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2. Date of receipt. 1-2-37
3. Initials of officer. *[Signature]*
M.R.O. 1-22 400-22-11-20

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	1509	Press Mis.
Dated	4-11-	1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
4th November 1869.

No. 32. Read the following letter from the Collector of North Arcot to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated Chittoor, 4th October 1869, No. 63.

I have the honour to submit, for the information of Government, my Deputy's Report, dated 22nd September 1869, No. 170, on the results of the sanitary arrangements made during the great annual festival at Tirupatti, which terminated on the 18th ultimo.

2. Considering that there was cholera, at Tirupatti, before the festival began, and that the epidemic was more or less prevalent along all the principal roads leading to it, it is, I think, highly gratifying to find that the mortality, both at Lower and Upper Tirupatti, was so small as it is shown to have been.

Deaths 21 and 9, respectively.

3. The measures taken for the prevention of the spread of the disease, and treatment of those affected with it, were most judicious. Aided by a seasonable change in the weather, they did, no doubt, materially contribute to bring about results so much more favourable than might have been under the circumstances.

4. The Deputy Collector has touched upon some general projects of improvement in Lower and Upper Tirupatti.

With several of these I am well-acquainted, and propose to discuss them with the Mahunt when I visit Tirupatti next month.

5. Reserving my comments on these and other matters connected with the improvement of Tirupatti for a future occasion, I beg to leave the enclosed report to speak for itself, and to request that Government will be pleased to pass the charges, amounting to Rupees 255-15-5.

From the Deputy Magistrate on General Duties, North Arcot, to the Magistrate of North Arcot, Chittoor, dated Tirupatti, 22nd September 1869, No. 170.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, No. 235, requesting me to supervise and direct the sanitary arrangements in Lower and Upper Tirupatti during the great festival, "Brammochavam" in the latter place, and beg to submit the following report on the termination of the festival :—

2. I left Chittoor on the 4th instant, and arrived at Lower Tirupatti on the morning of the 5th, with the Hospital Assistant attached to your office. Prior to the commencement of the festival, the Sanitary Rules framed by you were published over Lower and Upper Tirupatti, and the suburbs of Trichanoor, Renugunta, &c. Copies were pasted at all conspicuous places. All the streets of both sections of the town were inspected by myself, and the chuttrums, mantapams, and new encamping-ground and sacred tanks resorted to by pilgrims were placed in a good condition, and maintained in the same state during the festival. The arrangements made were in accordance with the Rules of the Sanitary Commissioner, embodied in the Proceedings of Government, dated 17th November 1868, Public Department, No. 1421. As epidemic cholera was prevalent in the place, I beg to submit a detailed account of the measures adopted, in order to show that no precaution was lost sight of.

3. The feast commenced on the 9th, and terminated on the 18th instant.

4. LOWER TIRUPATTI.—This town has already undergone great improvement. Most of its streets are well-sectioned and gravelled, and are kept in a state of cleanliness. The Peoples' Park is an ornament of this small, and now neat, town, and is of great utility and much frequented.

by the resident inhabitants and pilgrims as a promenade, and containing the sacred tank "Narasimha Teertham." The Alwar Teertham—the chief sacred tank at the foot of the hills—has been greatly improved, and is maintained in a proper state.

5. ACCOMMODATION.—The encamping-ground newly formed outside the town has all the principal requirements of elevation, proximity to place of concourse, abundance of pure water, and a dry gravelly soil. Two temporary sheds have been erected on it. These with an adjoining mantapam, now rendered temporarily habitable, and the choultries in the town, have afforded sufficient accommodation for the pilgrims who could not afford to rent houses during their temporary stay.

6. Four places were set apart as cart-stands, one near "Thathaia Gunta," one near the Sub-Magistrate's Cutcherry, one near the encamping-ground, and the last at the place where the roads from Rancegunta and Trichanoor converge.

7. A horse-stand was, likewise, fixed near the encamping-ground,* and used by such pilgrims as were not able to rent backyards for picketting their ponies. I endeavoured to have the ponies of all the pilgrims picketted in the stand selected. Many bitterly complained of the inconvenience arising from the distance between their lodgings and the horse-stand, and from want of trustworthy men to take care of the animals. To obviate the inconvenience, they were allowed to have their ponies secured in the backyards attached to their lodgings, on the condition of daily removing the filth—a condition which was punctually fulfilled.

8. CONSERVANCY.—One latrine for males and one for females were temporarily made near the street called Pentaveedee, and no others were necessary within the town; a place for each sex in each direction at a convenient distance outside the town was set apart for purposes of nature, and was quite sufficient for the time. The low scrub and hedge-rows in those places afforded sufficient cover, and rendered the erection of walls or the use of tatties unnecessary.

9. For cleaning the streets and the encamping-ground, and for removing and burying filth and rubbish daily, a proper establishment of coolies was employed who have performed the duties well.

10. All the chuttrums, mantapams and houses resorted to by pilgrims were daily cleaned out, and the floors besmeared with cowdung; while the approaches to the "Theer thams" were maintained in a state of cleanliness and purity. This sanitary arrangement was carried out partly by coolies, and partly by the parties concerned.

11. No establishment for the removal of human excreta was employed, as pigs are kept in large number in this town, and do its scavenger work.

12. WATER.—The two sacred tanks called "Narasimha Teertham" and "Alwar Teertham" are generally resorted to for bathing purposes. These and "Thathaia Gunta" were set apart for ablution; while the tank "Ramachandra Gunta" was reserved for drinking and domestic purposes. There are other tanks which were used for watering cattle. No scarcity of water was felt for any purposes.

13. MEDICAL SUPERVISION.—As cholera was prevailing in Tirupatti, and in other parts of the district, it was apprehended that it would make great havoc among the pilgrims. The Taluq Sheristadar and a Revenue Inspector were, therefore, appointed to inspect the streets, choultries, mantapams, encamping-ground, and "Teerthams" daily, and to maintain them in a state of cleanliness.

14. A hospital was established on the outskirts of the town on the Chendragherry road, and the medical subordinate already named was placed in charge of it with a sufficient establishment of coolies, medicine, and other appliances. A small choultry was converted into an hospital, and in order to enlarge the accommodation, a shed was erected adjoining it.

15. At the entrances of the town village officers and policemen were placed with orders to send sick pilgrims to the hospital, and it was published throughout the town that the hospital was opened for the treatment of cholera cases, and the distribution of medicine.

16. As chlorodyne was necessary, and the Medical Officer had none, a small quantity was purchased at Madras for Rupees 2-8-0. One phial of it supplied by Chittoor Tahsildar was received only subsequently. This and cholera pills were used by the Medical Officer who was very attentive to the sick; treated the patients both in the hospital and in their lodgings or houses, and rendered all the aid in his power. Still there were twenty-one deaths, and only nineteen recoveries as shown in the subjoined statement. Many of the cases were brought to his notice or to the hospital only after the disease had far advanced: hence the greater proportion of deaths to recoveries; but considering the population* of the town, and the daily average†

* 8600.
† 400.

concourse of pilgrims passing through the town on their way to the Upper Tirupatti, it is evident that the low state of mortality is partly attributable to the fact that the epidemic was of a mild type, and partly to the improved conservancy already introduced and the temporary arrangements adopted during the feast.

PERSONS attacked with cholera at Lower Tirupatti, from 7th to 21st September 1869.

	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Deaths prior to the application of medicine.	Total.
Inhabitants... ..	...	9	11	20
Pilgrims... ..	31	...	4	35
Total...	31	9	15	55
Recoveries... ..	6	13	...	19
Deaths	18	3	...	21

17. The few recoveries shown in the statement are mainly due to chlorodyne. No other medicine proved so efficacious. I am sorry, however, to say that the Lkkeri people from Canara were very reluctant to take any medicine supplied by Government, and appear more inclined to trust to fate, than resort to artificial remedies. No argument or reasoning would remove the ignorant idea from their minds, or create faith in the efficacy of the remedies offered.

18. POLICE.—At each cart-stand and horse-stand, over the tank reserved for drinking, at the principal bathing-places, near the chuttrums and mantapams and encamping-ground, Police guards were posted to prevent nuisance and other offences. The Police were also instructed to publish that the hospital was opened for the treatment of cholera cases, and the distribution of medicine, and to report all cases of cholera and deaths from the epidemic.

19. A very few cases of nuisance occurred, and were detected and punished. No thefts are reported to have taken place.

20. The above is an account of the arrangements made at the Lower Tirupatti. I now beg to describe Upper Tirupatti, and the arrangements made therein during the festival.

21. UPPER TIRUPATTI.—Lower Tirupatti lies about a mile distant from "Aliperi" by which name the foot of the ghaut on this side is called. From Upper Tirupatti. The ghaut is about five miles long and very steep in some places; the ascent is very fatiguing for travellers, but men either from motives of charity or for some small pecuniary consideration take up their stations along the ghaut and distribute drinking water and otherwise relieve fatigue.

22. There is no fear of robbers or thieves along this ghaut. Guards consisting of two or three men armed with matchlocks and swords are posted permanently in eight or nine places at the expense of the temple funds, to see that no crimes are committed, and to minister to the wants of pilgrims when necessary.

23. There are two other passages to the Upper Tirupatti, one through Chendragherry, and the other from the Cuddapah side through Balapalli. The former ghaut is easier than the one called the "Alepiri," and the latter is the easiest of all. Their distance from the temple is said to be five and twelve miles, respectively.

24. The Chendragherry ghaut is guarded permanently by the temple establishment in the same way as the Triupatti ghaut is; while the Balapalli ghaut is watched by Kattuteadi peons located temporarily by the Kirkambadi and Kistnapuram Polligars during the festival. Thus there was no necessity for placing our Police along these two passages, and I heard of no crime on the ghauts; but had no time to inspect the Chendragherry and Balapalli ghauts, being fully occupied in moving to and fro, between Lower and Upper Tirupatti, and directing and supervising arrangements at both places.

25. ACCOMMODATION.—Upper Tirupatti is a small well-built town of four wide streets paved with stone, and has three main entrances called the Tirupatti, Chendragherry, and Balapalli gates. The state of the buildings attached to the temple betrays neglect, and the three gates with their porticos are in a dilapidated state. The only gate of the temple itself is out of order, and demands early attention; the principal stone-pillars supporting the porticos are in a weak state, and may come down during a storm to the great risk of life and limb.

26. The large dome of 1000 pillars is a magnificent work, and was useless until lately being filled with rubbish and filth of all sorts. Under your directions it has been cleared out, and now affords comfortable and cleanly accommodation to many pilgrims. The roof and floor in some parts require repair. Some air passages are wanted, and temporary partitions should be made. When these improvements are executed, the building will be of very great utility. This hall, some choultries and chuttrums and many vacant houses available for rent in the town, have, during the festival, afforded more than sufficient accommodation for pilgrims of all sorts excepting of the lowest caste, such as Malu and Madigu who are not allowed to visit the shrine; no occasion, therefore, arose for making an encamping-ground, or for providing additional accommodation.

27. No carts of any description can come to Upper Tirupatti, and no stand was, therefore, necessary.

28. A horse-stand was selected outside the Balapalli gate, but owing to the fear of beasts of prey, it was never used; each lodging-house has a backyard, and in it pilgrims were allowed to picket their ponies.

29. CONSERVANCY.—There was no need to provide latrines; outside the town, places for both sexes were selected at convenient distances, and the pilgrims resorted thither to perform the calls of nature. The trees and shrubs afforded sufficient cover, and prevented the necessity of raising walls or using tatties.

30. No toties could be employed to remove and bury human excreta. No pariahs who are usually employed on such work, can be taken to the town, nor was there any necessity for their employment, as the places selected were extensive and self-ventilated.

31. The elephants of the temple, two in number, were kept outside the town near the Tirupatti gate, and the place was daily cleaned by their keepers.

32. The streets and the hall of 1000 pillars were daily cleaned out by an establishment employed for the purpose. The owners of the lodgings and chuttrums were compelled every morning to remove the rubbish and refuse from the premises and backyards and bury it. The floors were besmeared with cowdung daily. The principal water-works were maintained in a state of perfect cleanliness.

33. The barber's stall, where thousands of pilgrims get themselves shaved as a religious duty, was kept free from filth, which was daily removed and buried by the parties concerned.

34. WATER.—The sacred pond "Swami pushkaranee" is the only one to which all pilgrims resort for bathing as a religious duty. This and a smaller one named "Gajendramotcham" were set apart for bathing and washing purposes.

35. The tank "Anunthaulwan Gunta" was reserved for drinking and domestic purposes. This and several hand-wells in the houses and lodgings were quite sufficient for the purpose. There was no dearth of water for any purpose.

36. MEDICAL SUPERVISION.—The Sub-Magistrate and the Village Moonsiff were appointed to inspect daily the streets, "Theerthams," and lodgings, and maintained them in a state of cleanliness.

37. The food distributed or sold in the temple, being reported to be sometimes not properly prepared, was subjected to frequent examinations. On one or two occasions it was found unfit for human consumption, and was ordered to be buried. The cook or party who sold such food could not be found out for prosecution; but the frequent examinations and warnings given, have, however, resulted in greater care being exhibited by the parties concerned in the cooking and distributing of the food.

38. A temporary shed was erected for a hospital in a convenient locality outside the town, and Velayuda Moodelly, first-class Hospital Assistant, who arrived on the 9th instant from Madras with orders to do duty in Upper Tirupatti, was placed in charge of it with an establishment of coolies, medicine, and other articles necessary.

39. Policemen were placed at the gates of the town with directions to send the sick to the hospital, and wide publicity was given to its establishment. The Medical Officer visited the streets, &c., now and then, examined the pilgrims suspected of cholera, and co-operated generally with the Sub-Magistrate in superintending the sanitary arrangements.

40. A few cases of cholera had occurred prior to the 1st instant; from that date up to the evening of the 13th, no signs of its existence were visible. The 13th was one of the principal days of the festival, and attracted a greater number of pilgrims than the previous days. More than eight thousand people assembled that day, and three of them were attacked with cholera that evening. The epidemic continued in a mild form, and the deaths therefrom are shown in the subjoined statement:

PERSONS attacked with cholera at Upper Tirupatti, from 7th to 18th September 1869.

	In-patients.	Out-patients.	Deaths prior to the application of medicine.	Total.
Inhabitants... ..	...	...	...	...
Pilgrims... ..	5	...	6	11
Total... ..	5	...	6	11
Recoveries... ..	2	...	...	2
Deaths... ..	3	...	6	9

41. There was some panic among the pilgrims, and some of them, especially the Ikkeri people from Canara, would not take the medicine given by the Medical Officer. The presence, however, of that functionary and other officials ready to look after the afflicted and to render them all the aid in their power, added to the sanitary arrangements rigorously enforced, tended in some degree to allay the panic, and give courage to the pilgrims. It is, however, a significant fact that the number of visitors this year was far less than during previous celebrations.

42. PRECAUTIONS AGAINST ACCIDENTS.—There is only one large entrance to the temple, and the gate of the inner shrine is much smaller; pilgrims visit the shrine in thousands; but I am told there has never been any instance of loss of life owing to want of space in the passages in and out. There are temple officers posted at the gate of the inner shrine to prevent an undue rush of people into it, and to admit fresh relays of visitors as others leave.

43. The Sub-Magistrate and others were deputed to see by turns the above arrangements carried out properly, and to prevent accidents whilst the car was being drawn, and the supervision was exercised satisfactorily.

44. POLICE.—Police guards were placed at the hall of 1000 pillars, in the streets near the chuttrums and mantapams, at the tanks, barber's stall, and at the entrances into the town and temple, in order to publish the establishment of an hospital, to preserve peace, to prevent accidents, nuisances, thefts and other offences, and to report the outbreak of cholera.

45. No cases of nuisance or accidental death occurred.

46. Only five cases of theft were reported. Three were detected and punished, while two remain undetected. The value of property lost is Rupees 58, of which Rupees 21 were recovered, and Rupees 37 remain to be recovered.

47. GENERAL.—On the termination of the festival and dispersion of the crowd the choultries and lodgings were white-washed and fumigated: the floor of the hall of 1000 pillars was cleansed; the halting-ground and places used for hospitals were ploughed up.

48. The medical subordinate Velayuda Moodelly left this for Madras on the 18th, on which date the hospital at Upper Tirupatti was closed, the sole patient who remained therein being transferred to the hospital at the Lower Tirupatti. The Medical Officer in charge of the latter being attached to your office will return to Chittoor in a day or two with my office.

49. About 5000 people on an average assembled daily at Upper Tirupatti, and on the 13th and 16th, the principal days of the festival, the number increased to about 8000 and 10,000. The number of pilgrims who arrived at Lower Tirupatti on their way to the temple on the hill did not exceed 400 a day. These numbers are said to be far less than those of former years. The decrease is ascribed to the prevalence of cholera regarding which rumours were floating about in all parts of the country.

50. The following is the statement of charges incurred for sanitary arrangements :—

Items of expenditure.	Upper Tirupatti.			Lower Tirupatti.			Total.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Coolies for cleaning the Town, &c.	48	0	9	46	1	2	94	1	11
Two Sheds erected in the Encamping-ground for Pilgrims.....				73	3	4	73	3	4
Sheds raised for Hospitals.....	7	2	0	17	1	0	24	3	0
Medicines, &c., for patients.....				2	8	0	2	8	0
Dieting of do.	3	10	5	3	14	9	7	9	2
Clothing of do.	4	0	0	2	6	9	6	6	9
Coolies in the Hospital for preparing diet and removing corpse and rubbish, &c.....	19	9	6	28	6	0	47	15	6
Total...	82	6	8	173	9	0	255	15	5

51. I beg leave to add a few remarks on the requirements of the place :—

(i).—The number of houses and population of the Upper Tirupatti is 400 and 500, respectively, and daily visitors about 200 on the average. The town is about 470 by 330 in yards. But considering the importance of the place, the large sums and valuables taken thither by pilgrims, and the fact that Hindoos only are allowed to visit the shrine, I consider it necessary to have a Police sub-station consisting of six men and a Deputy Head Constable established there. They may be changed every month. At present one Constable is ordinarily posted and changed every week.

(ii).—Strangers from all directions visit Lower and Upper Tirupatti every day, and the population of the lower town is 8600. Epidemic disease may be brought into it at any time. A hospital or dispensary is, therefore, very desirable at Lower Tirupatti.

(iii).—The three ghauts leading to the upper shrine are susceptible of much improvement, and if this were effected the pre-disposing causes of sickness would diminish, and the trade and revenue of the temple increase.

(iv).—The three gates of the upper town should be promptly re-constructed. At all events the present buildings, which are in a very dilapidated state, must be removed to prevent danger to human life. The gate of the temple should be re-built.

(v).—The hall of 1000 pillars should be repaired thoroughly and left open always for travellers, except at its western and northern corners, which might be used for the sites of movable shops now kept in its vicinity, and in the public streets, to the obstruction of the passage of the car and the inconvenience of the people.

(vi).—A small establishment of six coolies under a maistry would, if entertained, keep the hall, streets, approaches, and sacred tanks in a state of cleanliness, and also prevent the overgrowth of plants and shrubs in places of public resort.

(vii).—There is a small spring called "Pandona Theertham," or "Go-garbham," which is held to be sacred, and to which many pilgrims resort. The distance between it and the shrine is about a mile, and the path to it is bad. A road should be made and the "Theertham" brought under conservancy.

(viii).—There are two other sacred tanks "Akasa Gunga" and "Papanina shovom," which are said to be at the distance of about four and six miles from the shrine; but I had no time to visit them. They are resorted to by pilgrims for bathing as a sacred duty, and the water used in the shrine is daily brought from one of them. Roads to them are much wanted, and they should be brought under supervision.

52. The assets and income of the temple are extensive, and if invested in public securities might yield an annual interest of 40,000 or 50,000 of rupees, a sum more than would cover the improvements alluded to excepting the Police charge which might be borne by Government. The costs of sanitary arrangements annually made at the public expense should, in my opinion, be defrayed from the temple funds, as the benefits arising from the arrangements tend to increase its revenue and importance.

53. In concluding this rather prolix report, I beg to bring to your favourable notice the zealous, active, and satisfactory manner in which the Sub-Magistrate Nummaia Chetty, and the Taluq Sheristadar Raghava Charri carried out the requisite arrangements under my orders. The Officers noted in the margin, likewise, performed their duties satisfactorily, and deserve favourable notice.

1. Hospital Assistant, first-class Govindu Rajulu Naidu.
2. Do. Velayuda Moodelly.
3. Police Inspector, G. Permal Naidu.
4. Revenue Inspector, Mahomed Ali Khan.

No. 33. ORDER THEREON, 4th November 1869, No. 1509.

The Government approve generally of the sanitary arrangements carried out during the festival recently held at Tirupatti, and, considering its long duration, viz., ten days, they agree with the Collector that to the precautions taken for the prevention of the spread of cholera, which had broken out at Tirupatti prior to the commencement of the festival, must be ascribed the comparatively few deaths that occurred among the pilgrims.

2. The Government, however, regret to learn that no better expedient for the conservancy of the town of the Lower Tirupatti was resorted to than that reported in paragraph 11 of the Deputy Magistrate's letter. The Collector will issue orders for organizing at future festivals a small establishment for the above purpose, and the Government await his promised report regarding the general improvement of the sanitary arrangements of both Upper and Lower Tirupatti.

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
4th November 1869.*

3. The Government sanction the expenditure, viz., Rupees 255-15-5, incurred on the occasion of the late festival.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

e Collector of North Arcot.

Sanitary Commissioner.

Inspector-General of the Indian Medical Department.

Accountant-General.

Board of Revenue.

Public Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter

from the
Collector of North Arcot.
Where under 4th Oct. 1869. No. 63.

Order thereon 4th Nov. 1869. No. 1559.

The Government
approve generally of the sa-
nitary arrangements carried
out during the festival re-
cently held at Tirupatti,
and, considering its long
duration, viz: ten days.
They agree with the Collector
that the precautions taken
for the prevention of the
of Cholera, which has broken
out at Tirupatti prior to the
commencement of the fes-
tival, must be ascribed

The

Govt. of 1869 *Quarantine*.

PUBLIC.

To

THE COLLECTOR OF NORTH ARCOT.

By, &c., &c.

Dated November, 1869.

Recd.

Encl.

G. O., 4th November 1869, No. 1509.

NOVEMBER.

No. 32-33.

Any other person, or the sanitary arrange-
ments carried out during the festival recently held
at Tirupatti, and summing Rupees 25-15-5,
being expenditure incurred on the occasion.

Govt. of 1869 } *Madras.*

Public

To

The Collector of Madras.

Dec. 24/69

Dated *Nov. 4* }
1869, No. 155.
Recd.

Nos. 32 & 33.

Appropriating annually for the
Sanitary improvements
concerning the health
of the people at Bangalore,
and sanctioning Rs 2500/00 for
the Sanitary Commission
on the occasion.