marine Dept.,
passing orders relative to Certain
irregularities in the grant of —
by the Medical Officer ^{at} Topputur
brought to notice by the Colonial
Secy., Colombo.

1/2/97

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Go	1245	Pub	20-9-97				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
C	4495	997					

File 1245
20-9-97

CURRENT 118

Government (1897) of Madras. MARINE.



1245 & 20.9.97 mis
rpt

Recd. 30-10 }
Regd. 1-11 } 1897.
sent 15/11/97

Enclosures
Spare copies

G.O., No. 881, 27th October 1897.

N

OCTOBER.

Order No. 1574 & 23.11.97
mis

Recorded

all 20/11/97

The San'y comdr } (sc) des/d

for the comdr
to be in C.S.

Bills of Health

Passing orders relative to certain irregularities in the grant of — by the medical officer at Topputturai, brought to notice by the Colonial Secretary, Colombo.

mark back papers

S.A. Put 10 on mar 10/11/97
is not in the hand
copy of the mar 10/11/97
put up 10/11/97

that into relevancy of 11/11/97
why can't you put up to hand
10/11/97 what 12/11/97
put up to hand 10/11/97
10/11/97
10/11/97

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

From the Colonial Secretary, Colombo, dated 14th August 1897.

From the Presidency Port Officer, dated 24th September 1897, No. 460/352 G.

ORDER—No. 881, Marine, dated 27th October 1897.

In his letter of the 14th August 1897, the Colonial Secretary, Colombo, brings to notice the following irregularities in the grant of bills of health by the medical officer at Tópputturai :—

- (1) that the number of passengers entered in the four bills of health forwarded does not correspond with the actual number found on board ; and
- (2) that it would appear from the statements made by tindals that the health officer possibly fills up bills of health at Védáranniyam near Tópputturai, inserting " 30 passengers " as a routine entry, while the passengers really embark at Point Calimere and are not examined at all.

2. The Presidency Port Officer explains in regard to (1) that the difference between the number of passengers examined and that actually carried, may be accounted for, in the case of the smaller number, by the fact that, owing to delay in the departure of the vessel, some passengers who were tired of waiting went by another vessel ; and that where an excess has occurred, it is due to babies having been counted by the Ceylon authorities, the practice in India being to omit children under one year of age in accordance with the provisions of the Native Passenger Ships Act X of 1887, section 5 (2).

3. It is observed that the endorsement in Tamil on the back of bill of health No. 1 and which is dated 12th July, that is, before the vessel started, shows that only 22 passengers embarked although 30 are entered in the body of the bill of health, which is dated 9th idem.

4. The endorsement on bill of health No. 2 states that only 21 embarked. In this case, the Ceylon authorities count 22, but one of these is a child which was probably not counted in India.

5. Similarly, in regard to bill of health No. 4, the number 31 (an excess of 1) is arrived at by the Ceylon authorities by counting one baby.

6. In bill of health No. 3 there were two children who should have been counted as one passenger under the Native Passenger Ships Act, but the Presidency Port Officer states that this was not done owing to ignorance of the law on the part of the Assistant Conservator at Point Calimere, where " children the height of a table " were not always counted. The bill of health gives the number of passengers as 30, the tindal makes the number 30 adults and 2 children, while the Ceylon authorities count 31 adults and 1 child.

7. In the case of bill of health No. 1, the vessel started three days after it was granted, five days in the case of bill No. 2, two days in the case of bill No. 3, and five days in the case of bill No. 4. It is essential that passengers should be inspected *at the time of embarkation*. The Collectors of Tanjore, Madura and Tinnevely will be instructed in the Revenue Department to direct that port clearance should be refused at inspection ports unless this condition is complied with.

8. It is observed from the list of ports given in G.O., No. 790, Marine, dated 11th September 1897, that neither Tópputturai nor Point Calimere is an inspection port under the Epidemic Diseases Act, and that the hospital assistant who granted the bills of health has not, so far as the Government is aware, been appointed a port health officer under that Act. He was thus apparently under no obligation to grant the bills of health in question.

9. The Surgeon-General will, in consultation with the Collectors concerned, report whether arrangements can be made for medical inspection and grant of bills of health at any other ports than those mentioned in G.O., No. 790, Marine, dated 11th September 1897. In the meantime, the Collectors of Tanjore, Madura and Tinnevely will be requested to order the Customs officers at the small ports trading with Ceylon to warn all masters of vessels applying for port clearance that, if they proceed to Ceylon ports without previously calling at an inspection port and obtaining a bill of health, they will be liable to quarantine in Ceylon.

10. It will probably be impracticable to provide the medical establishment requisite to undertake the medical examination of passengers and crew at all the small ports in question, and it will thus rest with the Ceylon Government to protect itself by putting into quarantine all vessels which arrive without bills of health from regularly-constituted inspection ports.

[Here enter No. 882, Marine, dated 27th October 1897.]

(True Extract.)

C. M. S. S.

Under Secretary to Government.

To the Presidency Port Officer.

- " Collector of Madura.
- " Collector of Tinnevely.
- " Collector of Tanjore.
- " Surgeon-General.
- " Revenue Department.
- " Public Department. ✓

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

When given for copying /
 When copied /
 When examined / 22 / 11 1897
 When signed /

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 189 DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—
 A = Copy in full.
 B = Not to be copied.
 P = Copy abstract only.
 Q = Copy heading only