

Public (1897) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 903

DATED 8. 7. 97.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Journing by both Medical and Sanary officers.

Passing orders on a letter from the Surgeon General pointing out that no opportunity of expressing his views was afforded to him before G.O. No 541 of 1897 on the subject was passed, and suggesting a ^{re}consideration of that order so far as it relates to the submission by D. M. & S. officers of programmes of their proposed tours.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
no 3032/97							

Public (1897) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 903

DATED 8-7-97

INDEXED.

12/17

[Despatch Abstract.]

Passing orders on a letter from the S.G. pointing out that no opportunity of expressing his views was afforded to him before G.O. No. 541 of 1897 on the subject of carrying by D. U. & S. Officers was passed, and suggesting a reconsideration of that order so far as it relates to the submission by D. U. & S. Officers of programmes of their proposed tours.

12/17

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Government {1897} of Madras. PUBLIC.

Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

1897.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 903, 8th July 1897.

JULY.

Touring by District Medical and Sanitary Officers.

Passing orders on a letter from the Surgeon-General pointing out that no opportunity of expressing his views was afforded to him before G.O., No. 541 of 1897, on the subject of — was passed, and suggesting a reconsideration of that order so far as it relates to the submission by District Medical and Sanitary officers of programmes of their proposed tours.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following papers:—

G.O., No. 57, Public, dated 24th January 1895.

Read—the following papers:—

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 Madras, 31st August 1894, No. 468.

6. * * * It is most desirable that medical officers should, when they consider it desirable, make a surprise inspection of such institutions.

7. To remedy the present state of affairs I would propose—

(4) That District Medical and Sanitary officers should have the power to visit any places where excessive sickness or epidemic disease prevails or where it is necessary to supervise or advise on the sanitary or medical arrangements for fairs or festivals, &c.

Order—No. 57, Public, dated 24th January 1895.

8. His Excellency the Governor in Council anticipates that under this order considerable relief will be afforded to District Sanitary and Medical officers in the matter of touring. It will rest with the Surgeon-General, by careful scrutiny of the tour statements of these officers, which it is presumed are submitted to him from time to time, to see that they devote a proper proportion of their time to their work at head-quarters.

G.O., No. 541, Public, dated 11th May 1897.

READ—also the following paper:—

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 Ootacamund, 8th June 1897, No. T. 2/90.

With reference to G.O., No. 541, Public, dated 11th May 1897, I have the honour to state that the orders contained in it have been circulated to the department for information and guidance.

2. I may, however, be permitted to draw attention to the fact that this very important question has been disposed of without my being afforded an opportunity of expressing my views.

3. It will be conceded that, in a matter of this kind as in all other departmental questions, the Government should have before it the views and opinions of its recognized adviser—the head of the department—before passing final orders. This course has hitherto been always adopted and is calculated to lead to a better and more satisfactory disposal of such questions. It is possible that if in the present instance

my views had been before Government, the issue of the case might have been different. However, I respectfully request that, in the interests of the department, the procedure hitherto in force may be followed in future, as otherwise it places me in a false position and renders the administration of the department a difficult task.

4. As regards paragraph 2 of the Government order under reply, I beg to point out that statements of tours already made by District Medical and Sanitary officers are not submitted to me, and even if they were, no object could in my opinion be gained by scrutinizing them as it would then be too late to direct that any alterations which I may consider necessary should be carried out—the tour having already been made—whereas the present system whereby statements of proposed tours are submitted beforehand enables me to advise my officers and to control their movements when necessary, and I may say from experience that the system has worked exceedingly well. I await the further orders of Government on this point before cancelling the existing departmental orders regarding the submission of the proposed tour statements.

ORDER—No. 903, Public, dated 8th July 1897.

In his letter read above, the Surgeon-General invites the attention of Government to the fact that no opportunity of expressing his views was afforded to him before G.O., No. 541, Public, dated 11th May 1897, was passed, and suggests a re-consideration of that order as far as it relates to the submission by District Medical and Sanitary officers of programmes of their proposed tours.

2. With regard to the first point raised it is to be observed that the views of the Surgeon-General on the subject of touring by District Medical and Sanitary officers had already been laid before Government in his letter recorded in G.O., No. 57, Public, dated 24th January 1895, and no further opinion was requisite to enable the Government to decide whether it would or would not, during the existence of famine, insist on the execution of its previous orders regarding inspections. The remainder of the Government order, which communicated to the Surgeon-General a letter from the Sanitary Commissioner, and pointed out the correct interpretation of paragraph 8 of G.O., No. 57, Public, dated 24th January 1895, obviously called for no reference to the Surgeon-General. His Excellency the Governor in Council is therefore unable to consider that the Surgeon-General has any reasonable grounds for his protest.

3. With regard to the submission of tour statements and the departmental orders issued on the subject by the Surgeon-General, the Government is unable to agree that the scrutiny of statements of tours already made by District Medical and Sanitary officers serves no useful purpose. Half-yearly statements of this kind are in use in other departments, and enable superior officers to ascertain whether the touring and inspection work of their subordinates have been satisfactory. If they have not, the attention of the officer concerned is called to the necessity for improvement in the following half year. This system may, with advantage, be applied to the Medical department. On the other hand, the submission beforehand of tour programmes cannot but hamper the movements of officers in an undesirable way, and renders impossible the surprise visits which the Surgeon-General in his letter, No. 468, dated 31st August 1894, considered important. His Excellency the Governor in Council accordingly desires that the submission of these programmes should cease. These instructions do not, however, in any way affect the power of the Surgeon-General to direct the officers under him to undertake special tours to particular places and with particular objects should he deem it necessary to do so.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General.

Exd. S. J. Pereira.

Read again the following papers

24TH JANUARY 1895, No. 57, PUBLIC.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

G.O., dated 9th July 1894, No. 1699, Judicial.

Read—the following papers:—

Petition from Bapu Mudaliar, Tanjore, dated —.

From the Inspector-General of Prisons, dated 20th June 1894, No. 3483.

* * * *

12. I beg, moreover, to take this opportunity of inviting the attention of Government to the present system of district medical administration. It is quite impossible that District Jails (or any other head-quarter institution) should be administered efficiently so long as District Medical officers have to spend fifteen days a month in camp. There are, I believe, forty out-hospitals or dispensaries in the Madura district, each of which has to be inspected twice a year. It appears that the Medical officer is also required to visit outlying stations at other times to inspect or locate rain-gauges and he is further required to look after village sanitation and vaccination. Under such a system it is inevitable that the bulk of jail administration shall fall into the hands of the jailors, and when the jailor is unreliable irregularities will follow. The occurrence of this case, in which a considerable defalcation was only just prevented, will, I hope, lead to the subject of district medical administration being considered and to the question of the best available remedy being remitted to the Surgeon-General.

Order—dated 9th July 1894, No. 1699, Judicial.

* * * *

3. Paragraph 12 of the Inspector-General's letter will be considered in the Public Department.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Public Department.

No. 1466.

Referred to the Surgeon-General for remarks with advertence to paragraph 3 of the order.

OOTACAMUND,
18th July 1894.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

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 Madras, 31st August 1894, No. 468.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 1466, dated 18th July 1894, on G.O., No. 1699, Judicial, dated 9th July 1894, herewith returned as requested, the Inspector-General of Prisons invites the attention of Government to the present system of district medical administration and considers it is quite impossible that District Jails (or any other head-quarter institution) should be administered efficiently so long as District Medical officers have to spend fifteen days a month in camp for inspection duties generally. He points out that under such a system it is inevitable that the bulk of jail administration will fall into the hands of the jailors, and when the jailor is unreliable irregularities will follow and instances the occurrence referred to in Government Order at Madura.

2. On a reference to G.O., No. 391, Public, dated 22nd February 1883, it will be seen that Government considered this phase of the subject very fully and issued the orders under which District Medical and Sanitary officers now work.

3. The following additional inspection duties have been added since the publication of the above orders:—

All the rain-gauges in districts under G.O., No. 16, Revenue, dated 9th January 1891.

At least twenty inspections of villages each half-year under G.O., No. 2785 L., dated 6th November 1891.

Factories under Notification I in *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 20th May 1892; also see G.O., No. 1621, Judicial, dated 28th June 1894.

4. I have ascertained from Medical officers concerned the time they were absent

District.	Period of absence from head-quarters during past two years.
* Bellary	205 days.
* Berhampur	205 "
* Coimbatore	130 "
* Cuddalore	82 "
* Cuddapah	10 months 18 "
* Madura	9 " 12 "
* Nellore	193 "
* Rajahmundry	98 "
* Salem	189 "
* Tanjore	138 "
* Tinnevely	120 "
* Trichinopoly	77 "
* Vellore	264 "
* Vizagapatam	53 "
* Chingleput	5½ months.
* Mangalore	223 days.

from their stations during the year 1892 and 1893, and it will be seen by the marginal statement that most of them were absent for too long periods to be able to give the attention to their head-quarter duties which I consider most desirable. Those marked with an asterisk have a District Jail at head-quarters.

It will be noted that in Cuddapah district the Medical officer spent ten months and eighteen days away from head-quarters in 1892 and 1893. In G.O., Nos. 1210 and 1211, dated 2nd July 1894, Local and Municipal, paragraph 13, he is commended for having visited 162 places during 1893. Yet the annual report only shows 50 major and 421 minor operations performed in 1893. The hospital work during 1893 shows only an average daily

sick of 18-11 in an hospital with 32 beds available. The Inspector-General of Prisons also specially brought to the notice of my predecessor the high mortality in the Cuddapah Jail during 1893, which possibly would not have been so high if the District Surgeon had remained more at head-quarters.

5. The Inspector-General of Prisons' statement that in the absence of the District Medical and Sanitary officer the administration falls to the jailor is scarcely in accordance with the fact that the Assistant Surgeon is Joint Superintendent in accordance with paragraph 6 of G.O., No. 391, Public, dated 22nd February 1883, and I know that certain Medical officers require their attendance at the jails at least once a week in order that they may know all about their administration. This rule I consider should be carried out generally and it would be most desirable that these officers should in future be gazetted as Joint Superintendents whenever they are doing duty in a station where there is a District Jail.

6. I have consulted the most experienced Medical officers in civil employ and am convinced that too much of the time of District Sanitary and Medical officers, especially in such important centres as Madura, Trichinopoly, Tanjore, Nellore and Vizagapatam, is devoted to administrative work to the detriment of their purely professional work in their hospitals and medical institutions and amongst the officials and inhabitants of their head-quarter stations for which duties they were primarily appointed, while it is most desirable that the Collector should have a trained Medical and Sanitary officer to advise him and to administer their own duties; such duties should be made so as to interfere as little as possible with the primary ones. I look on the medical and surgical work done in a head-quarter hospital by the Medical officer himself as most important in showing the people practically what medical science can do and thus gaining their trust and confidence. The management and administration of this hospital forms the standard to which the other hospitals and dispensaries in the district work up to. I consider it was a desirable decision of Government, taking all the difficulties into consideration, placing such officers in administrative charge of District Jails, but such duties ought not to occupy the most of their time. The office work of administering all the district hospitals and dispensaries is very heavy in some districts, and I am doing all in my power to diminish it as much as possible. The bi-annual inspection of hospitals and dispensaries which takes them a great deal away from their head-quarter is not, in my opinion, necessary. While it is most desirable that these officers should know the institutions and the subordinates and servants working in them, I do not consider a bi-annual inspection necessary; moreover, as any recommendations made which entail expense have to be budgeted for, which is only done once a year, it would appear sufficient to hold an inspection once a year which should be thorough, which I will arrange for departmentally. The Sanitary Commissioner and the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner, both highly trained and experienced Medical officers, now visit these hospitals and dispensaries on their tours. I consider that they should record any remarks on the administration they consider desirable in the visitors' book for the information of the Presidents of local bodies and the District Medical officer, and in the few cases of Government institutions—jail and police hospitals—a copy of their remarks should be submitted for my information and orders.

It is most desirable that Medical officers should, when they consider it desirable, make a surprise inspection of such institutions.

The duty of making special inspections where there is excessive sickness or epidemic diseases prevail and the supervision of the sanitary and medical arrangements for fairs and festivals must continue to be carried out.

The duties of making inspections of the sanitary state of villages, rain-gauges, vital statistics should, I consider, be confined to those villages or towns where they or their Assistant Surgeons inspect hospitals or dispensaries. If it is at all considered advisable to have other villages inspected as contemplated by G.O., Mis. No. 2785 L., dated 6th November 1891, I consider the District Medical officer should depute his Assistant Surgeon to report on them.

The late order of Government in G.O., No. 1177, Local and Municipal, dated 26th June 1894, directing that before the budget estimates are completed that the District Medical and Sanitary officers should have an opportunity of reviewing them, will make it their duty to see that any recommendations made by the Sanitary Commissioner, by them, or by their Assistants through them will be provided for as far as funds can be made available, will, in my opinion, give them great power for good both as regards sanitation generally and the administration of the hospitals and dispensaries. There is no doubt that if Government could see its way to increase the Deputy Sanitary Commissioners in the Presidency that more thorough work could be done if there was money to carry out their suggestions. The inspection of vital statistics and the inspection of rain-gauges might very well be left generally to the Revenue officials (Tahsildars). The District Medical officer should have the power to depute his Assistant to make any inspection he considered necessary out of the regular one, and in large districts, such as Madura, or where there are long distances, to travel over which take time, the District Medical officer should require his Assistant to make one-half the inspections one year while he did the other and changing out the year after.

7. To remedy the present state of affairs, I would propose—

(1) The District Medical and Sanitary officers should only be required to carry out their inspection of hospitals and dispensaries once a year. That in large districts, in districts where travelling occupies a considerable time, they should be permitted to depute their Assistants to inspect one-half of the hospitals and dispensaries during the year, which they should themselves visit the next year.

(2) That the Sanitary Commissioner and the Deputy Sanitary Commissioner should inspect such hospitals and dispensaries on their tours and record in the visitors' book any remarks they consider should be brought to the notice of the Presidents or Chairmen of local bodies, the District Medical officer, or the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

(3) That the inspections of the District Medical and Sanitary officers should be confined to the hospitals and dispensaries and to the general sanitation, vaccination, vital statistics and the rain-gauges of such towns or villages as have these institutions.

(4) That District Medical and Sanitary officers should have the power to visit any places where excessive sickness or epidemic disease prevails or where it is necessary to supervise or advise on the sanitary or medical arrangements for fairs or festivals, &c.

(5) That District Medical and Sanitary officers should have the power to detail their Assistants to make any such similar inspections they consider necessary and that the reports should be submitted to the officials concerned through them with their own remarks.

(6) The Assistant Surgeon in towns where there is a District Jail should be designated the Joint Superintendent, and the Medical officer should require his presence at the jail at least once a week while he is in head-quarters in order that he may be thoroughly acquainted with its working and the sick in hospital.

No. 1800.

Referred to the Local and Municipal Department for remarks.

7th September 1894.

(Signed) J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

Endorsement in the Local and Municipal Department, dated 21st November 1894, No. 1315.

ORDER—dated 24th January 1895, No. 57, Public.

In their letters read above the Inspector-General of Prisons and the Surgeon-General both give it as their opinion that the touring and inspection that is required of District Medical and Sanitary officers precludes the possibility of their devoting adequate attention either to the jails or the medical institutions in their head-quarters.

2. Under existing orders these officers are expected to visit all hospitals and dispensaries in their districts as frequently as is consistent with their other duties (G.O., dated 22nd February 1883, No. 391, Public), to report upon the sanitary condition of twenty villages each half-year (G.O., dated 6th November 1891, No. 2785 L.), to inspect all rain-gauges in their districts once a year (G.O., dated 9th January 1891, No. 16, Revenue), to supervise vaccination work, and to ascertain that the rules laid down for sanitary arrangements at factories are observed.

3. The Government is disposed to concur in the opinion that the frequent absences from head-quarters which these duties involve are incompatible with the satisfactory performance of the work to be done there, and considers that it is advisable that some of this inspection work should be dispensed with or transferred to officers who could carry it out with less administrative inconvenience and that the performance of other parts of it may be facilitated by employing to greater effect than at present the services of the Assistant Surgeons who have been attached to all districts except Nilgiris.

4. The inspection once a year of all medical institutions within their districts which has usually been required of District Medical and Sanitary officers cannot, in the opinion of Government, be with safety dispensed with, for these officers are at present the only professional advisers of local bodies in matters affecting the medical aspect of these institutions. They will, however, be permitted in future to depute their Assistants to visit such of the larger institutions as require to be inspected more frequently than once a year. All Revenue Divisional officers should also consider it to be a part of their duty to annually visit all hospitals and dispensaries within their charges and to record remarks upon their general condition and popularity in the visitors' books, and these remarks should continue, as at present, to be despatched at once by the medical subordinates in charge to the District Medical and Sanitary officers and the Presidents of the Taluk Boards concerned. The Sanitary Commissioner and his Deputy will also be requested to visit such of these institutions as are situated in towns to which their duties may lead them and similarly to record their remarks upon the same aspects of their working.

5. The Government considers that the inspection by District Medical and Sanitary officers of large numbers of outlying villages has in the past been productive of but little substantial benefit. It will be sufficient if in future the municipalities and unions in each district are annually visited and reported upon either by the District Medical and Sanitary officer or his Assistant. Assistant Surgeons may in addition be deputed in the place of the District Medical and Sanitary officer to supervise sanitary and medical arrangements at fairs and festivals and at places where outbreaks of disease have occurred.

6. The duty of inspecting rain-gauges, which are usually situated at Tahsildars' or Deputy Tahsildars' head-quarters, may be suitably transferred to Revenue Divisional officers. Instructions to this effect will issue in the Revenue Department in modification of those in paragraph 3 of G.O., dated 9th January 1891, No. 16, Revenue. The necessity of assisting District Medical and Sanitary officers by all means in their power in the promotion of sanitation in rural tracts and vaccination, and the importance of scrutinizing the registration of vital statistics, should also be impressed upon all divisional officers in communicating to them the orders in paragraph 4 *supra*.

7. The Surgeon-General's proposals to gazette Assistant Surgeons as Joint Superintendents of Jails does not commend itself to Government, but District Medical and Sanitary officers should require them to attend the jails at least once a week when they are in head-quarters in order that they may so familiarize themselves with the details of the administration of these institutions that they may be qualified *both administrative and medical* to take medical charge of them during the absence of their superior officers.

8. His Excellency the Governor in Council anticipates that under this order considerable relief will be afforded to District Sanitary and Medical officers in the matter of touring. It will rest with the Surgeon-General, by careful scrutiny of the tour statements of these officers, which it is presumed are submitted to him from time to time, to see that they devote a proper proportion of their time to their work at head-quarters.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General.

- " Sanitary Commissioner.
- " Revenue Department.
- " Local and Municipal Department.
- " Judicial Department.
- " Financial Department (for information).

Exd. C. A. Muniswamy.

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Govt. of {1895} Madras.
PUBLIC.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 24th January 1895, No. 57.

JANUARY.

Inspection duties of Medical and
Sanitary Officers.

Issuing instructions for the guidance of Medical
and Sanitary officers in regard to their duties of
inspection of jails and other institutions.

HC
No. 100
Kindly have
the printed account
Submitted
Wm 19/1/97 Wm 21/1/97

$$\left[\frac{G}{74}\right]$$

4,070-13-8-95.

US

Ans. This goes to the
S.A. only. But the
question is whether
S.A. should be visited
I submit that
CHIEF SECRETARY.

NOTE FOR THE CHIEF SECRETARY: *J. Subra*

per mail your typed draft -

I don't care if you are interested in it
but I am not going to let you see it as the
only way to get it is by giving me the money
I want it for my own use & have kept it
in my pocket since I got it. I don't think
it should be given to you or your work - the
money is to be printed

[Handwritten notes:]

but prefer to be visited
I don't think
this need go to the SG.
This is my friend's new found one
that is his. I like this
~~my friend's new found one~~
and for all that I will sign it.

unfavorable. Still, *W. W.*
Acacia is the best one.

Public (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 2137



From
Surgeon-Major-General C. Sibthorpe,
F.R.C.P.I.,
Surgeon-General with the Government
of Madras.

No. 12490

Order

Dated 8th June 1897.

Received }
Registered } 7-6-97

Enclosures -

Spare copies -

SUBJECT.

Submitting for consideration of
Government certain points regarding
the submission by District Medical
and Sanitary Officers of proposed
tour statements.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
fo	541	Pub	11-5-97
	57		24-1-95

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[G.]
26
1,000-8-5 97.

Public DEPARTMENT.

C. No. 2137

H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

THE HON'BLE ^{Mr} BLISS, K.C.I.E. & CMC

THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

SUBJECT.

Touring of District Medical and
Sanitary Officers.

FOR ORDERS.

Please see G O.No. 541,Public,
dated 11th May 1897 at A, also the
note for orders at C

The Sanitary Commissioner in
his letter No. 703-S, printed in that
G.O. having requested that the terms ^{of G.O No 57 Pub 724-1-95}
might be relaxed as far as regards the
inspection duties of District Medical
and Sanitary Officers in famine
districts, that letter was communicated
to the Surgeon-General with a request
that he would inform the district
Medical and Sanitary Officers that
there are no restrictions on their
touring and making such inspections
as they consider necessary and that
further, as long as famine work occu-
pies their attention, the annual inspec-
tion of hospitals, municipalities and
unions might be held in abeyance.

From a remark made by the Sanitary Com-
missioner it appeared that the Surgeon

General

General insisted on scrutinizing beforehand the tour programmes of District Surgeons. As it seemed likely that this action of the Surgeon-General was based on para. 3 of G.O. No. 57, Public, dated 24th January 1895 it was pointed out to the Surgeon-General that what Government had desired was that he should scrutinize the statements of tours already made, and not of those about to be made.

The current contains

(1) a protest from the Surgeon-General against the passing of G.O. No. 541, Public, without a previous reference to him, and

(2) The Surgeon-General's arguments in favour of his system of scrutinizing beforehand the tour statements of Dt. Surgeons.

Taking first the second point, attention is invited to the words of G.O. No. 57, Public, para. 8. "It will rest with the Surgeon-General by careful scrutiny of the tour statements of these officers, which, it is presumed, are submitted to him from time to time, to see that they devote a proper portion of their time to their work at Head quarters", it seems quite plain that what Govt. referred to was the statement of tours already made ^{and not a programme of tours to be made.} The Surgeon-General however now reports that "statements of tours already made were not submitted to me, and if they were, no object ^{would} in my opinion

be

be gained by scrutinizing them, as it would then be too late to direct that any alterations which I consider necessary should be carried out, whereas the present system, whereby statements of proposed tours are submitted beforehand, enables me to advise my officers and to control their movements when necessary". He adds that from experience he has found the system to work exceedingly well. He therefore awaits further orders of Govt. on this point before cancelling the existing departmental orders.

It is submitted that the Surgeon-General's view ^{is} ~~was~~ not a sound one. Statements of tours already made are submitted by revenue officers and their scrutiny enables their superior officers to see that a proper amount of travelling ^{and} inspection is done, without hampering the officer by ^{compelling} ~~making~~ him fix his programme long before. With District Surgeons (as with other officers) there must frequently be cases in which circumstances make it advisable to change the tour programme at the last moment. One argument against the Surgeon-General's practice is contained in his letter No. 468, P, dated 31st Aug. 1894, printed in G.O. No. 57, Public, where in para. 6 he says "it is most desirable that medical officers should whenever they consider it desirable make a surprise inspection . . ."

A "surprise" inspection made after the

tour

tour programme has been through the office of the District Surgeon and the Surgeon-General would be of little value.

Further it is submitted that it is questionable whether such centralisation as involved in the arrangement (as previous approval) by the Surgeon-General of the District Surgeon's tours is likely to be an advantage. It is difficult to see how in the majority of cases, the Surgeon-General can have sufficient grounds for saying that the tour proposed by the District Surgeon is not a good one. It is on the other hand easy to say at the end of each half year that an officer's inspections have not been sufficient, or spread over a sufficient area. The District Surgeon, who is responsible to Govt. for his work, should, it is submitted, be allowed ordinarily to use his own discretion as to his tours, provided that they fulfil the conditions required by Govt. The District Surgeon on the spot has fuller information of what is required than the Surgeon-General can possibly have. Under these circumstances it is submitted that the Surgeon-General's practice should be discontinued.

With regard to the first point the Surgeon-General states that in matters of this kind Govt. should have before it the views of its recognized adviser; this he says leads

to

With regard to (a) & (c) it is plain that no reference to the Surgeon-General was called for.

to a better and more satisfactory disposal. He suggests that if his views had been before Govt. G.O. No. 541, Pub., of 1897 would not have been passed, and he requests that the procedure previously in force may be followed, as otherwise he is placed in a false position, and the administration of the department is rendered more difficult.

It is respectfully submitted that this protest is an unreasonable one.

The G.O. falls under three divisions

(a) It communicates to the Surgeon-General a letter from the Sanitary Commissioner;

(b) It calls the attention of the Surgeon-General to the present rules regarding inspection, and

(c) It points out to the Surgeon-General the correct interpretation of an existing order regarding tour statements.

With regard to (b) it is to be observed that in his letter No. 468, dated 31st Aug. 1894, on which G.O. No. 57 Public, dated 24th January 1895, was passed, the present Surgeon-General recommended, para. 7 (4), "that District Medical and Sanitary Officers should have the power to visit any place where excessive sickness prevails, or where it is necessary to supervise or advise on the sanitary or medical arrangements for fairs or festivals etc." With this expression of the Surgeon-General's

views

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated 24-1-1897, No. 57 Public.
Again G.O., dated 11-5-1897, No. 541 Public.
Current No. 2137 of 1897, dated 2/6, from the S.G.
" " " 189 " " " "
" " " 189 " " " "

ORDER.

In his letter read above the Surgeon General invites the attention of Govt. to the fact that no opportunity of expressing his views was afforded to him before G.O. no 541 Pub. d. 11-5-97 was passed, and suggests a reconsideration of that order so far as it relates to the submission by Dist. Med. Officers of programmes of their proposed tours.

In regard to the point raised it is to be observed that the views of the Surg. General on this subject of touring by Dist. Med. Officers had already been laid before Govt. in his letter recorded in G.O. no 57 Pub. d. 24-1-97 and no further opinion was

views before Govt. it was quite unnecessary in an urgent matter, to refer again to the Surgeon-General on the question as to whether District Surgeons might visit famine camps.

G.O.No.57,Public, dated 24th January 1895 took away from District Surgeons some of the ^{annual} prescribed inspections, but did not, it is submitted, take away the right, and duty, of the District Surgeon to visit at his discretion places where he considers his presence required. Under these circumstances, it is submitted, that the statement in the G.O. under reference (541) that "there are no restrictions on touring and making such inspections as they consider necessary" is not a new G.O. but merely a reiteration of the sense of G.O.No.57,Public, dated 28th January 1895.

It is therefore submitted that no reference to the Surgeon-General before passing the present G.O. was in any way called for.

I fully agree with the remarks

made in this note. I do

not see the slightest reason

why a reference should have

been made to the S.G. in this

instance. There was nothing to take his

opinion about. If it had been taken

I am certain that the order passed

would not have differed from that

which issued some in Dec. 1896 which

have been longer. There was no need and taking

work his views as to modifying during

the sentence of the famine the order previously

issued regarding inspections: the necessity

for this was obvious and there was doubt

as to the S.G. having misinterpreted the

I entirely agree with the
D.S.'s note & with the C.S.

28/6/97 29/6/97

So do I. The Surgeon-General would state within

the power of ordering District Officers on special tours

to particular places, and with particular objects, -

should be deemed necessary to do so.

as he has done

A.14 2.7.97

v requisite to ^{the} ~~be~~ ^{or would} ~~decide~~ ^{whether} it could ^{not},
during the existence of families,
insist on the execution of the
previous orders regarding inspections.
The remainder of the G.O.,
which communicated to the
Surg. Gen. & letter from the
San. Comm., and pointed out
the correct interpretation of
para 1 of G.O. no 57 dat
d. 24-1-55 obviously
called for no reference to the
S.G. H.E. the Surg. Gen. & Comm.
is therefore unable to consider
that the S.G. has any
reasonable grounds for his
protest.

In the regard to the submission
of his statements, and the
departmental orders issued on
the subject by the Surg. Gen.,
the Surg. Gen. is unable to agree that the
submitting of statements of this kind
made by Dist. Med. & San. Officers
serves no useful purpose. Half-
yearly statements of this kind
are in use in this department,
and enable superior officers to
ascertain whether the progress of the
work is satisfactory or not.

And inspection ^{work} of his subordinates
has been satisfactory. If they
have not the attention of the
officer concerned is called to
the necessity for improvement
in the following half year. This
system may, with advantage, be
applied to ^{the} Dist. Medical Dept.
on the same hand the submission
beforehand of their programmes
~~is~~ cannot be hampered
the movement of officers in an
undesirable way, and renders
it impossible the surprise visits
which the S.G. in his letter no
468 d. 31 August 1894, considered
important. The H.E. in the
in local according to
that the ~~other~~ submission of
these programmes should cease.
These ^{instructions} ~~orders~~ do not, however,
in any way affect the power
of the S.G. to direct Dist.
The officers under him to
undertake special tours to
particular places and with
particular objects should
be deemed it necessary to do
so.

The Surgeon General

(for order)

18/1/97

When given for copying 127
When copied _____
When examined 16 } 189
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.

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