

Public Works (1899) Department.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

G.O., No. 1065-*Ey*

DATED 25th Sept 1899

[Despatch Abstract.]

Brahmotsavam Festival at Sri-
Venkateswara swami at Tirumalai.

Coming to the Agent, S. Hy., for info. Pres
in the Ld. Dept ordering the publication
of a notice prohibiting the attendance
of persons from plague infected parts
at the — near Tirupati in the North Arcot
District.

Indexed.

[illegible]

Railway
CURRENT No. 1182

From The Gate of India

Mon. n. 314 data 22^o Sept 1888.

No. 879 R.T.

Copy forwarded
to Am. & A for information

Dated 13th September 1889.

Received 20/9/99

Registered do

Enclosures

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SUBJECT.

Priyankhat samraswami Brah-
motsavani festival in the
North Arcot District

Now forwarding a copy of the Govt of India
Home Deptt, notfn, prohibiting
the sale of railway tickets from
25/9/99 to 14/10/99 within the Bombay
Presidency, Calcutta, the District of
Huzrah in Bengal, Hyderabad,
Baroda & Mysore States to certain
stations on the M & S. Rys on the
occasion of the ———.

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

Draft

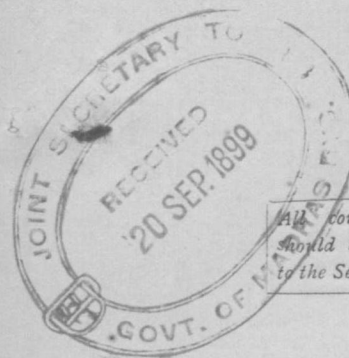
No.

NOTIFICATION.

Whereas the Governor General in Council is satisfied that there is a danger of an outbreak of dangerous epidemic disease at Tirumalai near Tirupati in the North Arcot District of the Madras Presidency, if pilgrims or other persons from the Bombay Presidency, Calcutta, the District of Howrah in Bengal, and the Hyderabad, Baroda and Mysore States are permitted to assemble at that place on the occasion of the ensuing Srivenkatsamraswami Brahmotsavam festival.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 2, sub-section (1) of the Epidemic Diseases Act (III of 1897), the Governor General in Council is pleased to direct that no tickets to travel by railway to the stations of Peddapadu Mamanduru Renigunta, Pudi and Pauttur, on the Madras Railway, and Panapakam, Chandragiri, Tirupati West, Tirupati East, Yerpedu and Kalahasti, on the South Indian Railway, shall be sold from the 25th September to the 14th October 1899 (both days inclusive) within the Bombay Presidency, Calcutta, the District of Howrah in Bengal and the Hyderabad, Baroda and Mysore States to any pilgrim or other person intending or believed to be intending to proceed on pilgrimage to the said festival.

Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.



No. 879 R.T.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

Simla, the 13th September 1899.

The under-mentioned paper is forwarded to the Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Railway Branch, for information and issue of the necessary instructions to the railway administrations concerned.

By Order,

C. H. Lykes
for Offg: Under Secretary.

Document referred to.

Copy of the Government of India, Home Department, draft notification, prohibiting the sale of railway tickets from the 25th September to the 14th October 1899 (both days inclusive) within the Bombay Presidency, Calcutta, the District of Howrah in Bengal, ^{Hyderabad} Baroda and Mysore States to certain stations on the Madras and South Indian Railways on the occasion of the Srivenkateswaram festival in the North Arcot District of the Madras Presidency.

S.A.

C. N. Called for
20/9/99

Government {1899} of Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

P.W. & class 119
21/9/99



Recd.

Enclosures

Regd.

1899.

Spare copies

G.O., No. 1349 P., 13th September 1899.

SEPTEMBER.

Brahmotsavam Festival of Sri Venkateswaraswami at Tirumalai.

Ordering the publication of a notification prohibiting the attendance of persons from plague-infected parts at the — near Tirupati, in the North Arcot district.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. KING, M.B., C.M., D.P.H., Sanitary Commissioner for Madras, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department, dated Camp, Ootacamund, 2nd September 1899, No. 2280-S.

In forwarding herewith Reference on C. No. 2840-P., dated 21st August 1899, from the Collector of North Arcot, I have the honour to state that experience gained as to the transmission of cholera throughout the Presidency from Tirupati, before the present system of sanitary attention was applied, shows that the festival is of great importance sanitarily. From this point of view, it was customary year after year for cholera to spread all over the south of the Presidency. This is no assumption; facts have been carefully traced by me. It could equally form an admirable centre whence plague infection could be distributed throughout the South. Pilgrims largely resort to this festival by railway.

2. Whilst the arrangements proposed may suffice so far as the present condition of affairs is known, this may not be the case a month hence. Consequently, it would be advisable for Government in issuing this notification to add a proviso that, in the

* E.g., North Arcot district.

event of it being found that plague has further invaded this Presidency * before the festival takes place, it may find it necessary to prohibit it otherwise than by local celebration, and that should plague appear during its celebration, all pilgrims would be required to disperse; consequently that those intending to resort to it must remember this risk. Further, it would be essential to make arrangements effective that not only the Hosur taluk but the whole of the Salem district be included in the prohibition.

3. In connection with this subject, I would invite attention to the fact that in ordinary years about 500 pilgrims a day resort to Upper Tirupati—largely composed of persons from Mysore and Poona. The number has, of course, now very largely diminished, but there is still a steady stream of pilgrims up the hill daily. The dwellings there are of the most insanitary nature. I respectfully invite attention to the following paragraph in my report to the Plague Commissioner (Mr. Buckley), dated 14th March 1899—*vide* Plague Commissioner's Proceedings, No. 832, dated 24th March 1899:—

"No arrangements exist for examining pilgrims at Upper Tirupati; hence it would be an easy matter for an epidemic to start in the midst of the damp insanitary and ill-ventilated pilgrim dwellings there, without information reaching Lower Tirupati till much mischief had been done. I have for years advocated the placing here of either a certificated sanitary inspector or hospital assistant, in the sanitary interests of pilgrims. I still think this course absolutely necessary."

I would place my opinion finally on record that the ignoring of this detail may prove a serious mistake. I am perfectly well aware of the possible difficulties, and of the plausible excuses which can be given as to the short stay of pilgrims on the hill and the like; but I do not speak without being personally acquainted with the conditions that exist there.

4. It would be advisable that Government call upon the Collector to state in detail his arrangements for turning pilgrims back. The municipal arrangements should also have careful supervision—the tendency being constantly and perhaps necessarily with this poor municipality to employ too scanty a sanitary staff for the festival.

ENCLOSURES.

From R. H. CAMPBELL, Esq., Acting Collector and District Magistrate, North Arcot, to the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department (through the Sanitary Commissioner for Madras), dated Chittoor, 21st August 1899, R.C. No. 2840-P.

I have the honour to report that the annual Brahmotsavam festival of Sri Venkateswaraswami at Tirumalai commences on the 5th October 1899 and lasts for 10 days. The festival is a large one which will be largely attended by persons from all over India. The Tahsildar of Chendragiri reports that it is not necessary to order a wholesale prohibition as to issue of tickets, but it will be enough to prohibit the issue of tickets to Tirupati and neighbouring stations. I enclose herein a draft notification for approval and publication.

2. A statement prepared in the usual form is herewith submitted.

STATEMENT showing the list of fairs and festivals which are to be held in North Arcot District during the months of August, September and October 1899.

Name of taluk.	Name of town or village in which the fairs and festivals are to be held in the three months.	Names of the fairs and festivals.	Month and date in which it is to be held.	Steps taken to prohibit or restrict and the proposals submitted therefor.	From what districts in the Madras Presidency and from what places outside the Presidency pilgrimage should be prohibited, and the number of people expected from each of such districts or places.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Chendragiri.	Tirumalai Hill near Tirupati.	The Brahmotsavam festival.	From 5th October 1899 to 14th October 1899. It will of course be necessary to order the prohibition to commence from about the 1st October 1899 as pilgrims will commence to arrive some days prior to the festival.	(<i>Vide</i> remarks entered in column 6).	Hosur taluk of the Salem district in the Madras Presidency .. 50 The Mysore State .. 4,000 The Hyderabad State .. 2,000 The Bombay Presidency .. 2,000 The Lower Bengal .. 100 The Punjab .. 500 The North-West Provinces .. 3,000 Total .. 11,650 The above covers a wider area than is declared infected in the Fort St. George Gazette, dated 25th July 1899, but it is necessary to adopt the above areas, as it will be difficult to distinguish a man from Kolar from one from Tumkur, and one from the Punjab from one from the North-West Provinces and so forth. In ordinary years about 20,000 people may be expected from the above-mentioned areas, but owing to the prevalence of plague and restrictions as to inspections, &c., on the way, it is not likely that more than the numbers noted above will choose to come even granting that there is no prohibition imposed. I consider it essential that pilgrimage from the above areas should be prohibited. At the same time, if the state of things is as good as it is now in the Madras Presidency, I do not think that it is necessary that pilgrimage from any other part of the Presidency than the Hosur taluk of Salem district should be prohibited. Though this is a large festival within the meaning of G.O., No. 651 P., dated 2nd May 1899, I think it is not necessary to order a wholesale prohibition as to issue of tickets. It will be enough to prohibit the issue of tickets to Tirupati and neighbouring stations.

ORDER—No. 1349 P., dated 13th September 1899.

The district of North Arcot being at present free from plague, the Government does not consider it necessary that the attendance of pilgrims at the festival should be absolutely prohibited. The following notification will be published in the Fort St. George, and the North Arcot and Salem District Gazettes:—

NOTIFICATION.

Whereas His Excellency the Governor of Fort St. George in Council is satisfied that there is danger of an outbreak of plague at Tirumalai near Tirupati, in the district of North Arcot, if persons from the Salem district, the States of Mysore and Hyderabad, the Bombay Presidency, the Lower Bengal, the Punjab, and other plague infected parts are permitted to visit that place on the occasion of the ensuing Brahmotsavam festival:

In exercise of the powers delegated to him under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, His Excellency the Governor in Council prohibits the attendance at the said festival from the 25th September to the 14th October 1899, both days inclusive, of persons from the places mentioned above, and directs that between the said dates no tickets to travel by railway shall be issued within the Salem district to the railway stations of Peddapadu, Mamanduru, Renigunta, Pudi, Puttur on

No. 1349 P., 13TH SEPTEMBER 1899.

the Madras Railway, and the stations of Pánapákam, Chandragiri, Tirupati West, Tirupati East, Yerpédu and Kálahasti on the South Indian Railway to any person intending or believed to be intending to attend the festival. All persons proceeding to the festival in contravention of this notification will be turned back.

In the event, however, of its being found that plague has invaded the North Arcot district before the festival takes place, the Collector of that district may find it necessary to prohibit the festival otherwise than by local celebration. If plague appears during the celebration of the festival, all pilgrims should be required to disperse. The Collector will take the necessary action as circumstances may require. As regards the turning back of pilgrims proceeding to the festival in contravention of orders, the Government trusts that the Collector will make due arrangements with reference to the instructions contained in G.O., No. 823 P., dated 31st May 1899. It is presumed that the passport rules are worked properly at Tirupati. If not, the Collector should see that they are.

2. The Collector's attention is drawn to paragraph 4 of the Sanitary Commissioner's letter, and he is requested to see that the arrangements made are as complete as possible. Referring to paragraph 3 of the Sanitary Commissioner's letter, the Collector is requested to see that a hospital assistant is posted for duty on the hills during the feast. The services of such an officer will be of use to report at once any cases of plague that may occur.

3. The following telegrams will be despatched:—

(1) To the Government of India.

An important Hindu festival, known as Sri Venkateswaraswami Brahmotsavam, takes place at Tirumalai, near Tirupati, in North Arcot district, from 5th to 14th proximo. It is largely attended by pilgrims from Mysore and Hyderabad States, Bombay Presidency, Lower Bengal and the Punjab. In consequence of danger of plague this Government requests prohibition of sale, from 25th September to 14th October, to intending pilgrims from abovementioned tracts, of railway tickets to Peddapadu, Mamanduru, Rénigunta, Pudi and Puttur stations on Madras Railway and Pánapákam, Chandragiri, Tirupati West, Tirupati East, Yerpédu and Kálahasti stations on South Indian Railway.

(2) To the Residents in Mysore and at Hyderabad and the Governments of Bombay, Lower Bengal and the Punjab.

This Government requests that the Mysore
Hyderabad
Bombay
Lower Bengal
Punjab Government will kindly notify that, in

consequence of danger of plague, this Government has prohibited, under Epidemic Diseases Act, (the) attendance at Sri Venkateswaraswami Brahmotsavam festival at Tirumalai, near Tirupati,

in North Arcot district, from 25th instant to 14th proximo, of persons from Mysore State.
Hyderabad State.
Bombay Presidency.
The Lower Bengal.
The Punjab.

4. The Agent and Manager, Madras Railway, is requested to instruct his subordinate staff regarding the prohibition of the sale of railway tickets ordered by the notification in paragraph 1 *supra*.

(True Extract.)

[Signature]
for Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Collector of North Arcot } (A-L.)
" the Collector of Salem
" all other Collectors (A).
" the Sanitary Commissioner.
" the Surgeon-General.
" the Agent and Manager, Madras Railway.
" the Commissioner of Salt, Abkari and Separate Revenue.
" the Inspector-General of Police.
" the Public Works Department (Railway Branch).
Gazette.

Ed. W. L'Moore.

Communicated to A for information.

Despatched on 25/9/99

Public ^{works} (1899) Department.

^{Railway}
CURRENT No. 1215

From the Govt of India

Order

*Filed with reference
to L.R. Endorsement No.
314 dated 22nd Sept 1899*

No. 917 R.T.

Dated 22nd September 1899

Received 28th — do —

Registered — do —

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Sri Venkateswaraswami Brahmotsavam festival in the Madras Presidency.

Forwarding a copy of Govt of India, Home Dept, notification regarding the prohibition of the sale of railway tickets in certain plague infected areas from the 25/9/99 to 14/10/99 on the occasion of the

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

No. 2669.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
HOME DEPARTMENT.

SANITARY.
Plague.

Simla, the 15th September 1899.

NOTIFICATION.

WHEREAS the Governor General in Council is satisfied that there is a danger of an outbreak of dangerous epidemic disease at Tirumalai near Tirupati in the North Arcot District of the Madras Presidency, if pilgrims or other persons from the Bombay Presidency, Calcutta, the District of Howrah in Bengal, and the Hyderabad, Baroda and Mysore States are permitted to assemble at that place on the occasion of the ensuing Srivenkatsamraswami Brahmotsvam festival:

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 2, sub-section (1), of the Epidemic Diseases Act (III of 1897), the Governor General in Council is pleased to direct that no tickets to travel by railway to the stations of Peddapadu, Mamanduru, Renigunta, Pudi and Pauthur, on the Madras Railway, and Panapakam, Chandragiri, Tirupati West, Tirupati East, Yerpedu and Kalahasti, on the South Indian Railway, shall be sold from the 25th September to the 14th October 1899 (both days inclusive) within the Bombay Presidency, Calcutta, the District of Howrah in Bengal, and the Hyderabad, Baroda and Mysore States to any pilgrim or other person intending or believed to be intending to proceed on pilgrimage to the said festival.

A. H. L. FRASER,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 2677.

COPY forwarded to the

Government of Bombay
Bengal
the Punjab
Resident at Hyderabad
Agent, Governor General, Baroda
Resident in Mysore
Foreign
Public Works Department

for information.

By order,

R. NATHAN,

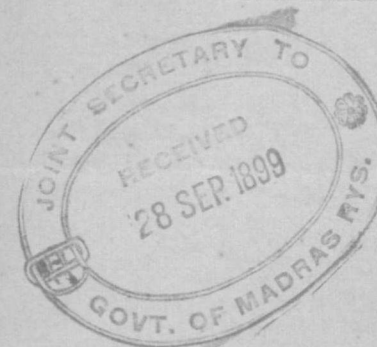
Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

To,
The Public Works Department

No. 917 R.T.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

All communications
should be addressed
to the Secretary.



Simla, the 22nd September 1899.

The under-mentioned paper is forwarded to the Joint Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public Works Department, Railway Branch, for information, in continuation of Government of India Memorandum No. 879 R.T., dated the 13th September 1899.

By order,

for Offg. Under Secretary.

Document referred to :-

Copy of Government of India, Home Department, notification No. 2669 dated the 15th September 1899.

Prohibition of the sale of railway tickets in certain plague infected areas from the 25th September to the 14th October 1899 on the occasion of the Srivenkatsamraswami Brahmothsam festival in the Madras Presidency.

S.S.S.