

Revenue (1898) Department.

PRESS SERIES.

G.O., No. 340

Dated 11th June

[Despatch Abstract.]

Disposal of Corpses

Directing that in the case of a person who has died, or is suspected to have died of plague, the corpse shall be wrapped in a cloth soaked in a strong solution of a suitable disinfectant and be buried six feet deep.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

fr. n. 340
11.6.98.

Read Pro. of the Leg Dept.
no 31 de 16-5-98

C18: 3778 of 98.

Note

The questions which concern the Revenue Dept are nos VII, XIV, XVI, XX, XXI, XXV + XXVI(c).

The answers given to questions nos XX and XXI do not call for any action. With reference to Question VIII the necessary action has been taken.

The form in which the notification referred to in Question XIV (b) should be re-cast is under consideration and the orders will shortly issue. Questions XVII and XXV relate to the use of the water-marked paper and the papers on the subject are now with the Under-Secretary in view to the computer character cannot modify.

Ex. 2125
18-5-98

requiring the use of
such paper being
further considered.
A draft G.P. regarding
the burial of persons
dying of plague is sub-
mitted with reference
to the answer given
to Question XXVI(c).

A draft G.P. on
the docket of the cur-
rent is submitted.

See

Please see
Drafts below.

The pp. about
water marked petitions
with a some Preliminary
Separate

8/16/95

Chs '87 P.

II(c)

G.O. No 1002 Rev d/30-11-97
will be amended by providing that
the corpse may be either buried or
cremated. The latter method
cannot be adopted in the case
of a corpse which is known to be that
of a Muhammadan.

J.P.
J.S.J.

I don't object to the proposed
addition to the G.O., but I don't think
the answer is a satisfactory answer
to the question. Burial is
everywhere easy & cheap. Cremation
is in many places difficult &
expensive. If the option is left
to the Public Health Officer, he will
in the majority of cases choose
burial. He is aware there are
other cases as shown in the note
when corpses are buried - (un-
chained corpses) there is danger
of plague - infection in them
now in the Northern frontier
(Beluch & Kurum) & there may
be danger in many other places
soon. If the G.O. were amended
by directing that all corpses
known to be the corpses of
Hindus should be cremated,
something would be done towards
the wishes of the Hindu Members.
As it is, nothing is done. More.

To The Rev Department for
favour of Council's initial

& over the danger that it may be a case
of unnatural death or that the corpse
may be claimed by relatives is not
met.

I think the answer should be -
We do object to the impossibility
of prescribing cremation in
the case of corpses we suppose
were the corpses of Muhammadans,
& the danger that cases of un-
natural death will be con-
cealed & that the & the
subsequent claims of relatives,
& the danger that cases of
unnatural death may be
concealed, but cannot modify
its order as proposed, but the
Parliamentary Committee will be

subd into the view that the burial
shall be ^{ordered to be} such as to prevent infection
in all cases where there is cause
to believe that the corpse may be
that of an individual who
died of plague.

JG

10/5/98

Hon. H. B. B. B.

JF

11/5/98

① I have gone on
"H. B. B. B. will be no more
cremation cannot be done; but
incineration will be added
to the G.O. That in the case of
a person who has died or
is suspected to have died
of plague the corpse shall
be wrapped in cloth
soaked in a strong solution
of ~~formal~~ a suitable
disinfectant & be buried
6 feet deep.

Re submitted
11/10

This points to burial
in quicklime - But the San-
Com has already been consulted
on this question & is strongly of opinion
(and has no reason to doubt of the
men) that burial in quicklime
which burns away the flesh w.
be as offensive to Mussulmans as the
actual cremation of corpses. The
L. & M. Dept has the correspondence
with the San-Com on the subject,
on which it was decided to alter the
plague reg. - The papers had
better be brought up in C. tomorrow,
as I can't recollect the exact decision
arrived at.

BA

11/5/98

Will L & M. put up the
pp. referred to & return
J.F. 11/5/98

L & M. u.

Re submitted with G.O.
No 429 P d 4-5-98.
done
11/5/98 4 P.M.

Question by the Hon. C.
Vijayaraghavachari
to be put at the meeting of the 13th Ma

IV (c). Whether in view to prevent risk of infection and in view of sanitation,
the Government would modify its Order No. 1002, Revenue, dated 30th November
1897 relating to the disposal of unclaimed corpses by directing that these be burnt
instead of being buried?

Note

In G.O's No 1002 Rev
di 30-11-97 and 95 Rev
di 17-2-98, it was
stated that the un-
claimed bodies of per-
sons dying at a rail-
way station should
be buried. With reference
to the first of the above
orders, the Hon. C. ~~Vijaya~~
Vijayaraghavachari asks
"whether in view to prevent
risk of
infection and in view
of sanitation, the Govt
would modify its order
No 1002 Rev di 30-11-97
relating to the disposal
of unclaimed corpses by
dissecting that these
be burnt instead of
being buried". The
question has been
taken up by the Local
and Municipal ^{dept} ~~and~~
~~reference to the~~
~~disposal of~~ and the
following is
proposed

The underlining is
by the office

over
11/5/98
1/5/98

to the Hon. Member with
the concurrence of
the Revenue Dept.

"G.O. No. 1002 Rev. dt. 30-11-97
will be amended by
providing that the
corpse may be ^{either} buried
or cremated. The latter
method cannot be
adopted in the case
of a corpse which is
known to be that of a
Muhammadan".

It is submitted for
orders whether the amend-
ment proposed may
be accepted. G.O. No. 1872
dt. 9-7-77 F.D. contemplates
the burial of destitute
and travellers who
have died of cholera.
From the correspondence
printed in G.O. No. 5904
dt. 19-3-88, it would
appear that paupers
dying in Local Fund
hospitals are also
buried. Similarly,

2 dt. 31-12-90

Flag N in the case of board
file

Flag 12

authorities. The burial
of destitute natives
dying in the several
districts.

The burial of an un
claimed body has
this advantage over
cremation in that
the corpse can be
disinterred ^{and examined} if it is
suspected to be case of
unnatural death;
and the body may also
be made over to the
relatives in case it
should be claimed
within a reasonable
time after the burial.
On the other hand, if
the death should
have occurred from
any infectious disease
cremation seems a
~~far preferable~~ better course
to adopt. It may be
noted that the majority
of the dead
in the Presidency
and not by

Key
 The point was, think
 considered when G.P.
 95 & 17-258 was passed
 like Secy's note at M.
 Burial is safer from
 a Public point of
 view. It is quite
 settled that burial
 is so very unsanitary
 a method of the disposal
 of the dead.

M.H.
 10/5/98

H.M.
 If a Muhammadan
 were burned by accident,
 we should never hear the
 end of it. From this point
 of view burial is the safer
 mode of disposal where the
 duty is imposed on persons
 like station masters, who
 have little knowledge of
 regard for classes & castes.
 As per the cremation is better
 sanitary point of view:
 including a Muhammadan

even in the case of plague deaths, the
 law prescribe a mode of burial.
 The effectual
 J.P.
 10/5/98

Verdict
 11/6/98

Read again G.P. 1002 No.
 30-11-97
 95
 17-2-98 No.
 G.P. No 342 of 11th June 1898

In continuation
 of the orders contained
 in the foregoing papers,
 H.E. the G. in C. resolves
 to direct that in the
 case of a person who
 has died or is suspected
 to have died of plague,
 the corpse shall be
 wrapped in a cloth
 soaked in a strong
 solution of a suitable
 disinfectant and
 be buried six feet
 deep.

M.H.
 10/6/98

Order

For the order
 To the P.W.D. (Ry)
 - - - Board of Ry. & R.
 copy to the Pub. Dept.
 - - - & the Dept. - ple
 with copies of
 1002 & 95
 30-11-97

60/5

Government {1898} of Madras.
REVENUE.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1898.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 340, 11th June 1898.

JUNE.

Disposal of Corpses.

Directing that in the case of a person who has died, or is suspected to have died of plague, the corpse shall be wrapped in a cloth soaked in a strong solution of a suitable disinfectant and be buried six feet deep.

10 p.m.
ed

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

READ—again G.O., No. 1002, Revenue, dated 30th November 1897.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on Board's Proceedings submitting to Government report on the disposal of a corpse at the Orampad Railway station in the Cuddapah district.

READ—again G.O., No. 95, Revenue, dated 17th February 1898.

ABSTRACT.—Stating that in the disposal of corpses stationmaster should cause to be buried any corpse left uncared for in the railway station premises, as soon as it becomes necessary on sanitary grounds to do so, and that in any case he need not keep it above ground more than 24 hours.

ORDER—No. 340, Revenue, dated 11th June 1898.

Miscellaneous.

In continuation of the orders contained in the foregoing papers, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolves to direct that in the case of a person who has died, or is suspected to have died of plague, the corpse shall be wrapped in a cloth soaked in a strong solution of a suitable disinfectant and be buried six feet deep.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) G. STOKES,
Secretary to Government.

To the Public Works Department (Railway).
„ the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).

Copy to the Public Department.

„ the Local and Municipal Department,

with copies of G.Os., No. 1002, Revenue, dated 30th November 1897,
and No. 95, Revenue, dated 17th February 1898.

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
149

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.