

Revenue (1897) Department.

ROUTINE SERIES.

G.O., No. 2052

DATED 8.11.97

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording Progs. of the Public
~~Dept.~~ Reviewing the Police Hospital
Report for 1896-97.

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Rev. 1897 Departt
Government {1897} of Madras.
PUBLIC.



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G.O., No. 1393, 15th October 1897.

OCTOBER.

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8.11.97

Police Hospital Report.
Reviewing the — for the year 1896-97.

List

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—letter from the Surgeon-General, dated 14th August 1897, No. 302.

ORDER—No. 1393, Public, dated 15th October 1897.

The Surgeon-General submits his annual report on the working of the Police hospitals in this Presidency for the year 1896-97. The Government is glad to observe that the instructions regarding the omission of unnecessary matter, contained in G.O., No. 998, Public, dated 11th September 1896, have had attention, with the result that the present report is briefer, yet not less complete, than that of last year.

2. G.O., No. 800, Public, dated 3rd August 1896, directed the abolition of twelve police hospitals and wards. The instructions conveyed in this order have already been carried out with regard to nine of these, and the remaining three will be closed as soon as suitable arrangements for the treatment of the police in the localities in which they are situated have been made.

There were at the close of the year 51 institutions at work with beds for 591 in-patients. As in 1895-96 the only hospital in which the accommodation was obviously insufficient for existing needs was that at St. Thomas' Mount.

3. Comparing the tabular statement in paragraph 2 with the corresponding statistics in last year's report, it would appear that at Guntur the number of beds has risen, while at Cuddalore and Tellicherry it has fallen. Footnotes pointing out changes of this nature would much simplify the checking of these statements. Orders regarding the erection of police hospitals at Vizagapatam, Cumbum and Nandyal are awaiting revision of the plans submitted to Government, which were found to be on

far too costly a scale. With regard to the Vizagapatam hospital, the Government observes from Statement V in the report

for 1895-96 that no expenditure on house-rent was then shown against that institution. The hospital at Vizianagram, which is to be closed, has been allowed to continue open until a suitable building is constructed at Vizagapatam, and it is not clear under what circumstances a room in the civil hospital has now been rented at the latter place. The Surgeon-General refers to the utilization in future by the Public Works Department of the present police hospital at Rajahmundry and the consequent necessity for a new building; it is presumed that what is alluded to is the possible acquisition of the site for the use of the East Coast Railway. The Surgeon-General should have clearly explained the circumstances to which reference is made, and not left it to Government to seek for an explanation of his remark. The Surgeon-General's letter containing proposals regarding the police hospital at Chingleput has not been received. The suggestion regarding Cuddalore should be submitted with full details in consultation with the Inspector-General of Police.

4. The year under review appears to have been a comparatively healthy one, the admissions to hospital being less than in either of the two preceding years. The daily average of in-patients was, however, greater than in 1895-96. The high ratio of sick in Gódvári, Vizagapatam, Ganjam and Salem, upon which the Government commented when reviewing the report for the previous year continued, and the Surgeon-General has again offered no remarks on this important point.

The appreciable increase in the proportion of men invalided, as compared with the previous year, appears to have been accidental. The mortality in the force from ordinary causes, that is, excluding cholera, showed a striking decline.

The various details in paragraph 3 of the report are rendered somewhat confusing by the fact that the figures for Madras City have been in some cases included and in others omitted. The inclusion in a list of surgical operations performed in police hospitals of a number performed in the General and other civil hospitals in Madras seems unnecessary.

5. The decrease under "Establishment" is attributed by the Surgeon-General entirely to the reduction in the charges at Vizianagram. Statement V, however, shows that extensive increases and decreases have occurred in other hospitals, and it is plain that the diminution in the total cost cannot be set down to any one institution.

(True Extract.)

W. C. S. Man.

for Chief Secretary.

To the Surgeon-General.
" Inspector-General of Police.
" Sanitary Commissioner.
" Local and Municipal Department.
" Revenue Department.
" Financial
" Accountant-General.

Exd. Md. Pahlavan.

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