

Public (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 1148.

Dated 8 . 9 . 98 .

[Despatch Abstract.]

Requesting the Ceylon Govt. for the supply
of a copy of the Agreement of Sept. 1897
referred to in this correspondence about
improving the Emigration Supt. to enforce
~~the~~ quarantine & segregation within the
Emigration depot at Panbun.

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

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Case 318/99 (Col. Grey Colombo)							

CURRENT No. 1724

The Hon: the Colonial Secy,
Colombo.

Dated 17th May 1898

Received }
Registered } 1st June 1898.

Registered

Enclosures 2

Spare copies.

Re powers to be given to the
Supt of the depôt at Pauban
to enforce quarantine and
segregation within the immi-
gration depôt of all plague
& cholera patients & suspects.

To the collector of Madura (q) with paper
in org. to be returned with reply.

Delayed pending seed for
proper rearing to nation

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1574	Pub	8-12-07
	1514		23-4-07
	1328		7-6-07
	1245		20-7-07
	492		2-8-07
	432		27-8-07
	1068		13-8-07
	1032		3-8-07
	983		27-7-07
	407		20-4-07

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Encls: Col. D. Collected No. 243 of 28 dated 21-8-78

Copy of Communication referred to.

No. 548

Principal Civil Medical Office,
Colombo 29th April 1898.

Cholera at Pamban and on Cooly Route.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I have received a letter from the Senior Medical Officer Northern Province with one from the Government Agent Northern Province to him, relative to the outbreak of Cholera which commenced on 13th February on the Cooly Route. These Officials are agreed upon this point viz, that the outbreak can be traced to nine Cholera infected coolies who escaped from the Pamban Quarantine place and rejoined the coolies in the depot there, then coming to Ceylon and infecting the Cooly Route. The Government Agent says "it is not possible to practically imprison men at Pamban in the Quarantine station, as the Superintendent there has no powers beyond those of persuasion and that it is doubtful if the Indian Government would permit any other".

2. Before September 1897 quarantine was enforced on coolies arriving in Ceylon from Pamban when that place had Cholera, but since then until very recently it has been relaxed as reliance was placed by the Ceylon Government on the proper working of quarantine at the Pamban depot. In the face of the Government Agents remark, confidence has been lost in the effective working of the Pamban establishment. For this reason, I have directed the Senior Medical Officer Northern Province to impose a quarantine of three days on all arrivals from Pamban at Pesali as long as Cholera exists at the former place or at places three days' march inland from there.

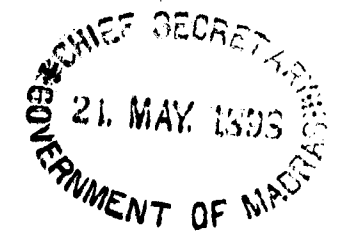
The Hon'ble,

The Colonial Secretary

Colombo.

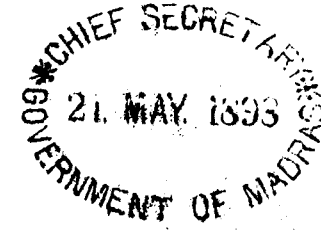
3. The Senior Medical Officer says he cannot effectively impose quarantine at Pesali owing to the want of proper permanent buildings and asks for authority instead of land quarantine, to place the Immigrant ships in quarantine as they arrive, this as he states would seriously interfere with the shipping arrangements. The alternative, which has my support, is that the Ceylon officials at Pamben should be invested with actual power by the Madras Government to enforce quarantine and segregation within the Immigration depot of all Plague and Cholera patients and suspects, and so carry out the agreement of September 1897 absolutely, and I would respectfully ask that if this meet with your approval, steps may be taken to invest the Ceylon officials at Pamben with those powers.

I am, &c.,
(Sgd) Allan Perry
P.C.M.O. & I.G.H.



Encl. 2
Collector's Order 243 of 98 dated 21st August 1898

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Colombo 17 May 1898.



Sir,

In forwarding to you the enclosed copy of a communication received from the Principal Civil Medical Officer of this Colony relative to the probable cause of the outbreak of cholera at Pamben and the Cooly Route, I am desired by His Excellency the Governor to request you to be so good as to say whether it is possible, and, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor of Madras in Council, desirable to give the Superintendent of the Depot at Pamben the powers asked for to enforce quarantine and segregation within the Immigrant Depot of all plague and cholera patients and suspects.

I am, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

[Signature]
for Colonial Secretary.

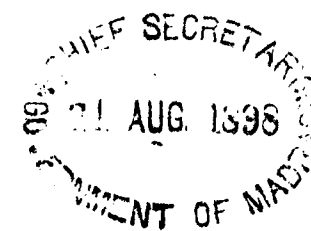
The Hon'ble,
The Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St. George
MADRAS.

Recd 7/23/98

*Encl. No 1 to Sub
C. No 1744 of 98*

Public (1898) Department.

CURRENT No.



From

The Collector of
Madura

Order

Di No. $\frac{243}{R}$ of 98

Dated 21st August 1898

Received 24

Registered 25

Enclosures

Two (C. No. 1744 of 98)

Spare copies -

SUBJECT.

Submitting the report called
for in regard to the arrangements
regarding segregation in
the Immigration depot
at Pamban.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Dist. No. 1234

CURRENT NO.

Madura Collectors office

Dated 21st August 98

From

J. G. D. Partridge Esquire
Acting Collector
Madura

To

The Chief Secretary to Government
Public Department
Madras.

Sir,

With reference to memorandum
No. 1334 dated 16 June 1898, I have the
honour to report as follows:—

- The Ceylon Immigration depot is
situated at about half a mile from
Pamban Town and consists of a large
shed capable of accommodating 600
Coolies. There is a Ceylon Government
Agent who supervises this depot and
another at Tataparai. There are no
special arrangements made for
plague suspects. But the authorities
have built two houses where Coolies
suspected to be suffering from Cholera
or Smallpox are kept under observation.

and surveillance in charge of patrols.

All suspects are kept in these houses for 3 days and thoroughly disinfected at the end, before they are allowed to mix with the healthy Coolies in the depots. The observation houses stand at a distance of half a mile further off from the depot. At a place called Thundigal which is a mile and a half from the depot, there are two hospitals for Cholera and Smallpox patients. There is a permanent establishment attached to these hospitals consisting of a hospital assistant, 2 cholera patients and a Cook with 2 scavengers &c. The hospital assistant and others are provided with quarters for their residence near the hospitals. It is stated that, when necessary, temporary watchers etc are employed. The hospitals are provided with the necessary Cholera medicines and

disinfectants. The Immigration medical officer makes one or more visits to these hospitals daily. To persuade Coolies to undergo segregation and quarantine it is reported that the Immigration authorities pay a daily batta of 2 annas. Cholera patients are kept under quarantine for 7 days and those attacked by Smallpox or measles for 18 or 20 days.

3. I have the honour to state that the present arrangements at Pamban appear to me reasonable and to have worked fairly well. If the Superintendent of Immigration is given powers to compulsorily detain suspected persons for 3 days and persons who are suffering from contagious diseases for a longer period there will be still less chance of disease being introduced into Ceylon. It is ^{most} ~~not~~ desirable that Coolies suffering from any infection should not travel on the steamers and there is no hardship in detaining them

in hospital. As to keeping suspects
for 3 days in the quarantine shed
I am in favour of it, provided
sufficient accommodation and
batta is provided by the Ceylon
Government for the coolies.

I would suggest that the
quarantine grounds be surrounded
by a prickly pear or other good fence
so that a large number of watchers
would not be required. I am not
aware what penalty is proposed
for a breach of the quarantine rules
and think that a small fine
would be sufficient.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant

Amir Vasahai
For the Collector
22.8.90

P. 17. 1890

[G.]
25
500-27-1-38.

Public DEPARTMENT.

C. Nos 1744 and 2687

~~THE EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR~~

THE HON'BLE SIR HENRY BLISS, K.C.I.E.

~~THE HON'BLE MR. PROSE, C.M.E.~~

SUBJECT.

Request of the Ceylon Government that
the Madras Government should be em-
powered the Superintendent of the
depôt at Pamben to enforce quarantine
and segregation within the immigration
depôt.

FOR ORDERS.

In the current at the Ceylon
Govt. enquired whether this Govt. con-
sidered it possible and desirable to
empower the Depôt Supt. at Pamben with
powers to enforce quarantine and segre-
gation within the Immigration Depôt at
Pamben, of all plague and cholera pa-
tients and suspects. The reasons as-
signed for this reference are because
the Ceylon Govt. enforced quarantine
up to September 1897 on arrivals from
Pamben, when cholera was reported to
be prevalent at the latter place, but
from September 1897 till lately this
restriction was relaxed as the Ceylon
Govt. relied on the proper working of
quarantine at the Pamben depôt. Cholera
having broken out in the cooly route
last February it is alleged to have
been traced to nine cholera infected
coolies who escaped from the Pamben
quarantine camp and rejoined the
coolies in the depot, subsequently

ing

going to Ceylon. On account of this outbreak of cholera the Ceylon Govt. have imposed quarantine of three days on all arrivals from Pamben as long as cholera exists at that place, or at places three days' march inland from Pamben. The quarantine arrangements at Pesali (Ceylon) are reported to be defective, and the Ceylon Local Medical Officer has suggested placing the Immigrantships in quarantine with its- instead of continuing land quarantine with its attendant defective arrangements.

As an alternative the Principal Civil Medical Officer of Ceylon has suggested the procedure which is the subject of this current.

2. The Collector of Madura was directed to report on the arrangements at Pamben, as there are no records on the subject in the office, nor is it known what the agreement of September 1897 is to which the Senior Medical Officer of Ceylon refers in his letter (an enclosure to G). The Collector of Madura reports at P that the Ceylon immigration Depôt at Pamben consists of a shed accommodating 600 coolies at a place half a mile from Pamben. The Depôt is supervised by a Ceylon Govt. Agent who also has to supervise at Tataparai. No arrangements are made for plague suspects, but cholera or small-pox suspects are placed under observation in two houses half a mile from the depôt and are also looked after

by

by patrols. These suspects undergo 3 days quarantine and they are thoroughly disinfected before being allowed to mix with the healthy coolies in the depôt. In addition to these two houses there are two hospitals for cholera and small-pox patients a mile and a half from the depôt. Besides the ordinary establishment for these two hospitals it is stated that when necessary temporary watchers are employed. The Immigration Medical Officer visits these hospitals daily, and as an inducement to segregation, patients are reported to get a daily batta of 2 annas. Cholera patients are quarantined for 7 days and small-pox or measles patients for 18 or 20 days. The Collector reports that the present arrangements have worked fairly well, and thinks that the chances of infection being introduced into Ceylon will be minimised if the Supt. of Immigration is given compulsorily detention powers with regard to suspects for 3 days and with regard to patients for a longer period. The quarantine of suspects the Collector considers should be on the understanding that sufficient accommodation and batta for the coolies is provided by the Ceylon Govt. Mr. Partridge suggests that the number of watchers required would be reduced if a good prickly pear fence was planted round the quarantine grounds, and considers that a small ^{fine} ~~pe~~ will be sufficient penalty for a breach of quarantine rules.

3. In their letter at ^C the Ceylon Govt. referred to the footing of the present Agent at Pamben, but from the letter quoted by the Board of Revenue at ^B it will be seen that nothing is known about the status of that individual, beyond the fact that he is a servant of the Ceylon Govt. (vide para. 3 of the Ceylon Govt's. letter at ^E). As was pointed out to the Ceylon Govt. in para. 3 of L & M's. letter at ^D, emigration to Ceylon is absolutely free and the only legal detention of emigrants, which this Govt. can enforce, is under the Epidemic Diseases Act 1897. The Marine G.O. at ^A exempts vessels belonging to the Ceylon Govt. which may leave ports in the Madras Presidency with emigrants for Ceylon from medical inspection on account of plague.

[24]
500-80-3-98.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated	189	No.
Again G.O., dated	189	No.
Current No.	1744 of 1898, dated	17-5-98, from Colonial Secy, Colombo.
" "	" 189	" "
" "	" 189	" "

CS.

~~ORDER.~~ Letter No. 1148, 98th Sept 1898.

To the
Honble Colonial Secy
Colombo.

Sir,

In reply to your letter 1.17.5.98 I am directed to state that this Govt. has too prolonged a period, failed to obtain any information regarding the supplement of Sept 1898 to which reference is made in the enclosure to your letter, and I am to request that a copy of the document may be furnished, to enable H.S. to send to the establishment on the subject of the Sanitation Supt. at Pamben to enforce quarantine reception within the Depot.

7/9/98

17/9/98.

7.9.98

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____ } 189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATED
189 ,

OVERTURE No.

ENCLOSURE TO G. No

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

N.B.—

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