

Marine (1898) Department.

G.O., No. 973 Marine

DATED 21 Nov-1898.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Kinduapayante [Despatch Abstract.]
 Pro: Public Dept. saying that the Govt.
 sees no objection to heads of Dep'ts being allowed
 their Subordinates to take their own days for the
 Communicated to the Mr. Secy. Officer.

Indexed

22/11/98

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

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper :—

G.O., No. 126, Public, dated 19th February 1895.

ABSTRACT.—Revising the list of gazetted holidays in the Presidency.

READ—also the following papers :—

Petition from C. N. RATHNASAWMIER and others, Officials of the Public Works Secretariat, to the Chief Secretary to Government (through the Secretary to Government, Public Works Department), dated Ootacamund, 31st August 1898.

G.O., No. 126, Public, dated 19th February 1895, allows a general holiday for all Hindus for Krishnajayanti. On that day, which is the birthday of their Great Teacher Sri Krishna, the Hindus fast during the day and keep vigil in the night reading sacred books.

2. The day of the birth of Sri Krishna had two factors in it, viz.—(1) the eighth day after the full moon in the month of *Adi*, i.e., when the moon is in her last quarter in the month of July-August, and (2) the fourth astral day of the Hindu calendar called *Rohini*, i.e., when the moon is in a certain position in taurus.

3. The Smarthas and Madhwas (the major portion of the Brahmin community) take the first factor as important and the Vaishnavites (the minor portion) the second.

4. When the moon is not in her last quarter and in taurus at the same time in the month of *Adi*, the birthday observed by the first and second classes of Hindus above referred to vary, the interval being occasionally as long as four weeks.

5. When they fall on two different days, the day observed by the Smarthas and Madhwas is known as "Gokulashtami" and that observed by the Vaishnavites "Srijayanti."

6. Where the first class of community is predominant, the general holiday is granted for "Gokulashtami" as will be seen on a reference to the Nilgiri and other District Gazettes of August 1898. But in some offices, where the provisions of the Government Order quoted above are not deviated from, the Hindu clerks, who observe "Gokulashtami," get no leave even if a partial holiday is asked for on condition that they will work on the holiday for Krishnajayanti and have to work in the office in spite of their inability to do so owing to their fasting.

7. We therefore beg that the holiday for Krishnajayanti may be so split up as to allow a holiday for non-Vaishnavites on the "Gokulashtami" day and for Vaishnavites on the "Srijayanti" day, and that the appendix to G.O., No. 126, Public, dated 19th February 1895, may be so altered as to give effect to the above request.

8. In this connection we would beg to point out that "Krishnajayanti" was only a partial holiday for the Vaishnavites alone prior to G.O., No. 126, Public, dated 19th February 1895, and that the fact that it was made general to all Hindus by the above Government Order is a clear proof that the Government recognised the birthday of Our Lord Sri Krishna being general to the whole of Hindu community.

No. 906-D.

Forwarded.

(Signed) W. B. DEWINTON,
Secretary to Government, P.W.D.

31st August 1898.

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Mis. No. 2734, dated 4th October 1898.

Read—endorsement of the Acting Under Secretary to Government, Public Department, No. 1980, dated 13th September 1898, on that of the Public Works Department, No. 906-D., dated 31st August 1898.

Resolution—Mis. No. 2734, dated 4th October 1898.

With reference to the Government endorsement read above, the Board begs leave to submit that it sees no objection to the various sects taking their own days for the Krishnajayanti holiday as proposed in paragraph 7 of the petition returned herewith.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) LIONEL DAVIDSON,
Acting Secretary.

To the Chief Secretary to Government.

ORDER—No. 1286, Public, dated 20th October 1898.

The Government sees no objection to heads of departments allowing their subordinates to chose which of the two days referred to they prefer to have as the Krishnajayanti holiday.

(True Extract.)

G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Revenue Department.
" the Public Works Department.
" the Local and Municipal Department.
" the Educational Department.
" the Heads of Departments under the Chief Secretary.
" the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
" the Accountant-General.
" the Superintendent, Government Press.

Exd. W. D'Moss.