

## ACT NO. X OF 1881.

PASSED BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

(Received the assent of the Governor General on the 25th February,  
1881.)

An Act to amend the Coroners' Act, 1871, and  
for other purposes.

Preamble.

**WHEREAS** under the Coroners' Act, 1871, the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Coroner of Madras are made co-extensive with the local limits of the ordinary original civil jurisdiction of the High Court;

and whereas it is expedient to empower the Local Government to alter the local limits of the said Coroner's jurisdiction;

and whereas it is also expedient to amend the said Act in other particulars hereinafter appearing;

and whereas it is also expedient to correct an error in section nine of Madras Act No. VIII of 1867 (*an Act to incorporate the Police of the Town of Madras with the General Police of the Madras Presidency, and for other purposes*) as amended by the Code of Criminal Procedure; It is hereby enacted as follows:—

Short title.  
Commence-  
ment.

1. This Act may be called "The Coroners' Act, 1881," and shall come into force on the passing thereof.

Partial repeal  
of Act IV of  
1871, section  
1.

2. The second clause of the first section of the Coroners' Act, 1871, is hereby repealed.

Power to  
alter local  
limits of  
jurisdiction  
of Coroner of  
Madras.

3. The Governor of Fort St. George in Council may, from time to time, with the previous sanction of the Governor General in Council, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, alter the local limits of the jurisdiction of the Coroner of Madras:

Provided that such limits shall not extend beyond the local limits of the ordinary original civil jurisdiction of the High Court of Judicature at Madras.

4. When

4. When, in exercise of the power conferred by section three, any area within the local limits of the said ordinary original civil jurisdiction is excluded from the local limits of the Coroner's jurisdiction, sections one hundred and thirty-three to one hundred and thirty-five (both inclusive) of the Code of Criminal Procedure shall extend to such area while so excluded, and all functions assigned to a Magistrate by those sections shall be discharged by the Commissioner of Police.

Sections 133 to 135 of Act X of 1872 to extend to area excluded from Coroner's jurisdiction.

5. In section eight of the Coroners' Act, 1871, for the words "is informed," the words "has reason to believe" shall be substituted.

Act IV of 1871, section 8, amended.

6. For the first two clauses of section seventeen of the Coroners' Act, 1871, the following shall be substituted, that is to say:—

Section 17 of same Act amended.

"It shall be the duty of all persons acquainted with the circumstances attending the death to appear before the inquest as witnesses: the Coroner shall enquire of such circumstances and the cause of death, and, if before or during the enquiry he is informed that any person, whether within or without the local limits of his jurisdiction, can give evidence or produce any document material thereto, may issue a summons requiring him to attend and give evidence or produce such document on the inquest.

"Any person disobeying such summons shall be deemed to have committed an offence under section one hundred and seventy-four, section one hundred and seventy-five or section one hundred and seventy-six of the Indian Penal Code, as the case may be."

7. To section twenty of the Coroners' Act, 1871, the following clause shall be added, that is to say:—  
"For the purposes of section twenty-six of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, a Coroner shall be deemed to be a Magistrate."

Addition to section 20 of same Act.

8. For section nine of the said Madras Act No. VIII of 1867, the following section shall be substituted:—

New section substituted for section 9 of Madras Act VIII of 1867.

"9. The Town Police shall be governed by all the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code contained

Law to govern Town Police.

in

in sections 89, 91 to 103 (both inclusive), 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 114, 116, 117 (first part), 118, 119, 120, 123, 124, 125, 127, 128, 129, 131, 136, 139, 140, 141, 142, 144, 147, chapter XII, sections 159, 161, 163 to 170 (both inclusive), 174 to 185 (both inclusive), chapter XXVII (except section 385), sections 415 to 420 (both inclusive) and 480, so far as they are applicable :

“ Provided always, that the officer in charge of a Police-station shall not be required to bind over the prosecutor and witnesses as directed in section 123 of the said Code, if their immediate attendance can be procured without recognizances.”

9. The portion of Schedule V of the Code of Criminal Procedure, under the heading “ Acts of the Governor of Madras in Council,” shall be read as if the letter and figure “ s. 9” in the first column, and all the words and figures in the second and third columns, opposite the said letter and figure, were omitted.

Act X of  
1872,  
Schedule V,  
in part  
repealed.