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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	769	Press Mis.
Dated	5-6-	19-1871

Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Department,
5th June 1871.*

No. 19. Read the following letter from the Officiating Collector of the Kistna District, to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Dindi, Repalli Taluq, 15th May 1871, No. 1420:—

I have the honour to submit my report on the fairs and festivals that took place in this district during the year 1870-71.

2. There were, during the year, no fairs of importance. This district is not noted for its fairs.

3. Subjoined is a statement showing the places at which such festivals were held as, from their importance, it was deemed advisable should be brought under the superintendence of the District Officers, and on account of which any expenditure was incurred by the State from the sum of Rupees 600 sanctioned in G. O., No. 14, of 6th January 1871. The amount so expended, the amount realized *per contra* by the sale proceeds of materials purchased, and the net charge to Government, are exhibited in the statement following:—

Name of place.	Amount spent.	Amount realized by sale of materials, &c.	Net amount expended.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
1. Mangalagiri	68 14 0	...	68 14 0
2. Kotappa Konda	264 4 3	39 11 9	224 8 6
3. Nuzivid Division... { Wuyur	8 0 0	19 14 0	11 6 9
{ Agiripalli	11 12 9		
{ Ilur	11 8 0		
	31 4 9		
4. Muktiyala	32 5 7	6 8 0	27 8 7
Damulur Kudali	1 11 0		
	34 0 7		
5. Kallepalli	22 2 0	...	22 2 0
6. Bezwada	47 7 3	15 14 0	31 9 3
			386 1 1

4. Another festival was to take place at Vedadu and a sum of Rupees 20 has been allowed for expenditure, regarding which will be sent hereafter a supplementary report when the Divisional Officer's report is received. The whole net expenditure for sanitary and other purposes on the occasion of these festivals was, during the year under report, Rupees 386-11-0 against Rupees 377-3-3 in 1869-70. This expenditure, though slightly in excess of what was incurred in the year immediately preceding it, is still much below the expenditure in former years. Strict economy was observed in every place so far as it was consistent with the efficiency of arrangements, which latter appear to have been satisfactory by the absence of disease and crime.

5. The most notable of the festivals of the district are, as has been reported to Government in former years, those of Kotappa Konda and Mangalagiri. The others are of minor religious importance, and consequently not so much resorted to by large numbers. The festival at Mangalagiri is held in honour of Narasimhaswami, who was one of the incarnations of Vishnu, half man and half lion, and who is believed by the Hindoos to have assumed the dimorphic or double-shaped form to rid the groaning world of the tyrant giant Hiraniya Kasipa. This deity is believed to swallow sugar-water (*panakam*) in a miraculous manner, by drinking just one-half of any quantity that may be offered at his shrine; hence the vast concourse of people drawn around the hill every year. The festival commenced this year on 1st March and continued up to 8th, and passed off very quietly. Every measure, sanitary and police, required to meet the assemblage of the pilgrims was adopted. The houses were all lime-washed and an encamping-ground laid out. There were three latrines erected, which were used by the visitors without objection. A temporary hospital-shed had not to be used, as there was absolutely no occasion for it. Though the town was crowded with human beings, estimated at no less than 20,000 in number, no outbreak of disease or any accidents occurred.

6. The chief days fell on the 6th and 7th, and the car festival was the consummation of the whole proceedings. Mr. Grahame, who was present on the spot, reports that the street through which the car passed from the temple down to the end of the village looked like a sea of heads. The car was taken from and back to the temple in about a couple of hours, the chief difficulty consisting in drawing the heavy vehicle back, as the pilgrims consider it more meritorious to draw it out than to draw it back.

7. There is a certain tank, called "*Kaliana Sarassu*," at this place, the waters of which have become quite putrid by stagnation from time immemorial through a succession of generations little accustomed to the importance of potatory cleanliness. When used for drinking purposes this water must be most prejudicial to health. For the last three or four years it has formed the subject of correspondence between the Revenue and Department of Public Works Officer, though I regret nothing has been done yet to ameliorate its condition. The surface water, of about ten feet, requires, in the opinion of a Department of Public Works Officer to be removed before the tank can be of any use. It has been found impossible to induce any one to take a contract for the emptying of the tank, while the Department of Public Works Officers have not yet proposed any feasible scheme. The Sub-Collector has been requested not to lose sight of getting the tank cleaned when feasible, and ascertain if any one would be willing to take the work on contract.

8. At Kotappa Konda the gathering was considerably larger than at Mangalagiri, being estimated to exceed one lakh of persons. The population of the district consisting mostly of *Sivavites*, they naturally flock in large numbers round the hill presided over by their own deity. In the year 1869-70 the pilgrims numbered 80,000 according to Mr. Comyn's estimate, and, in the year before, 70,000. This annual increase is perhaps, in some measure, due to the increasing confidence in the arrangements made for the security of life and property, confirmed,

as it has been, by the experience of the past three or four years. The Sub-Collector, the General Deputy Collector, and the Assistant Superintendent of Police with his men, about 100 in number, were all on the spot to personally supervise the arrangements necessary for the reception of this host of pilgrims. Though the proceedings were of short duration, lasting but one day, the 17th February (*Sivaratri*), the pilgrims began to pour in two days beforehand, and, when the proceedings were brought to a termination, it was a continual stream of life passing into, and out of, the village. This enormous crowd, it is interesting to observe, readily submitted to the rules of encampment, halted where they were bid to halt, and made use of the streets extemporized by the authorities on the spot. The females amongst the pilgrims availed themselves of temporary latrines, but the men preferred simply going to distances beyond the limits of the encampment. The pilgrims were not allowed this time to halt near good-water reservoirs, nor to picket their cattle in their immediate neighbourhood. No sweetmeats of a pernicious kind were allowed to be brought and sold. "In a few instances, when stale sweetmeats and over or unripe fruit were exhibited for sale, a few of these were seized and trampled under foot." This had the desired effect. The Sub-Collector reports that perfect order was maintained. There was but one theft reported, and this thief was taken *flagrante delicto*, also a few drunkards and suspected characters.

9. There was an abundance of drinkable water in the tank on the hill, which was reserved for men, other reservoirs being pointed out for watering the cattle. Every measure was adopted to preserve the former from defilement.

10. Mr. Woodroffe reports that not a single case of serious illness or hurt occurred; but seems to think that the site selected as the encampment ground was much too small for the multitudes assembled, and that the strength of the Police detailed to preserve order was insufficient to cope successfully with the task before them. He accordingly suggests that a larger space of ground than was laid out should be marked out next year, and the Police Force, which was little more than 100 in number, should be supplemented by Revenue Peons. These suggestions will be carried out as far as feasible, if the Superintendent of Police cannot arrange for a larger force being detailed. Adverting to the Sub-Collector's suggestion regarding the encamping-ground, I do not see what could have hindered the Sub-Collector from carrying out the suggestion himself. I presume that, as this was the first year of his supervision, the want had been overlooked.

11. At Nuzivid, Muktiyala, Damulur, Kallepalli, and Bezwada, festivals of a minor description were celebrated. All of them were superintended by the respective Sub-Magistrates, except at Bezwada, where Mr. Grahame was present and personally conducted the necessary arrangements. The *Sivaratri* festival at this place lasted from 16th to 19th February. There were about 7500 visitors, less in number than in the year 1870 by about 2500. Mr. Grahame thinks this was owing to the fall in the price of grain and rumours that cholera had broken out.

12. Six latrines were put up at convenient distances and were much used by the visitors, a number of scavengers having been employed to clean them. Captain Hoskins, Superintendent of Police, with his men was present on the occasion of the

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festivals, and carried out all the necessary arrangements most satisfactorily. The visitors were mostly from the lower classes, yet there was very little crime reported, and no serious accidents. Here again, as at Kotappa Konda, there was but one case of theft. The police and sanitary measures adopted were there most successful. It is reported that the sweetmeats known by the name of "Jidilu" (జిడిలు), were this year not exposed for sale. The visitors began to pour into the town from all sides on the evening of the 16th, and by the next morning all available ground was occupied. The new moon having fallen on the 19th, the car festival was celebrated on the third day after the *Kaliyanam* (marriage of the god), which was on the 17th.

13. At the other minor festivals the pilgrims assembled numbered between two and ten thousand. The supervision of the necessary arrangements was entrusted to the Sub-Magistrates. Except at Agiripalli, in the Nuzivid Division, the festival at other places was *Sivaratri*, the former alone being a celebration in honour of *Vishnu*. Everything in the way of keeping the places clean and providing temporary latrines was done, and the festivals went off without any epidemic breaking out or any untoward accidents. The sanitary arrangements were conducted with due care, and medical aid was held in readiness, though there was fortunately but little occasion for it. A body of Police Constables was detailed at each of the important festivals for the purpose of preventing and detecting crime; but no offence of a grave kind was reported, and the few cases of small theft were made examples of by the public flogging of the culprits in the open bazaars. The salutary results are due more to the continual improvement made from year to year than to the steps adopted in any one single year. The certainty that the multitude *will* be brought under strict supervision does much to ensure discipline, while those who have become accustomed to camp surveillance conform cheerfully to the laws of encampment.

14. It is also deserving of notice that it is only the lower classes that flock in great numbers to these festivals. Amongst the higher castes these popular celebrations are not held in great favour. This spirit of indifference may be expected among the educated and intelligent classes.

15. I beg to bring prominently to the notice of Government the valuable services rendered during these festivals by Messrs. Woodroffe and Grahame, and Deputy-Collector Koti Subba Row Puntalu. My acknowledgments are also due to Captain Hoskins and Lieutenant Cooper for the excellent arrangements made in the Police Department under their supervision.

16. I presume that, the Local Funds' Bill having now been passed, the duty of supervising the local sanitary arrangements will devolve upon Local Fund Committees in future.

No. 20.

ORDER THEREON, 5th June 1871, No. 769.

The Government are glad to learn that the festivals held during the year 1870-71 in the Kistna District passed off without outbreak of epidemic or other disease, and record their appreciation of the services of the local officers. The expenditure incurred in sanitary arrangements is sanctioned.

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2. It is not stated whether the "Kaliana Sarassu" is a tank of peculiar sanctity, the waters of which must be drunk by zealous pilgrims; but the Government consider that access to it should be strictly prevented until it can be cleaned. The result of the Acting Sub-Collector's endeavours is, however, awaited.

3. The Government do not doubt that the provision for sanitation at fair and festivals is within the scope of Clause 3, Section 26, Act IV. of 1871; but the matter must stand over until the more important duties and responsibilities of Local Fund Boards are settled.

(True Extract.)

W. HUDLESTON,
Acting Chief Secretary.

To the Officiating Collector of the Kistna District.

- „ Board of Revenue.
- „ Sanitary Commissioner.
- „ Inspector-General of Police.
- „ Accountant-General.

Exd. A. S. Rodgers,

3	Muzin	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ajiripalli	11	12	9	0	0	0	0	0
	Ilaia	11	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
		31	19	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Mukhtiyala	32	6	7	0	0	0	0	0
	Damulur Kudala	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
		33	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
5	Kallipalli	22	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Bizwara	47	7	8	0	0	0	0	0
		38	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

Another festival was to take place at Vedasir and a sum of Rs 20 has been allowed for expenses, regarding which will be sent hereafter a supplementary report when the Divisional Officer's report is received. The whole net expenditure for Sanitary & other purposes on the occasion of these festivals was, during the year under report, Rs 286-11 against Rs 377-9-3 in 1869-70. This expenditure, though slightly in excess of what was incurred in the year immediately preceding it, is still much below the expenditure in former years, that economy prevailing in every place so far as it was consistent with the efficiency of arrangements which latter appears to have been a satisfactory consequence by the absence of disease and commotion.

The most notable of the Festivals of the District are, as has been reported to Government in former years, those of Kalappa Honda and Mangalagiri. The others are of minor religious importance and consequently not so much resorted to by large numbers. The festival at Mangalagiri is held in honor of Narayanaswami who was one of the incarnations of Vishnu, half man and half lion, and who is believed by the Hindus to have assumed the demogorgon or double shaped form to rid the god-damned world of the tyrant giant Hiranyaksha. This deity is believed to swallow sugar water (Panakam) in a miraculous manner by drinking just one ha of any quantity that may be offered at his shrine.

9
The festival at Kalappa Honda is a very great one, and the Government and Police required to meet the assembling of the pilgrims was adopted. The houses were all lime washed and an encamping ground laid out. The same three latrine racks which were used by the visitors without objection. A temporary hospital was not to be used, as there was absolutely no occasion for it. Though the town was crowded with pilgrims being estimated at no less than 20000 persons, no outbreak of disease or any accidents occurred.

6. The chief days fell on the 6th & 7th of the festival was the consummation of the whole proceedings. Mr Graham who was present on the spot, reports that the street, through which the car passed, from the temple down to the end of the village looked like a sea of heads. The car returned from the temple to the temple in about a half an hour. The chief difficulty, especially in drawing the heavy vehicle, was the pilgrims, who were so numerous to draw it that it was not possible to draw it. The car is a pattern which is called "Kallappa Honda" and the place the picture of which have become quite a feature by the migration from their immemorial, the pilgrims of generations little accustomed to the...

in fact some of the tanks are ~~not~~ ^{used} for drinking
purpose this water must be made ^{proper} ~~pure~~ ^{clean} ~~to~~ ^{be} ~~used~~
for the last 2 or 3 years, it has formed the subject of
correspondence between the Revenue & S.P.M. Officers though
I regret nothing has been done yet to ameliorate its condition
the surface water of about 10 feet requires in the opinion
of a S.P.M. Officer to be removed before the tank can be of
any use. It has been found impossible to induce any
one to take a contract for the tank, while the S.P.M. Officers
have not yet proposed any feasible scheme. The Sub Collector
has been requested not to lose sight of getting the tank
cleaned when feasible and ascertain if any one would be willing
to take the work on contract.

8 At Kottappa konda the gathering was considerably
larger than at Mangalagiri being estimated to exceed one
lakh of persons. The population of the District consisting mostly
of Lingvites & they naturally flock in large numbers
whenever some of the local festivals are held by their own deity.
In the year 1894-95 the pilgrims numbered 80,000 according
to the Hongkong estimate and in the year before, 70,000. This
annual invasion is perhaps in some measure due to the
lack of confidence in the arrangements made for the security
of life and property. In former years the pilgrims by the experience
of the past 3 or 4 years with the Sub Collector, the District
Collector and the Superintendent of Police
in the

5 11
with the men about 100 in number were all on the spot to
personally supervise the arrangements necessary for the
reception of this host of pilgrims. Though the proceedings were
of short duration lasting but one day the 17th February
(Samarati) the pilgrims began to pour in two days before
and when the proceedings were brought to a termination,
there was a continual stream of life passing into & out of the
village. This enormous crowd, it is interesting to observe,
readily submitted to the rules of encampment, halted where
they were bid to halt and made use of the streets & temples
erected by the authorities on the spot. The females amongst
the pilgrims availed themselves of temporary latrines but
the men preferred simply going to distances beyond the limits
of the encampment. The pilgrims were not allowed this time
to halt near good water reservoirs nor to picket their cattle
in their immediate neighbourhood. No swine were
permitted to be brought and sold. Two
fire instances when that rule was not observed & more than
one exhibited for sale a few of these were seized & burnt
under foot. This had the desired effect. The Sub Collector
reports that perfect order was maintained. There was but one
thief reported and this thief was taken flagrant
delict, there were a few drunkards and mispious characters
9 There was an abundance of drinkable water in the
tank in the hill which was reserved for men, other res-
ervoirs being pointed out for watering the cattle. Every
measure

measure was adopted to preserve the former from depilement

10 Mr Woodroffe reports that not a single case of serious illness or hurt occurred; but seems to think that the site selected as the encampment ground was much too small for the multitudes assembled, and that the strength of the Police detailed to preserve order was insufficient to cope successfully with the task before them. He accordingly suggests that a larger piece of ground than was laid out, should be marked out near gear and the Police force which was little more than 100 in number should be supplemented by Revenue peons. These suggestions will be carried out as far as feasible, if the Superintendent of Police cannot arrange for a larger force being detailed, if directing to the Sub Collector suggestions regarding the encamping ground, I do not see what could have hindered the Sub Collector from carrying out the suggestion himself. I presume that in this case the first year of the festival, the month has been

11 Mr. Nizami, Muktijala, Panchaling Halipalli

12 Bezavada festivals of a minor description were celebrated. All of them were superintended by the respective Sub Magistrates except at Bezavada where the District Magistrate was present and personally conducted the necessary arrangements. The Dinarath festival at the place lasted from 16th to 19th February. There were not much visitors - less in number than in the year 1890, by a

about 2500. Mr. Graham thinks this was owing to the fall in the price of grain & rumors that cholera had broken out.

12. Sir, Katana were put up at convenient distances and were much used by the visitors, a number of whom were just having been employed to plant the trees. Captain Hoskins Superintendent of Police at the place was present on the occasion of the festival and carried out all the necessary arrangements most satisfactorily. The visitors were mostly from the lower classes but there was very little crime reported and no serious accidents. Here again, as at Kotappa Ronda there was not one case of theft. The Police and Sanitary measures adopted were most successful. It is reported that the sweet made known by the name of Jidili (or Jidli) were this year not reported for sale. The visitors began to pour into the town from all sides in the evening of 18th and by the next morning all available ground was occupied. The new moon having fallen on the 19th the Car festival was celebrated on the 20th day after the Haliganam (marriage of the God) which was on 17th.

13. At the other minor festivals the pilgrims assembled numbered between 2 and 10 thousands. The permission of the necessary arrangements was granted to the Sub Magistrates. Except at Akiripalli where the festival was held, the festival at other places was

13. Shiv Ratri, the former alone being a celebration in honor of Vishnu. Every thing in the way of keeping the place clean and providing temporary latrines was done and the festival went off without any epidemics breaking out or any untoward accidents. The sanitary arrangements were considered with due care and executed and was held with alacrity, though there was fortunately but little occasion for it. A body of Police Constables was detached ahead of the important festivals for the purpose of preventing and detecting crime, but no offences of a grave kind was reported and the few cases of small theft were made an example of by the public flogging of the culprits under a few boys. The sanitary results are due more to the continual vigilance and care from year to year than to the steps adopted in any one single year. The certainty that the multitudes will be brought under strict supervision, does much to ensure discipline while those who have become accustomed to camp surveillance, conform cheerfully to the laws of encampment.

14. It is also deserving of notice that it is only the lower classes that flock in great numbers to these festivals. Even among the higher Castes, these popular celebrations are not held in great favor. This spirit of indifference may be expected among the educated and intelligent classes.

15. I beg to bring prominently to the notice of Government

15
Government, the valuable services rendered, during these festivals, by Mr. Woodroffe and Graham and Deputy Collector Shri Subba Rao Pantulu. My acknowledgements are also due to Captain Hoskins and Lieut Cooper for the excellent arrangements made in the Police Department under their supervision.

16. I presume that the Local Funds Bill having now been passed, the duty of supervising the local and sanitary arrangements will devolve upon Local Funds Committees in future.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient,

H. K. Ramayya
Offl Collector

Camp
H. K. Ramayya

Received from
 1-1880
 1-1880
 1-1880

1871
 1871-20

Received from
 1-1880
 1-1880
 1-1880

The above is a list of the
 names of the persons who
 have been admitted to the
 school since the 1st of
 January 1871.

1871

1871

Received from
 1-1880
 1-1880
 1-1880

The above is a list of the
 names of the persons who
 have been admitted to the
 school since the 1st of
 January 1871.

1871

1871

1871