

Public (189⁸) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 1236

Dated 29-9-98

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Communicating to Collectors
to them, for information & guidance, the
of the Govt. giving subsidiary instructions
with regard to Plague Administration.

21/10/98

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
		Cno 1754/88 (Ldu)					

Public CURRENT No. Government (1898) of Madras. LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

cf N.

Order No 1236, D 29 Sept 1898
mis

Recorded.

Recd.

Regd.

1898.

at
Enclosures

Spare Copies

27/9/98

G.O., No. 1023 P., 7th September 1898.

SEPTEMBER.

Plague Administration.

Communicating to Collectors and others, for information and guidance, letter of the Government of India issuing subsidiary instructions with regard to —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From J. P. HEWETT, Esq., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India (Home Department—Sanitary), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, Local and Municipal department, dated Simla, 19th August 1898, No. 2062.

The resolution of the Government of India in the Home Department, No. 227—240, dated the 3rd February last, laid down the general principles which should guide Local Governments and Administrations in the conduct of operations against plague. The Government of India now desire to convey some instructions subsidiary to those contained in the resolution, the necessity for which has been shown by the experience gained since the resolution issued.

2. It is desirable that special attention should be directed to the restriction, so far as possible, of the employment of subordinate Government officials of the Medical and Police departments, and in especial to the advisability of working with the help of native practitioners appointed by the people themselves. Where subordinate native agency is used, it is absolutely necessary that Europeans should be appointed as Supervisors over small and convenient units.

For instance, it should not be made obligatory in towns to report illness or death from plague to the police, and Police officers should hold no inquiry into suspicious cases. Public and private hospitals and camps may be placed in charge of native practitioners (hakims and baidis). Medical subordinates are not required for the supervision of disinfection work. Staff Corps officers have been found of the greatest use, and should be largely employed when the services of Assistant Collectors and Assistant Commissioners are not available.

3. The Government of India consider that, in view of the attitude of the people on the subject, it should be publicly announced, when plague breaks out, that no person attacked by plague will be compelled to be treated by an European or to take European medicines.

4. The question of corpse inspection, which is mentioned in paragraph 4 of the resolution of the 3rd February, has been further considered by the Government of India in the light of late experience in various parts of India and the opinions of Local Governments and Administrations. They have decided that the compulsory examination of corpses should not be enforced by rules framed under the Epidemic Diseases Act. There is, however, no objection to providing that, where plague is believed to exist, a death, the cause of which is not clear beyond suspicion, should be treated as a case of plague if the relations or friends of the deceased decline to allow the body to be examined.

5. The information that has been gained regarding inoculation against plague by M. Haffkine's methods since the Government of India expressed the views contained in paragraph 7 of the resolution of the 3rd February is all in favour of the efficacy of the system.

The Governor-General in Council considers that it has now become possible to agree generally that inoculated persons should be exempted—

- (a) from segregation, unless they are actually attacked by plague; they will, however, remain liable to evacuate infected houses;
- (b) from observation when travelling, subject to disinfection of clothes.

In each case the exemption is subject to the process of inoculation having been performed not more than six months before. The period of the efficacy of inoculation requires further investigation, and it may, in the future, become possible to extend the six months' period.

ORDER—No. 1023 P., dated 7th September 1898.

Communicated to all Collectors, the Surgeon-General, the Sanitary Commissioner and the President, Municipal Commission, Madras, for information and guidance in continuation of G.O., No. 396 P., dated 27th April 1898.

2. With reference to the instructions of the Government of India that Europeans (among whom may be included respectable Eurasians) should be appointed as Supervisors over small and convenient units, Collectors are requested to prepare nominal rolls of suitable persons to take charge, when necessary, of the circles referred to in paragraph 5 of G.O., No. 396 P., dated 27th April 1898.

3. The subject of corpse inspection has been dealt with in paragraph 4 of G.O., No. 396 P., dated 27th April 1898. As regards inoculation, a new regulation under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, has been issued with G.O., No. 837 P., dated 17th August 1898.

4. The following will be substituted for rule 2, page 97, of the Madras Plague Regulations and Rules:—

"2. The Government will, whenever necessary, construct either itself or through local bodies temporary segregation and health camps and plague hospitals and will also by grants of money help private persons or bodies to construct them on sites shown to them or selected by them and approved by the authorities. It is also prepared to restrict, as far as possible, the employment of subordinate officials of the Medical and Police departments, and to place both public and private plague hospitals and camps in charge of native practitioners so far as the public can find suitable men who will undertake the responsibilities and can be trusted to carry out the prescribed rules."

5. The existing regulations do not require that in the City of Madras and in the District Municipalities illness or death from plague should be reported to the Police. As regards other towns and villages, Mufassal Regulation 1 (page 8 of the Madras Plague Regulations and Rules) prescribes that the reports of plague cases shall be made to the officer in charge of the nearest police station. It has been represented to Government (*vide* G.O., No. 793 P., dated 12th August 1898) that this procedure has been found to be sometimes inconvenient. Mufassal Regulation I will therefore be amended as shown in the following notification, which should be published in English and Vernaculars in the Fort St. George and all District Gazettes:—

NOTIFICATION.

In the exercise of the powers conferred by the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, His Excellency, the Governor of Fort St. George in Council directs that No. 1 of the Regulations published on pages 158^r—1589, Part I, of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 18th December 1897, be amended as follows:—

For "and in a town or village not being a municipality, to the Officer in charge of the nearest police station, who shall report the fact at once to the Magistrate in charge of the division,"

Read "and in a town or village not being a municipality, to the village head or to the nearest officer of the Revenue or Medical department, who shall report the fact at once to his immediate official superior."

(True Extract.)


for Secretary to Government.

To all Collectors (A—L)
 „ the President, Municipal Commission, Madras.
 „ the Surgeon-General.
 „ the Sanitary Commissioner.
 „ the Inspector-General of Police.
 „ the Public Department.
 „ the Marine Department.
 „ the Political Department.
 „ the Public Works Department (Railway Branch).
 „ the Superintendent of Government Press.
 „ the Translators to Government.

Editors' Table.

Gazette.

Exd. T. K. Narayana Aiyangar.

5/10/98

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

189 .

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

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILLED 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.