6-12-05

Local & Munl. (1896) Department.

PRINTED.

G.O., No. 1285 L

DATED 16th July 1896

[Despatch Abstract.]

Fairs and Festivals.

Recording, with remark, report on the Dola festival at Srikurmam, Ganjam district.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

PRESS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 16-7-96
No. 1285 Z

INDEXED.

First copy sent to Press. 16/7/96
Returned for signature. 31/7/96
Despatched in print. 1/8/96

[Despatch Abstract.]

Fairs and Festivals.

Recording, with remark, report on the Dola festival at Srikurmam, Ganjam District.

Back Paper, No of 18 .

Read again Order of Government, dated 18 , No.

Further Paper, No. of 18 .

Enclosures.

Current No. 17902 already in § A type §

Statement with ditto.

Order, &c., of Government—A.

Papers kept out of File for despatch in original (not paged):

Number of copies required. { Order complete. 90 / Letter only. / Order complete with Letter.

N.B.—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.
R = Print, but not for monthly volume.

Govt. of {1896} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., No. 1285 L., 16th July 1896.

JULY.

Fairs and Festivals.

Recording, with remark, report on the Dola festival at Srikurmam, Ganjám district.

From M.R.Ry. N. RAMAMURTI, Acting Stationary Sub-Magistrate, Chicacole, to the President, Taluk Board, Chicacole, dated 20th March 1896, No. 374.

With reference to your letter, No. 110, of the 17th ultimo, I beg to report that, as directed therein, I was present at Srikurmam on the 27th February and the three following days, and carried out the sanitary arrangements necessary for the preservation of the public health during the performance of the Dola festival.

2. I beg to submit herewith a detailed bill with vouchers for Rs. 83–0–1, being the amount spent on account of the sanitary arrangements made for the festival. The unspent balance of Rs. 16–15–11, and Rs. 4–4–0, the sale-proceeds of the palmyra leaves used in building the temporary sheds for the police-station, cholera-shed, &c., have been remitted to-day to the Chicacole Sub-Treasury. The treasury challans are herewith submitted. The expenditure has been very nearly the same as that of the last year in spite of the fact that the festival was performed this year for a longer period than in the last year.

3. It is generally said that the festival was celebrated this year on a grander scale and the number of pilgrims that attended the festival was much larger than in the previous years. This is attributable partly to the East Coast Railway and partly to the fact that there was a lunar eclipse on the 28th night. There were pilgrims from different parts of Ganjám and Vizagapatam districts. Pilgrims began to pour into the village on the night of the 26th February. This was due partly to the erroneous impression under which some laboured that the ceremony of "*Kamadahanam*" (cremation of Manmadha) would be performed on the night of the 27th February. This ceremony, however, came off on the night of the 28th idem. So several poor pilgrims who exhausted their provisions retraced their steps on the 29th and did not wait to witness the Dola ceremony proper, which was performed on the 1st instant. Several fresh pilgrims came on the 29th to witness the ceremony of the 1st. Shopkeepers came from different parts of Ganjám and Vizagapatam districts and kept shops of various kinds. There were exhibitions of several sorts.

As to the number of people that visited the shrine, this must in the nature of things be a rough estimate, or, more correctly, a guess figure. The number put down last year by my predecessor is 15,000. The estimate made by the late Mr. G. Jagannadhadoss Pantulu in another year is 50,000. I think 50,000 people may have visited the shrine during the four days of the festival although they were not assembled at one time.

4. Sixteen latrines for males and sixteen for females, one shed for police-station, and one shed for hospital, were constructed as usual. As a precautionary measure, I reserved this shed as a cholera-shed and a house in the village was rented for hospital for Rs. 2. There was fortunately no cholera as apprehended. Nor was there any other epidemic during the celebration of the festival.

5. Temporary scavenging establishment was entertained on five days from the 27th February to 2nd March (both days inclusive), number of sweepers employed on each day varying from twelve to twenty-four according to requirements. Three persons were employed to watch the tanks.

6. Two tanks were reserved purely for drinking purposes by the issue of a notification under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, which was published to the pilgrims by beat of tom-tom and the affixing of notices at conspicuous places in the village. Persons who bathed or washed rice or cloths in them were prosecuted. Such cases were dealt with last year under section 277, Indian Penal Code. I do not think that that section is applicable to these cases, as bathing or washing rice cannot be said to have rendered the water of the tanks less fit for the purpose for which it is ordinarily used. The proper section under which these cases would fall is section 188, Indian Penal Code. As a prosecution under this section requires the sanction of the magistrate issuing the notification before it is instituted, and as the magistrate sanctioning the prosecution cannot try the case, it would require the deputation of two magistrates to Srikurmam during the celebration of the festival for the trial of the cases on the spot. The only alternative course of sanctioning the prosecutions there

by the magistrate issuing the notification, and of dragging the pilgrims after some time to a district court, would be unduly hard considering that pilgrims come from distant taluks.

7. The police charged two cases of theft and twenty-seven cases under Towns Nuisances Act III of 1889. The two cases of theft ended in conviction, the offender in one case, being an aged man of fifty, having been sentenced to fifteen days' rigorous imprisonment and that in the other to receive fifteen stripes with a light rattan. Of the twenty-seven accused prosecuted under Madras Act III of 1889, twenty-two were convicted either under that Act or section 188, Indian Penal Code, three were acquitted, and the remaining two have not been as yet produced by the police.

8. The exclusive right of collecting fees from shopkeepers in the market and from pilgrims at the temple gate and of selling plantains and lamp-lights in the temple was sold in auction by the Maharaja of Vizianagram as usual to the highest bidders. The Maharaja's officials practically prohibited the sale of plantains anywhere in the village on the days on which the festival was celebrated. This prohibition seems to conflict with the provisions of section 4 of Regulation XXV of 1802.

9. The delay in the submission of this report is due to the non-receipt of some vouchers until to-day.

No. 1236-S.

Forwarded to Government.

2. The number of scavengers employed is not stated. The "sweepers" were certainly too few, and if these had to fulfil scavengering work also the numbers were absolutely inadequate. The doubts of the Sub-Magistrate as to the law under which prosecution can be effected in the sanitary matters mentioned will doubtless be attended to by the District Magistrate. It seems to me that, provided the ordinary use of the water is for drinking, the assumption that bathing in it or washing rice does render it less fit for its purpose—section 277, Indian Penal Code—ought to present a far less difficult problem for proof than when under section 188, Indian Penal Code, danger to human life or health would have to be proved. Of course, much would depend upon what the convicting magistrate considers would render water less fit for drinking purposes! Most certainly, most would not regard the bathing of the average pilgrim or even the washing of his rice in drinking-water as conducive to its fitness for human consumption.

Fort St. George,
25*th June* 1896.

(Signed) W. G. KING, Surgn.-Lieut.-Col.,
Sanitary Commissioner.

Order—No. 1285 L., dated 16th July 1896.

Recorded.

2. The attention of the taluk board will be drawn to the remarks of the Sanitary Commissioner.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the President, Taluk Board, Chicacole,
through the President, District Board, Ganjám.
,, Collector of Ganjám.
,, Sanitary Commissioner.
Editors' Table.

Exd. A. Raitt.

No. 1285 L., 16TH JULY 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

Report on the Dola Festival at Srikurmam, Ganjám district.

District.	Name of reporter.	Name of festival and where held.	Date of festival.	Number assembled.	Accommodation and sanitary arrangements made.	Water-supply.	Conservancy.	Epidemics.	General health.	Recommendations.	Remarks by the Sanitary Commissioner.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Ganjám District.	N. V. Chalapati Rao, third-class hospital assistant.	Dola Festival at Srikurmam.	From 27th February to 1st March 1896 (both days inclusive).	Above 60,000.	Accommodation and the sanitary arrangements were carried out with great care ; sixteen temporary latrines for males and sixteen for females were constructed at a convenient distance from the fair and these were attended to on the dry-earth system, twenty-four additional sweepers were entertained and these were constantly employed in removing the rubbish. Persons committing nuisance were prosecuted before the magistrate deputed to attend the fair. A rented house was given for hospital and a cholera-shed also was constructed at a convenient place.	The supply of water from tanks and wells was sufficient and good. These tanks are five in number, of which two were reserved for drinking purposes, and of the rest, two were partly reserved on the request of the people for other purposes.	Twenty-four temporary sweepers were employed in addition to the permanent staff consisting of one maistry and three sweepers ; they removed the rubbish to a convenient distance and buried there. The scavengering department was well supervised and worked well. The temple compound, though a private land, was, on my pressing advice, cleaned daily by temple servants. The bazaars were inspected by me three times a day and provisions which were unfit for human consumption were destroyed.	No epidemic.	Good.	There is great want of accommodation and shelter for the pilgrims that yearly gather here. I suggest that the local authorities should take such steps as are necessary at an early date. The roads are in very bad condition ; I also suggest to take necessary steps about those.	

SRIKURMAM,
3rd *March* 1896.

(Signed) N. V. CHALAPATI RAO,
3rd-class Hospital Assistant.

Gobt. of {1896} Madras.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

A.S.
Proof for approval
VM
14/7

WMS
27/7

Issued

Recd. *Encl.*

G.O., No. 1285 L., 16th July 1896.

JULY.

Fairs and Festivals.

Recording, with remark, report on the Dola festival at Srikurmam, Ganjám district.

Proof

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SRIKURMAM,
3rd March 1896.

(Signed) N. V. CHALAPATI RAO,
3rd-class Hospital Assistant.

Cho. 17902

Report on the Dola festival at Srikurmam - Ganjam Dt.

Order No. 1285 L dt 16/7/96.

Recorded.

2. The attention of the Taluk Board will be drawn to the remarks of the Sanitary Commissioner.

To
The President, Taluk Board,
Chicacole,
thro the President, Dt. Board
Ganjam.
" Collector of Ganjam.
" Sanitary Commissioner
Editors' Table.

by the magistrate issuing the notification, and of dragging the pilgrims after some time to a district court, would be unduly hard considering that pilgrims come from distant taluks.

7. The police charged two cases of theft and twenty-seven cases under Towns Nuisances Act, III of 1889. The two cases of theft ended in conviction, the offender in one case, being an aged man of fifty, having been sentenced to fifteen days' rigorous imprisonment and that in the other to receive fifteen stripes with a light rattan. Of the twenty-seven accused prosecuted under Madras Act III of 1889, twenty-two were convicted either under that Act or section 188, Indian Penal Code, three were acquitted, and the remaining two have not been as yet produced by the police.

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2. The number of scavengers employed is not stated. The "sweepers" were certainly too few, and if these had to fulfil scavengering work also the numbers were absolutely inadequate. The doubts of the Sub-Magistrate as to the law under which prosecution can be effected in the sanitary matters mentioned will doubtless be attended to by the District Magistrate. It seems to me that, provided the ordinary use of the water is for drinking, the assumption that bathing in it or washing rice does render it less fit for its purpose—section 277, Indian Penal Code, ought to present a far less difficult problem for proof than when under section 188, India Penal Code, danger to human life or health would have to be proved. Of course, much would depend upon what the convicting magistrate considers would render water less fit for drinking purposes! Most certainly, most would not regard the bathing of the average pilgrim or even the washing of his rice in drinking-water as conducive to its fitness for human consumption.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
25*th June* 1896.

(Signed) W. G. KING, Surgn.-Lieut.-Col.,
Sanitary Commissioner.

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2. I beg to submit herewith a detailed bill with vouchers for Rs. 83–0–1, being the amount spent on account of the sanitary arrangements made for the festival. The unspent balance of Rs. 16–15–11, and Rs. 4–4–0, the sale-proceeds of the palmyra leaves used in building the temporary sheds for the police-station, cholera-shed, &c., have been remitted to-day to the Chicacole Sub-Treasury. The treasury challans are herewith submitted. The expenditure has been very nearly the same as that of the last year in spite of the fact that the festival was performed this year for a longer period than in the last year.

3. It is generally said that the festival was celebrated this year on a grander scale and the number of pilgrims that attended the festival was much larger than in the previous years. This is attributable partly to the East Coast Railway and partly to the fact that there was a lunar eclipse on the 28th night. There were pilgrims from different parts of Ganjám and Vizagapatam districts. Pilgrims began to pour into the village on the night of the 26th February. This was due partly to the erroneous impression under which some laboured that the ceremony of "*Kamadhanam*" (cremation of Manmadha) would be performed on the night of the 27th February. This ceremony, however, came off on the night of the 28th idem. So several poor pilgrims who exhausted their provisions retraced their steps on the 29th and did not wait to witness the Dola ceremony proper, which was performed on the 1st instant. Several fresh pilgrims came on the 29th to witness the ceremony of the 1st. Shopkeepers came from different parts of Ganjám and Vizagapatam districts and kept shops of various kinds. There were exhibitions of several sorts.

As to the number of people that visited the shrine, this must in the nature of things be a rough estimate, or, more correctly, a guess figure. The number put down last year by my predecessor is 15,000. The estimate made by the late Mr. G. Jagannadhadoss Pantulu in another year is 50,000. I think 50,000 people may have visited the shrine during the four days of the festival although they were not assembled at one time.

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6. Two tanks were reserved purely for drinking purposes by the issue of a notification under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, which was published to the pilgrims by beat of tom-tom and the affixing of notices at conspicuous places in the village. Persons who bathed or washed rice or cloths in them were prosecuted. Such cases were dealt with last year under section 277, Indian Penal Code. I do not think that that section is applicable to these cases, as bathing or washing rice cannot be said to have rendered the water of the tanks less fit for the purpose for which it is ordinarily used. The proper section under which these cases would fall is section 188, Indian Penal Code. As a prosecution under this section requires the sanction of the magistrate issuing the notification before it is instituted, and as the magistrate sanctioning the prosecution cannot try the case, it would require the deputation of two magistrates to Srikurmam during the celebration of the festival for the trial of the cases on the spot. The only alternative course of sanctioning the prosecutions there

1285/16-

Proof

No. , L., JULY 1896.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

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SRIKURMAM,
3rd *March* 1896.

(Signed) N. V. CHALAPATI ~~POW~~ Rao,
3rd-class Hospital Assistant.

Local and Municipal DEPARTMENT.

Local and Municipal Dept.
From CURRENT No. 1790

SURN.-LT.-Col. W. G. KING, M B., C.M., D.P.H.,
SANITARY COMMISSIONER FOR MADRAS,

To

THE Chief Secretary
to Government
Local & Municipal Dept.

No. 1236/S

Dated 25th
Despatched 26th } June 1896.
Received

1285/16/7/96.

ENCLOSURES. (Two).

Subject.

Forwarding report on the Dola festival at Srikurmam Ganjam District.

—16-4-96.]

the average pilgrim or even the washing of his rice in drinking water as conducive to its fitness for human consumption

Fort St George
25th June 1896
Dispr 26

W. Wood Surgeon Lieut Col
Sanitary Commissioner

No 1236/5

Forwarded to Government.

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9. The delay in the submission of this report is due to the non-receipt of some vouchers until today.

I beg to remain,
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
(Sd) V Ramaswamy
Ag. Sub Magistrate
(True Copy)

To
The President
Taluk Board
Chingleput

233

course of sanctioning the prosecutions there by the Magistrate issuing the notification and of dragging the pilgrims after some time to a distant court, would be unduly hard considering that pilgrims come from distant places.

7. The police charged two cases of theft and 27 cases under Towns Nuisances Act III of 1889. The two cases of theft ended in conviction, the offender in one case being an aged man of 50 having been sentenced to 15 days rigorous imprisonment and that in the other to receive 15 stripes with a light rattan. Of the 27 accused prosecuted under Madras Act III of 1889, 22 were convicted either under that Act or Section 188 I.P.C. 3 were acquitted, and the remaining two have not been as yet produced by the police.

8. The exclusive rights of collecting fees from shop keepers in the markets and from pilgrims at the temple gates and of selling plantains and lamp lights in the temple was sold in auction by the Maharajah of Vizianagram as usual to the highest bidders. The Maharajah's officials practically prohibited the sale of plantains anywhere in the Village on the days on which the festivals was celebrated

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course

was performed on the 1st instant. Several fresh pilgrims came on the 2/9th. To witness the ceremony of the 1st. Shop-keepers came from different parts of Ganjam and Vizagapatam Districts and kept Shops of various kinds. There were exhibitions of several sorts.

As to the number of people that visited the Shrine, this must in the nature of things be as roughly estimated or more correctly, as guess figures. The number put down last year by my predecessor is 15,000. The estimate made by the late Mr. G. Jagannadhadoss Pantulu in another year is 50,000. I think 50,000 people may have visited the Shrine during the four days of the festival, although they were not assembled at one time.

4. 16 latrines for males, and 16 for females, one Shed for Police Station, and one Shed for Hospital were constructed as usual. As a precautionary measure, I removed this Shed as a Cholera Shed and as House in the Village was rented for Hospital for Rs2-- There was fortunately no Cholera as apprehended. Nor was there any other epidemic during the celebration of the festival.

5. Temporary Conservancy establishment was entertained on five days from the 24th February to 2nd March (both days inclusive)

number

has been remitted to day to the Chicacole Sub Treasury. The Treasury Challans are herewith submitted. The expenditure has been very nearly the same as that of the last year in spite of the fact that the festival was performed this year for a longer period than in the last year.

3. It is generally said that the festival was celebrated this year on a grander scale and the number of pilgrims that attended the festival was much larger than in the previous years. This is attributable partly to the East Coast Railway and partly to the fact that there was a lunar Eclipse on the 28th nights. There were pilgrims from different parts of Ganjam and Vizagapatam Districts. Pilgrims began to pour into the Village on the nights of the 26th February. This was due partly to the erroneous impression under which some laboured that the ceremony of "Kamadhanam" (cremation of Manmadha) would be performed on the nights of the 27th February. This ceremony, however, came off on the nights of the 28th idem. So several poor pilgrims who exhausted their provisions, retraced their steps on the 27th and did not wait to witness the Holi ceremony proper, which

was

No 374

From

The Stationary Sub magistrate
Chicacole

To

The President
Taluk Board
Chicacole

Dated Chicacole 20th March 1896.

Sir,

With reference to your letter no 110 of the 17th instant, I beg to report that as directed therein I was present at Srikurmam on the 27th February and the three following days, and carried out the sanitary arrangements necessary for the preservation of the public health during the performance of the Dola festivals.

2. I beg to submit herewith a detailed bill with Vouchers for Rs 83-1, being the amount spent on account of the sanitary arrangements made for the festivals.

The unspent balance of Rs 16-15-11 and Rs 4-4 the Sale proceeds of the palmyra leaves used in building the temporary sheds for the Police station, Choleras Sheds, Rs Rs

Encls: to letter no 252
Dt 24-3-96

COLLECTOR
27 MAR. 96
GANJAM.

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

NUMBER OF COPIES REQUIRED. { Order complete. / Letter only. / Order complete with Letter.

READ ADMIN G.O., No. 189 , DATED.

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
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