

(1) Number of pages 4
 (2) Date of repair 22.4.1981
 (3) Initials of the Referencer _____

TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

REVENUE DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3974 . REV.	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	17. 7. 1877.	197 .

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3974

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

9th July 1877, No. 916.

Mortuary Returns.

Read the following paper :—

No. 30. *From Surgeon-Major W. R. CORNISH, F.R.C.S., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 2nd July 1877, No. 826.*

I have the honor to submit, for the information of His Grace in Council, the abstract return of births and deaths for the month of April 1877.

2. The total number of births registered was 40,714. This shows a slight improvement in almost all districts. The number for the previous months of the year are shown in the margin. Of the registered births, 21,014 were males and 19,700 females. The birth-rate for the whole Presidency was 16.7 per cent.

Births.				
January	..	..	..	38,121
February	..	..	..	30,922
March	..	..	..	38,081
April	..	..	..	40,714

3. 89,411 deaths were registered in the month. This shows a considerable reduction on the mortality of the first three months of the year. It is an unvarying feature in the mortality of the population that the April, May, and June returns should show diminished numbers. But I believe there has been another

Deaths.				
January	..	..	..	114,352
February	..	..	..	105,175
March	..	..	..	104,070
April	..	..	..	89,411

cause for the diminished number of registered deaths in April beyond the normal seasonal variation. In this month a large number of famine people were for the first time collected in the mofussil and put into "camps," and as these camps are generally outside the limits of Municipal towns, there is reason to suppose that in all cases the camp mortality has not been included in the village returns or taluq abstracts on which the district totals are compiled. This subject will be specially inquired into.

4. Of the 89,411 deaths, 30,798 are reported to be due to "cholera," 8,819 to "small-pox," 21,319 to "fevers," and 4,283 to "bowel-complaints."

5. Of the registered deaths, 49,000 were males and 40,411 females. The small population of female deaths is again apparent.

6. The death-rate for April in the famine districts is compared below with the ratios for the first three months in the year :—

Districts.					January.	February.	March.	April.
Nellore	..	..	..	..	97.1	64.1	31.7	24.1
Madras	..	..	..	..	112.9	132.6	151.6	123.1
Chingleput	..	..	..	..	78.1	55.7	52.9	38.3
North Arcot	..	..	..	..	83.1	74.2	58.1	40.1
Kurnool	..	..	..	..	78.2	65.6	64.1	65.8
Bellary	..	..	..	..	67.4	93.3	100.8	72.2
Cuddapah	..	..	..	..	118.7	101.5	68.2	58.6
Salem	..	..	..	..	62.6	63.3	78.9	72.9

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7. The reduced death-ratios in Nellore and Chingleput and North Arcot are not at all in accord with what we know of the actual condition of the people and of their emigration from these districts to Madras, thereby trebling the Madras town death-rate. I am afraid the registration has been very imperfect in these districts. The Municipal town of Nellore shows a death-rate of 136.3 per mille, Vellore 57.0 per mille, and while there is so great a difference between the Municipal and district registration we may suspect the latter to be understated.

8. The death-rate according to the registration for the whole Presidency shows 36.6 per mille. In the Municipal towns for the same period the deaths registered amounted to 59.1 per mille.

No. 31. ORDER THEREON, 9th July 1877, No. 916.

The return submitted with the foregoing letter will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, as usual.

2. The attention of the Collectors of Nellore, Chingleput, and North Arcot will be called to the remarks of the Sanitary Commissioner, in paragraph 7 of his letter, as to the registration of mortality in those districts.

(True Extract.)

D. F. CARMICHAEL,
Chief Secretary.

W. S. J. J.
Under Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of Nellore.
„ the „ of Chingleput.
„ the „ of North Arcot.
„ the Board of Revenue.
„ the Revenue (Famine) Department.
„ the Surgeon-General, Indian Medical Department.
„ the Sanitary Commissioner.

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Recd 1877 24th
740.5500

Col. of 1877 Madras.

PUBLIC.

To THE COLLECTOR OF NELLORE,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated July, 9th.

Received — 14th

Recd 18/7/77

G.O. 9th July 1877, No. 916.

Mr. G. G. J. & Co. 11/11/1877

JULY.
Nos. 30-31.

Monthly Returns. — Returns of births and deaths in this Presidency for April 1877 ordered to be published in the Fort St. George Gazette; and the attention of the Collectors of certain Districts called to the Sanitary Commissioner's remarks as to the registration of mortality in their districts.

19 July 1877