

**MEDICAL WANTS**

Ordinances

Nos. 9 of 1912,  
16 of 1915,  
25 of 1916,  
29 of 1916,  
36 of 1946.

**AN ORDINANCE TO CONSOLIDATE AND AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO THE MEDICAL WANTS OF LABOURERS IN PLANTING DISTRICTS.**

Acts

Nos. 46 of 1957,  
35 of 1958,  
2 of 1966.

Law

No. 28 of 1974.

Acts

†Nos. 10 of 1983,  
33 of 1990,  
53 of 1993.

[17th July 1912.]

**CHAPTER I**

**PRELIMINARY**

Short title.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Medical Wants Ordinance

Interpretation.

2. In this Ordinance, unless the context otherwise requires-

“dispensary” means any Government dispensary;

“district medical officer” includes district medical assistant, visiting medical officer, and visiting apothecary;

[§ 2, 10 of 1983.]

“estate” means any estate in which labourers are employed having ten four hectares of land actually cultivated in tea, rubber, coffee, cacao, cardamoms, coca, camphor, pepper, or cinchona;

\*“Government Agent” includes Assistant Government Agent;

“hospital” means any Government hospital;

“immigrant labourer” means any labourer as defined by the Estate Labour (Indian) Ordinance;

“labourer” means a labourer employed upon an estate, and includes *kangany* and female labourer, and any child or other relative of a labourer resident upon the same estate;

“medical officer” includes any district medical officer and any officer of the Department of Health charged with duties of supervision or inspection in connexion with estates;

“prescribed” means prescribed by rules made under this Ordinance or, in the absence of such rules, by departmental rules or orders;

“superintendent” means any person in the immediate charge of an estate.

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† Amended by Metric Units (Consequential Provisions) (Amendment) by Act, No. 10 of 1983.

\* Section 4 of the Transfer of Powers (Divisional Secretaries) Act, No. 58 of 1992.

**CHAPTER II**

**ORGANIZATION OF ESTATES MEDICAL DISTRICTS**

Minister may declare estates medical districts.

3. It shall be lawful for the Minister to declare any district of Sri Lanka an estates medical district for the purposes of this Ordinance, and to define the limits of the district by reference to the estates comprised therein.

District hospitals and dispensaries.

4. There shall be established for every medical district such hospitals and dispensaries as may be necessary for the medical wants of the estates of the district.

District medical officers.

5. There may be appointed district medical officers and apothecaries for any estates medical district at such salaries as may from time to time be provided by Parliament, and with such duties as may from time to time be determined.

**CHAPTER III**

**DUTIES OF MEDICAL OFFICERS**

Duties of district medical officer.

6. It shall be the duty of a district medical officer for the purposes of this Ordinance

- (a) upon the written request of a superintendent, to visit any sick labourer upon his estate;
- (b) to direct the removal to hospital of any such sick labourer whose removal he may consider necessary;
- (c) to attend upon all such labourers who at the direction of a district medical officer or other-wise may be admitted to hospital.

Duties of medical officer as to inspection of estates.

7. It shall be the duty of every medical officer (being a duly qualified medical practitioner registered under the Medical Ordinance) for the purposes of this Ordinance from time to time -

- (a) to visit the estates within his district, or any other estate which he may be specially directed to visit, and to inspect the sanitary condition thereof;
- (b) to examine the labourers on such estates for the purpose of ascertaining their condition of health and whether they have been duly vaccinated;
- (c) to inspect all children under the age of one year resident upon such estates, and to give directions to the superintendent for their proper care and nourishment;
- (d) to direct the removal to hospital of any sick labourer whose removal he may consider necessary;
- (e) to draw the attention of the superintendent to any defect in the sanitary condition of his estate, and in the condition of health of the labourers;
- (f) if any estate has an estate hospital or dispensary, to inspect such hospital or dispensary;
- (g) to report to the Director-General of Health Services on all or any of the above matters.

Obstruction of medical officer an offence.

8. Any person who shall wilfully obstruct any medical officer acting in the discharge of his duties under this Chapter shall be guilty of an offence against this Ordinance.

**CHAPTER IV**

**RIGHTS, DUTIES, AND OBLIGATIONS OF SUPERINTENDENTS, & C**

Rights of superintendents.

9. Any superintendent shall be entitled -

- (a) to medical attendance by a district medical officer upon any sick labourer upon his estate;

- (b) to the reception at a hospital (subject to the accommodation of the hospital) of any labourer who in the opinion of a district medical officer ought to be admitted to the hospital;
- (c) to the free supply from the Department of Health for the purpose of any estate hospital or dispensary of all such prescribed drugs as he may require for the medical wants of his labourers to a value not exceeding fifty cents per labourer per annum;
- (d) to the supply at cost price from the Department of Health or from a Government dispensary of all such prescribed drugs as he may reasonably require for the medical wants of his labourers other than those authorized by the last preceding paragraph.

Charges payable by superintendents. [§ 2, 28 of 1974.]

10. The following sums shall be payable by superintendents in respect of medical services rendered under this Ordinance:-

- \* (a) in respect of every visit to an estate for the purpose of attendance on any sick labourer or labourers, five rupees.

Liability for charges.

11. All amounts due under section 10 shall be a debt to the State recoverable from the proprietor of the estate, and shall constitute a charge upon the estate.

Duties of superintendents.

12. (1) It shall be the duty of every superintendent -

- (a) to maintain the lines of his estate and their vicinity in a fair sanitary condition;
- (b) to inform himself of all cases of sickness on his estate, and to take such steps as he may deem best for the immediate relief of the sick;
- (c) to send any labourer to hospital when so required by a medical officer;
- (d) to send for the district medical officer in any case of serious illness or accident;
- (e) to inform the district medical officer within forty-eight hours of every birth and death upon the estate;
- (f) to supply at the cost of the estate every female labourer resident upon the estate, and giving birth thereon to a child, with such quantity of rice or of such substitute for rice, and with such sum of money and such lodging as may be prescribed by rules made under section 32 of this Ordinance, for one month after the birth of such child, and to take care that the female labourer be not required to work on the estate for one month, unless the district medical officer shall report sooner that she is fit to work;
- (g) to see that all children under the age of one year resident upon the estate receive proper care and nourishment, and to comply with all directions given by a medical officer under section 7 (c);
- (h) to supply at the cost of the estate every child under the age of one year resident upon the estate with such quantity of milk as may be recommended by a qualified medical officer:

[§ 3, 46 of 1957.]

[§ 3, 35 of 1958.]  
[§ 2, 2, of 1966.]

Provided that such superintendent shall be exempt from the obligation, imposed on him by paragraph (f), of supplying the food and money referred to in that paragraph to such female labourer for one month, if such labourer is granted under the Maternity Benefits Ordinance, the maternity benefit referred to in subsection (1) of section 5 of that Ordinance, or the alternative maternity benefits referred to in subsection (3) of that section, in respect of that confinement.

[§ 3, 46 of 1957.]

(2) Any superintendent who shall wilfully make default in the performance of any of his duties under this section shall be guilty of an offence against this Ordinance.

Duties of *Kanganyies*.

13. (1) It shall be the duty of every *kangany* employed upon an estate to give information to the superintendent of every birth, death, and case of sickness or accident in his gang.

(2) Any *kangany* who shall fail so to do shall be guilty of an offence against this Ordinance.

\* Paragraph (b) repealed by section 2 of Act No. 33 of 1990.

CHAPTER V  
RECOVERY OF CHARGES

\*Government Agent to give notice of sums due.

[§ 3, 33 of 1990.]

14. When any sum of money shall be payable.

(a) in respect to drugs supplied under section 9 (d);

(b) under section 10 in respect of a viut to au eatate for the purpose of attitudauce on any sick labourer or labourers,

it shall be the duty of the \*Government Agent to give notice in writing to the superintendent of the estate in respect of which the same is payable, requiring the payment thereof within one month after such notice.

Power to seize property in default of payment.

15. In default of such payment it shall be lawful for the \*Government Agent or any person authorized by him in writing in that behalf to seize from time to time all the crops, livestock, and implements, or any part thereof, found on the estate liable in respect of such sum, or any other article or thing whatsoever belonging to the proprietor or any of the proprietors of such estate, until the full amount due by such estate shall be recovered.

Power to seize timber and materials of buildings.

16. If there be no sufficient crop, livestock, or implements on such estate to realize the amount due, it shall be lawful for the \*Government Agent or other person authorized as aforesaid to cause the timber on the said estate to be cut, or the materials of the buildings erected thereon to be removed, and to seize the same.

Power to sell property seized.

17. At any time after thirty days from the date of seizure, unless the sum due shall be sooner paid, with the costs and charges incurred in respect of such seizure, it shall be lawful for such \*Government Agent or any person as aforesaid to sell the property so seized by public auction:

Provided that perishable property may be sold at any time after the date of such seizure.

No seizure for arrears.

18. No seizure shall take place under this Chapter for any sum of money which shall have been in arrear for a period of one year.

Removal for property seized.

19. Any property seized under this Chapter may be removed for safe custody, pending the sale thereof, to such place as the person directing the seizure may think fit.

Possession of property not removable pending sale.

20. In the case of the seizure of any property which cannot conveniently be removed, it shall be lawful for the person making the seizure to place and keep a person in possession thereof pending such sale.

Costs of seizure and sale.

21. The costs and charges of seizure and sale shall also be payable from the proceeds of the property seized, and they shall be as follows:-

(a) for cost of proceeding to the house or land of the party in default in order to seize property, a charge not exceeding eight *per centum* on the amount due;

(b) for removal of the goods seized, in case such removal takes place, a charge not exceeding eight *per centum* on the amount due;

(c) for keeping the same in safe custody in case of such removal, a charge not exceeding one rupee per day;

(d) for keeping a person in possession, if the goods seized are not removed, a charge not exceeding one rupee per day;

(e) for the expenses of sale, where any takes place, a charge not exceeding two and a half *per centum* on the net proceeds of the sale.

Buildings may be broken open.

22. It shall be lawful for the \*Government Agent or person authorized as aforesaid to break open or cause to be broken open in the day-time any house or building for the purpose of seizing property in pursuance of this Chapter, if he shall have affixed to a conspicuous part of such house or building three clear days previously a notice of his intention so to do.

Return of overplus.

23. In the event of a sale of property seized, the \*Government Agent at whose instance such seizure was made shall, after deducting the amount due by the defaulter, and also the costs and

\* Section 4 of the Transfer of Powers (Divisional Secretaries) Act, No. 58 of 1992.

charges payable under section 21, restore the overplus arising from such sale, if any there be, to the owner of the property sold.

Obstruction of persons acting under this Chapter.

24. Whoever shall wilfully obstruct any person in the performance of any duty imposed upon him, or in the exercise of any authority vested in or conferred upon him under or by virtue of this Chapter, shall be guilty of an offence against this Ordinance.

## CHAPTER VI MEDICAL WANTS COMMITTEE

Establishment of medical wants committee.

25. There shall be established a committee, to be called the medical wants committee, consisting of such members, official and unofficial, as the Minister may from time to time appoint:

Provided that three of such members shall be persons whose names are submitted to the Minister by the Planters' Association of Ceylon.

Duties of medical wants committee.

26. The medical wants committee shall advise the Minister -

- (a) on the requirements of labourers as regards the construction of hospitals and dispensaries;
- (b) on the annual statement prepared under section 30, and the estimate to be framed thereon;
- (c) on the rebates to proprietors authorized by section 27;
- (d) on all rules made under this Ordinance;
- (e) generally on all such matters relating to the administration of this Ordinance as the committee may desire to bring to the notice of the Minister, or as the Minister may refer to it for advice.

Power to grant rebate to certain proprietors.

27. (1) When the proprietor of an estate or group of estates has at his own cost made provision to the satisfaction of the Director-General of Health Services for the medical treatment of the labourers employed on such estate or group of estates, the medical wants committee may at its discretion, and subject to rules made under section 32, allow to such proprietor a rebate of the whole or part of the duties paid under section 28 on the exportation of the produce of such estate or group of estates.

(2) In the case of any produce not directly exported by the proprietor of the estate, such rules may provide for the calculation as nearly as may be upon such evidence as the committee may determine of the amount of export duty paid upon such produce, and any amount so calculated shall for the purpose of the allowance of rebate be deemed to have been paid upon exportation.

(3) Such rules shall be deemed to have effect as from the 1st day of January, 1914.

## CHAPTER VII FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Expenses of Ordinance to be met by export duty on certain products.  
[§ 2, 53 of 1993.]

28. The Parliament may from time to time by resolution impose duties on the exportation of tea, coffee, cacao, cardamoms, coca, camphor, pepper, and cinchona, at such rates as Parliament may deem sufficient for the purpose of meeting the expenses of the administration of this Ordinance, in so far as he same are not herein otherwise or provided for.

Annual financial statement.

29. For the purpose of estimating the amount for which it may be necessary to make provision under section 28, it shall the duty of the Director-General of Health Services to prepare annually for submission to the Parliament a financial statement of expenses of the administration of this Ordinance.

Debit side of statement.

30. The statement shall contain on the debit side of the account the following expenses:-
- (a) any deficiency brought forward on the working of the account for the period of twelve months anterior to that covered by the statement;
  - \*(e) in the case of any special hospital or dispensary building completed after the commencement of this Ordinance, such contribution to the cost of construction, whether by way of annual instalments on the terms aforesaid or otherwise, as the Minister, with the advice of the medical wants committee, may determine;
  - (f) the cost price of all drugs supplied to superintendents under section 9 (d) during the aforesaid period of twelve months;
  - (g) all miscellaneous expenses incidental to the administration of this Ordinance during the same period;
  - (h) any expenditure incurred under any general scheme undertaken by the authority of Government for combating any disease prevalent among estate labourers which the Minister, on the recommendation of the medical wants committee, may direct to be so debited.

Credit side of statement.

31. The said statement shall contain on the credit side of the account:-
- (a) any surplus brought forward on the working of the account for the period of twelve months anterior to that covered by the statement;
  - (b) the amount of all sums recovered as visiting fees under section 10 during the twelve months preceding the date up to which the statement is made up;
  - (c) the amount of all fines recovered in respect of all offences against the Ordinance during the same period ;
  - (d) the amount of all sums received as the cost price of drugs supplied to superintendents under section 9 (d) during the same period;
  - (e) the amount of the export duty collected under section 28 during the same period;
  - (f) an annual contribution out of moneys provided by Parliament<sup>1</sup> of an amount equal to fifteen *per centum* of the total expenses of the administration of this Ordinance during the same period, as shown by the debit side of the account.

**CHAPTER VIII  
MISCELLANEOUS**

Minister may make rules.

32. (1) The Minister may make rules regulating:-
- (a) the fees payable to district medical officers by superintendents and persons other than labourers engaged upon estates for medical attendance and for medicines dispensed at dispensaries;
  - (b) the management of estate hospitals and dispensaries;
  - (c) the supply of drugs to superintendents from dispensaries and from the Department of Health;
  - (d) the powers and duties of hospital Visitors;
  - (e) the conditions subject to which rebates will be allowed under section 27, and the evidence which will be required in support of applications for rebate;
  - (f) the form in which, and the time within which, applications for rebate should be made;
  - (g) the manner in which such rebates shall be made, and generally on all matters connected with the allowance thereof;

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\*Paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) repealed by section 4 of Act, No. 33 of 1990.

(h) any other matters necessary for the administration of this Ordinance that cannot be provided for by departmental rules and orders:

Provided that no rule regulating fees shall be made without the concurrence of the Minister of Finance.

(2) All such rules shall be laid as soon as conveniently may be before Parliament and if a resolution is passed by within forty days of their being so laid praying that any rule shall be annulled, such rule shall thenceforth be void, but without prejudice to anything done thereunder.

Power to amend definition of estate and list of agricultural products.

33. Parliament may, from time to time, by resolution amend the definition of "estate" in section 2 by the addition of any agricultural product to the list of agricultural products therein enumerated, or by the elimination of any agricultural product from the said list, and any such agricultural product shall thereupon become subject to or exempt from the imposition of duty on exportation, as the case may be, under section 28.

Penalty for offence.

34. (1) Any person convicted of any offence under this Ordinance shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred rupees.

(2) Every such offence shall be triable by a Magistrate, and such Magistrate shall have power to impose the full penalty provided for by this section, notwithstanding any limitation of the ordinary jurisdiction of such Magistrate.

THE MEDICAL WANTS ORDINANCE

SECTION 3

Notifications not reproduced.

SECTION 28

Duties have been imposed on the exportation of the following products for the purpose of meeting the expenses of the administration of the Ordinance:-

				Rs. c.
[Gazette No.808/5-10-1934.]	Cocoa per 100 lb.	..	..	0 15
[Gazette No.10,157/29-9-1950.]	Tea per 100 lb.	..	..	0 15
[Gazette No.10,157/29-9-1950.]	Rubber, raw per 100 lb.	..		75
[Gazette No.10,157/29-9-1950.]	Rubber, latex per 100 lb. of dry rubber content	..	..	75

SECTION 30 (d)

Notifications not reproduced.

SECTION 32 (1)

Rules

**A.- FEES PAYABLE TO DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS BY SUPERINTENDENTS AND PERSONS OTHER THAN LABOURERS ENGAGED UPON ESTATES FOR MEDICAL ATTENDANCE AND FOR MEDICINES DISPENSED AT DISPENSARIES**

[Gazette No.6549/21-2-1913.]  
[Gazette No.7764/28-2-1930.]

1. By Superintendents:-

- (a) Visit and medical attendance at patient's own place of residence for himself, his wife, and children: Rs. 15 and mileage for the first visit and medical attendance, and Rs. 7.50 and mileage for each subsequent visit (in the same illness) and medical attendance.
- (b) For midwifery: Rs. 150, to include three subsequent visits; mileage extra for each visit.
- (c) For vaccination: Rs. 15, and the cost of lymph (to be credited revenue); mileage extra if vaccination carried out at the patient's own place of residence.
- (d) For medical attendance at doctor's house or for prescription by letter: Rs. 5.

[Gazette No.9471/12-10-1945.]

1.A By Assistant Superintendents:-

- (a) Visit and medical attendance at patient's own place of residence for himself, his wife, and children: Rs. 10.50 and mileage for the first visit and medical attendance, and Rs. 5.25 and mileage for each subsequent visit (in the same illness) and medical attendance.
- (b) For midwifery: Rs. 100, to include three subsequent visits; mileage extra for each visit.
- (c) For vaccination: Rs 10, and the cost of lymph (to be credited to revenue); mileage extra if vaccination carried out at the patient's own place of residence.
- (d) For medical attendance at doctor's house or for prescription by letter: Rs. 5.

[Gazette No.9471/12-10-1945]

2. By clerks, conductors, tea-makers, rubbermakers, carpenters, masons, kanakapillais, store keepers, chauffeurs, nurses, domestic servants, and employees of similar status:-



- (a) Visit an medical attendance at patient's own place of residence for himself, his wife, and children Rs. 3 and mileage for the first visit and medical attendance, and Rs. 2.50 and mileage for each subsequent visit (in the same illness) and medical attendance.
  - (b) For midwifery: Rs. 30, to include three subsequent visits; mileage extra for each visit.
  - (c) For vaccination: if carried out at the patient's own place of residence, Rs. 3, and the cost of lymph (to be credited to revenue) and mileage; if carried out at dispensary, no charge.
  - (d) For medical attendance at doctor's house or for prescription by letter: Rs. 2.50/
- If the district medical officer be a visiting apothecary, the following shall be the fees payable instead of those in rules 1, 1A and 2 above:-

[Gazette No.9471/12-10-1945.]

3. By Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents:-

- (a) Visit an medical attendance at patient's own place of residence for himself, his wife, and children: Rs. 5 and mileage for first visit and medical attendance, and Rs. 2.50 and mileage for each subsequent visit (in the same illness) and medical attendance.
- (b) These officers are not to be summoned for midwifery cases. The nearest qualified officer should be summoned for these cases.
- (c) For vaccination: Rs. 5, and the cost of lymph (to be credited to revenue); mileage if vaccination carried out at the patient's own place of residence.
- (d) For medical attendance at apothecary's house or for prescription by letter: Rs. 250.

[Gazette No.9471/12-10-1945.]

3A. By clerks, conductors, tea-makers, rubber makers, carpenters, masons, kanakapillais, storekeepers, chauffeurs, nurses, domestic servants, and employed of similar status:-

- (a) Visit and medical attendance at patient's own place of residence for him self, his wife, and children: Rs. 2 and mileage for the first visit and medical attendance, and Rs. 2 and mileage for each subsequent visit and medical attendance.
- (b) Theses officers are not to be summoned for midwifery cases. The nearest qualified officer should be summoned for these cases.
- (c) For vaccination: if carried out at the patient's own place of residence, Rs. 2, and the cost of lymph (to be credited to revenue) and mileage; if carried at dispensary, no charge.
- (d) For medical attendance at apothecary's house or for prescription by letter : Rs. 2.

[Gazette No.9471/12-10-1945.]

[Gazette No.8567/12-1-1940.]

*Notes:- Mileage:* Mileage will be paid according to rates shown in Financial Regulations as revised by Government from time to time in accordance with the mode of conveyance used, for the actual distance travelled in that conveyance. It will be charged proportionately if two or more calls are paid in the distance claimed for.

*Visits:-* A visit means a visit to one patient only. (This applies to medical officers as well as visiting apothecaries.) Night call charges to be 50 per cent more than day charges except in the case of midwifery calls on families of superintendents and persons other than labourers engaged upon estates. Night call hours to be from 9 p.m. 6 a.m.

[Gazette No.8309/13-8-1937.]

'Own place of residence' includes any place within any estates medical district where a patient may for the time being be resident.

**PRESCRIPTIONS**

4. In the absence of an efficient private dispensary or drug store, prescriptions for the above, 1, 1A, 2, 3, and 3A may be dispensed at a Government dispensary at the same rate as for Government servants, viz:-

		Cents
Mixtures and draughts, per oz.	..	10
Lotions, injections, and gargles, per oz.	..	4
Pills and powders, each	.. ..	10
Ointments, per oz.	.. ..	20
Liniments, per oz.	.. ..	20
Blisters, per square inch.	.. ..	4
Suppositories	.. ..	30
“Drops”, per drachma	.. ..	20

Concentrated mixtures and expensive drugs are to be charged for at cost price.

**C:- THE SUPPLY OF DRUGS TO SUPERINTENDENTS FROM DISPENSARIES AND FROM THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT**

5. Superintendents may obtain such drugs as those prescribed in Appendix A at cost price from Government dispensaries to the total value of Rs. 5 for cash with order, provided that no quantity of any one drug of the value of more than Re. 1 shall be supplied at any one time; and from the Civil Medical Stores, Colombo, to any amount on application to the Superintendent on Medical form 159 accompanied by a remittance.

6. Superintendents of estates having a dispensary with a qualified apothecary may have such prescribed drugs free of payment to the extent of 50 cents worth per head of the estate labour population per annum.

7. The free drugs supplied to estate dispensaries by Government are for the use of estate labourers exclusively, and shall not be put to any other use whatever.

8. In requisitioning for free drugs for an estate dispensary, superintendents of estates must confine themselves to the list of drugs published in Appendix A.

9. The half-yearly requisitions for free drugs, to be despatched within a month, must reach the office of the Director of Health Services on or before the dates given below:-

For estates in the Kandy District on January 10 and June 10.

For estates in the Matale and Nuwara Eliya Districts on February 10 and July 10.

For estates in Uva and Southern Provinces on March 1 and August 1.

For estates in the Sabaragamuwa and North-Western Provinces on April 1 and October 1.

For estates in any other district or province on May 1 and November 1.

Drugs required between the half-yearly requisitions shall be applied for by an intermediate requisition (Medical form 166)

10. Quinine and tincture of opium shall be applied for separately from other drugs on Medical form 166 for quinine, and on Opium form No. 1 for tincture of opium.

11. All columns of requisition forms must be accurately filled up. The “Remaining” column must show the actual amount in stock at date of requisition. Requisitions shall be signed by the superintendent of the estate, and be accompanied by a certificate as in Appendix B.

[Gazette No.8271/12-2-1937.]

**D-THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF HOSPITAL VISITORS**

12. Hospitals will be open daily at any time between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. for the visits of official and unofficial hospital Visitors.
13. The medical officer in charge of the hospital or, in his absence, the next senior officer of the hospital staff, shall accompany the Visitor on his inspection.
14. It is desirable that unofficial Visitors should ascertain whether the patients have any complaints, and if so, that they should inquire into them and record particulars in the Visitors' Book.
15. The quality and quantity of the food supplied to the patients and the cleanliness and tidiness of the hospital and its surroundings are important subjects for inspection.
16. The perusal of the official records does not necessarily come within the scope of the unofficial Visitor's inspection.
17. Visitors are not competent to give orders, and shall avoid offering criticism, except in the form of remarks and observations recorded in the Visitors' Inspection Book, which will be submitted to them, containing questions to which it is *desirable* that full answers should be recorded.

**E:- RULES FRAMED UNDER SECTION 32(1) (e) FOR THE GUIDANCE OF ESTATE PROPRIETORS DESIROUS OF QUALIFYING FOR REBATE UNDER SECTION 27**

18. New estate hospitals shall be erected in open clearings as far removed as possible from jungle and swamps. Where possible a space of not less than 100 feet all round shall be kept clear of jungle, and only ornamental cultivation should be permitted within that area.
19. The accommodation provided shall be sufficient for the requirements of the estate, as approved by the inspecting officer and the medical wants committee, but separate wards must be provided for bowel diseases. In the event of serious overcrowding occurring in any estate hospital, the erection of temporary accommodation may be permitted.
20. Separate accommodation shall be provided for males and females.
21. Estate hospitals, dispensaries, and latrines constructed subsequent to these rules coming into force shall be in accordance with plans approved by the medical wants committee. Copies of type plans can be obtained on application to the Secretary, Medical Wants Committee, Office of the Director of Health Services, Colombo.
22. A bed shall be provided for each patient, and the minimum superficial area allowed for each bed in ordinary wards shall be 60 square feet, and 90 square feet in wards for infectious or dirty cases. The cubic space shall not be less than 900 and 1,200 feet respectively per bed.
23. Kitchen, mortuary, earth-closet, and bathrooms shall be erected for each estate hospital at a suitable distance from the wards.
24. A dispensary and quarters for the medical staff and servants shall be provided at each estate hospital.
25. The beds for the patients shall consist of three separate hard wood planks each 10 inches wide, and of uniform thickness, resting on iron trestles.
26. Efficient mosquito curtains or gnat-proofing in malarious districts shall be provided.
27. Two suits of estate hospital clothing and one pillow shall be provided per bed, and cumblies or blankets in the proportion of three for every two beds.
28. Bed pans and other utensils shall be provided for patients unable to leave the wards. Enamelled iron chamber post with covers shall be provided for all diarrhoea and dysentery cases. The excreta of all infectious bowel diseases shall be disinfected before being disposed of.
29. All articles of equipment shall be cleansed as often as may be necessary.

[Gazette No.6744/1-10-1915.]

[Gazette No.6695/22-1-1915.]

30. The scales of diets and the quality shall be those set out in Appendix C, but extra articles of diet and medical comforts shall be provided as ordered by the medical officer in charge of the estate hospital.

31. The medicines specified in Appendix A shall be kept in stock in each estate hospital, with the necessary apparatus for compounding and dispensing.

32. The instruments and appliances provided shall be in accordance with modern requirements, subject to the approval of the Director of Health Services.

33. The number of male and female attendants shall not be in a less proportion than one for every ward of twelve beds, and dhobies and scavengers shall be employed in sufficient numbers.

34. The officer in charge of an estate hospital shall live in the immediate vicinity of the building; subject to supervision, he shall have the immediate care of all estate hospital patients, and shall see that all treatment ordered is carried out.

35. The officer in charge shall see that the estate hospital is kept clean and in good order. Each ward shall be swept twice a day, and the floor washed once a week at least. Latrines shall be cleansed twice daily, and their contents buried or otherwise disposed of in a satisfactory manner.

36. The officer in charge shall see that the supply of medicines is sufficient, that poisons are kept under lock and key in a separate place, and that the instruments and general equipment of the hospital are in order. He shall be responsible for the keeping up to date of all hospital documents. He shall indent on the superintendent for the estate hospital food supplies and all extras.

37. An attendance register of the staff shall be kept in every estate hospital.

38. The admission and the discharge book, temperature charts, and bed-head tickets shall be in the forms used in hospitals. Separate records shall be kept of outpatients treated, giving date, name, and disease.

39. Monthly and annual returns shall be furnished to the Provincial Surgeon on the prescribed forms. The returns for each month shall reach the Provincial Surgeon not later than the 10th of the following month, and the annual returns not later than January 20.

40. Every estate hospital must be inspected from time to time by the Director of Health Services, Provincial Surgeon, or some other duly qualified inspecting officer not below the rank of district medical officer.

41. There must be kept in every estate hospital a Visitor's Book, in which the inspecting officers must record their visits, with any remarks regarding the hospital.

42. The Superintendent of the estate to which the estate hospital belongs shall be responsible that any recommendation, criticism, or complaint of any of the inspecting officers mentioned in rule 40 shall receive prompt attention.

43. A sufficient supply of potable water shall be provided for the estate hospital, and the medical officer or dispenser shall see that there is no chance of contamination of the supply.

**F AND G:- THE FORM IN WHICH AND THE TIME WHICH APPLICATIONS FOR REBATE SHOULD BE MADE; THE MANNER IN WHICH SUCH REBATES SHALL BE MADE; AND GENERALLY ON ALL MATTERS CONNECTED WITH THE ALLOWANCE THEREOF**

[Gazette No.7283/27-16-1916.]

44. Applications for rebates shall be made in writing on the prescribed form (see Appendix D) within three months of the close of the calendar year, and be addressed to the Secretary, Medical Wants Committee, Office of the Director General of Health Services, Colombo. Any claim made after the prescribed time may be rejected or reduced at the discretion of the committee.

45. The medical wants committee on receipt of such application shall refer the application to the Director General of Health Services, who shall direct that the estate hospital in respect of which a rebate is claimed be specially inspected for report to the committee.

46. At the meeting of the committee at which such application is brought up for consideration the Director General of Health Services shall lay before the committee the report above called for and any available returns relating to estate hospitals in respect of which a rebate is claimed.

**H:- ANY OTHER MATTERS NECESSARY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THIS ORDINANCE THAT CANNOT BE PROVIDED FOR BY DEPARTMENTAL RULES AND ORDERS**

47. It shall be the duty of the superintendent of every estate to provide a sufficient supply of potable water for his labour force. Such supply shall be free from contamination; and if in the opinion of the Director of Health Services the supply is deficient, inferior, or open to contamination, it shall be the duty of the superintendent to provide a proper supply to the satisfaction of the Director of Health Services. Where wells are used, they must be covered and supplied with a pump, and be surrounded by a cement platform. All water pipes must be made of iron. Bathing places, where possible, shall be paved.

48. It shall be the duty of every Superintendent to provide proper dwelling accommodation for his labour force, and sufficient clearing around the lines, and proper drainage, to the satisfaction of the Director of Health Services.

49. An estate dispenser shall request the superintendent to send for the district medical officer in serious cases and for women in unduly prolonged labour.

50. An estate dispenser shall keep a register of patients treated, and a book in which he shall record all prescription compounded by him. He shall submit a monthly return to the Provincial Surgeon of the province on Medical form 5A.

[Gazette No.9773/24-9-1947.]

51. In the event of any superintendent feeling aggrieved at any order or direction issued under the foregoing rules, he shall have the right to appeal to the Minister.

52. It shall be the duty of every superintendent to supply at the cost of the estate to every female labourer resident upon the estate and giving birth thereon to a child, with 12 ounces of rice per day and a sum of Rs. 2 (two rupees) per week for one month after birth of such child:

Provided that such superintendent shall be exempt from the obligations imposed on him by the preceding provisions of this rule if such female labourer is granted any maternity benefit under the Maternity Benefits Ordinance (Chapter 140).

**APPENDIX A**

[Gazette No.8271/12-2-1937.]

Acacia Pulv	Liq Pot Hydrox
Acid, Acet Glac	Liq Strych Hydroch
Acid, Acetylsalicyl	Mag/Carb Pond
Acid, Boric	Mag Sulph
Acid, Hydrochlor	Menthol
Acid, Hydrocyan Dil	Oleum Chenopodii
Acid, Salicyl	Oleum Eucalypti
Acid, Sulph	Oleum Olivae
Acid, Tannic	Oleum Rieini
Acid, Tartraic	Paraff Moll Flav
Alum, Pulv	Phenacet
Ammon Carbon	Phenol Liq
Ammon Chlorid	Pil. Aloes a Myrrh
Aq Aneth Conc	Pil Coloc at Hyoscy
Aq Menth Pip Conc	Pil Hydrag
Argent Nit	Pil Rhei Co
Bism Carb	Plumbi Acetas
Borax Pulv	Potassii Acetas

MEDICAL WANTS

Caffein, Cit	„	Bicarb
Cale Chlorid	„	Brom
Camphora	„	Chloras
Chloral Hydras	„	Iod
Cholorodyno	„	Nitras
Chlorof .P.B.	„	Permang
Chryaarobin	„	Tart Acid
Copaiba		Pulv Cret Aromat
Creasotum		Pulv Ipecac et Opii (Dovers Powder)
Creta		
Cupri Sulph		Quinine Bisulph or Quinin Sulph
Dextres		Rheum Pulv
E. C Solution		Salol
Emp. Coloph (Resin)		Santonin
Ext. Bellad Vir		Sinapis
Ext. Case Sagr. Liq.		Sodii Biearb
Ext. Ergot Liq.		Sodii et Pot Tart
Ext. Gent		Sodii Salicylas
Ext. Glyerrh Liq.		Spirit Aether
Ferr Carb Sacch. Tablets		Spirit Aether Nitros
Ferr et Ammon Cit		Spirit Ammon Aromat
Ferr. et. Quini Cit		Sulphur Sublim
Ferr Sulph		Syr. Scillae
Glycerinum		Syr. Tolu
Hydrarg c- Creta		Tetrachlorethylene
„ Subehlor		Tinct Asafoet
Ichthammol		Tinct Bellad
Ichthammol		Tinct Bellad
Idoform and Acid Borie		Tinct. Benzoin Co.
Jalap Pulv	„	„ Calum
Lin Sponis	„	„ Cardam Co.
„ Terebinth	„	„ Catech
„ Terebinth Acet	„	„ Digitalis
Liq. Ammon Fort	„	„ Gent Co.
Liq. Ammon Acet Fort	„	„ Hyoscy
Liq. Arsenicali	„	„ Ipecac (Vin)
Liq. Arseni et Hyd. Iod		Tinct. Myrrh
Liq. Fer Perchlor Fort	„	„ Nuc Vom
Liq. Iodi Mitis	„	„ Opii Camph
Liq. Plumbi Subacet Fort	„	„ Rgeei co.
Tinet, Seillae		Ung Sulph Co.
„ Seneg	„	„ Zinci oxid
„ Sennae Co		Zinci Oxid
„ Stramonii	„	„ Sulphas
„ Zingib Fort		Zingib Pulv
Ung Galle C-Opii		Bandages
„ Hydrargyri Comp		Cotton Wools
„ „ Nit Dil		Ligature Silk
„ Paraff		Lint, Plain
„ Resinae		Needles, Surgeons'

APPENDIX B

(Rule 11)

[Gazette No.8371/12-2-1937.] I hereby certify that the above statement, to the best of my knowledge and belief, is correct, and that the medicines stated to have been expended were used for the estate labourers only.

Superintendent.

APPENDIX C

(Rule 30)

Departmental Reference No.	Departmental Ref. No.	Name of Diet.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	12	13a	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23 & 24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	36	37					
			oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.					
			Beat	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..						
			Mutton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..					
			Chicken (Dressed)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				
			Fish (Fresh)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..			
			Fish (Dry)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
			Fish (Salted)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
			Egg..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
			Vegetable	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
			Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
			Bread	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Rice	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Rusk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Sago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Arrowroot	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Corn Hour	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			<i>For Europeans Burghers</i>																																				
			Beef	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
			Mutton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Chicken	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Fish (Fresh)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Fish (Dry)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Milk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Rusk	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Sago	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Arrowroot	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			Corn flour	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
			*Or 6 oz. Fish (fresh)																																				

=Or 6 oz. Chicken (dressed).

**APPENDIX D**  
**(Rule 44)**

[Gazette No.  
8415/25-11-  
1938.]

**APPLICATION FOR REBATE OF EXPORT DUTIES IMPOSED UNDER SECTION 28 OF THE  
MEDICAL WANTS ORDINANCE, IN RESPECT OF THE CALENDAR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER  
31, 19-**

(N.B :- to be filled in by the Superintendent of the Estate and forwarded through the Agents within three months of the close of the calendar year. Application which are received after three months of the close of the calendar year, in respect of which the claim is made, are liable to be rejected or reduced at the discretion of the Medical Wants Committee.)

1. Name of Estate: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Area: \_\_\_\_\_
3. District: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Owner: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Nature of estate Hospital and Dispensary Buildings on the Estate: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dimensions of each Room or Ward: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Rooms or Wards: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Beds in each Room or Ward: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Name and Qualifications of the Resident Medical Officer or Apothecary in Charge: \_\_\_\_\_
7. For the last Calendar Year: \_\_\_\_\_

	Tea	Rubbe	Cacao
Acreage under cultivation ..	Ib	Ib	Ib.
Exposed ..	..		
Sold in Colombo ..			
Sold on estate with export rights ..			
Total ..			
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Amount of duty payable on-			
(a) Export ..			
(b) Sales ..			

8. Agents or Secretaries in Colombo: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Total amount of duty paid on all produce Rs. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Superintendent or Owner of Estate.)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_

We hereby certify that the above figures have been verified and to the best of our knowledge and information are correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Agents and Secretaries.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_

*Note:-* The Medical Wants Committee will not entertain any application for rebate from estates on which no estate hospital or dispensary buildings of any sort have been provided.