

APPENDIX XIX

(Regulation 303)

Directions for investigation in cases of suspicious and unnatural deaths.

I- GENERAL

- (i) When it is necessary to send any articles for medical examination, the directions in Appendix XVIII shall be followed.
- (ii) Viscera and liquid substances should be placed in new bottles or any other available new receptacles, and carefully secured and sealed.
- (iii) The forwarding report should always give- (a) date and hour of onset of symptoms;
- (b) date and hour of death;
- © if the body has been exhumed, dates of burial of exhumation; (d) statement of symptoms illness;
- (e) note of treatment, if any, by patient's friends, by police or by a medical man, baidya or hakim.

II—SUSPECTED POISONING.

- (i) Bring away under seal any food (specially Atta or sweetmeats), tobacco or drug which may be in the house or near the body.
 - (ii) If vomiting has occurred, swab up with a clean rag any vomited matter which may be found on the person or bed, and seal up the rag in a packet.
 - (iii) Bring away under seal any clothing, matting, wood or mud flooring into which any vomited matter has soaked.
 - (iv) Carefully bottle and seal the contents of any vessel containing vomited matter.
 - (v) Ascertain the exact time between the receipt of food, drink or medicine, the appearance or symptoms and occurrence of death. Also what were the first symptoms? Did vomiting or purging occur? Did the person become drowsy or fall asleep?
- Was there cramp or twitching of the limbs or any tingling in the throat or skin?

III—SUSPECTED CATTLE-POISONING.

- (i) The carcass should be first carefully examined, especially about the genitals and soft skin of the thighs and neck. If any puncture is found, it is possible that sutari-poisoning has occurred. The spike or sutari should then be sought for; and if one be found, it should be wrapped in paper, and be sealed and labeled.
- (ii) The mouth should be examined, and anything found in it should be preserved and labeled.
- (iii) The carcass of animals, credibly suspected of having been poisoned, should be sent for examination when any persons are charged or suspected and such a course is possible and necessary.

IV—HANGING OR STRANGULATION.

- (i) If possible, before cutting down the body or removing the strangulating medium, note any lividity of face, especially of lips and eye-lids, any

projection of the eyes, the state of the tongue, whether enlarged or protruded or compressed between the lips, the escape of any fluid from mouth and nostrils, and direction of its flow.

(ii) On cutting down the body or removing the strangulating medium, note particularly the state of the neck, whether bruised along the line of strangulation.

(iii) Note the direction of the mark, whether circular or oblique.

(iv) Note the state of the thumbs, whether crossed over the palm.

(v) If possible, bring away the materials by which hanging or strangulation has been effected.

V – BODY FOUND IN TANK OR WELL.

(i) Note any marks of blood around the mouth, or on the sides of well or tank.

(ii) On removing the body, carefully search for and note any external marks or injury, especially above head and neck.

(iii) Note state of skin, whether smooth or rough.

(iv) Examine the hands, and carefully remove anything they may hold.

VI—BODY FOUND MURDERED IN AN OPEN FIELD.

(i) Note number, character and appearance of any injuries.

(ii) Should a weapon be found, cover with paper and seal any marks of blood, and especially note and preserve any adherent hairs.

(iii) In the case of an exposed infant, note the state of the cord, especially if tied, and any marks of violence.

VII—PRESUMED MURDER AND BURIAL OF REMAINS.

(i) Search for and note any marks of violence especially upon the skull.

(ii) Note carefully any indications of sex. Especially bring away a jaw and the bones of the pelvis.

(iii) If any suspicion of poisoning, bring away (sealed) the earth from where the stomach would have been. The ashes and charred bones from the scene of cremation of a person who is suspected to have died from arsenic poisoning should be collected and forwarded for examination. In such cases it is possible to detect arsenic in the remains of the funeral pyre. (iv) If a body presumed to have been murdered has been burnt, collect and bring in any fragments of bones which may be found among the ashes.

VIII—RAPE OR UNNATURAL OFFENCES.

Send in lower garments worn by the persons when assaulted.

IX—MURDER OF WOMEN FOR GAIN.

In all cases of murder of women for gain investigating officers shall examine the deceased's tongue in order to see whether it bears marks of injury. If marks are found, the Civil Surgeon shall be specially asked if they appear to be self-inflicted, and if not, how they might have been inflicted.