

Badrinath Temple To Reopen On May 19

Source: beta.thehindu.com

INDIA, January 20, 2010: The portals of Badrinath temple, situated in Garhwal Himalayas at an altitude of 10,278 ft, will be reopened on May 19. The date of the reopening was announced at Narendra Nagar palace by the Raj Purohit on the occasion of Basant Panchami.

The portals of Badrinath shrine were closed for the winter period on November 19 during which time the statues of Lord Badri, an incarnation of Lord Vishnu, were carried to Narsimha Mandir in Joshimath area for the wintry sojourn.

Putting Chola Temples On India's Tourist Map

Source: beta.thehindu.com

THANJAVUR, INDIA, January 21, 2010: The School Education Minister Thangam Thennarasu has called for a combined study and view of the four all stone temples built by Chola kings at Thanjavur, Darasuram, Thirubuvanam and Gangaikonda Cholapuram.

Inaugurating a two-day seminar organised by the Archaeological Survey of India here to commemorate the 1000th year of Brahadeeswara temple, the Minister said that the Brahadeeswara temple should not be seen in isolation. It should be viewed and studied along with temples of its like in this region. "These four temples are really great temples which offer new things every time a tourist visited them", the Minister said. He appealed to the ASI and tourism department to take steps to bring the four temples in the tourist map of India.

Brahadeeswara temple at Thanjavur is not a mere architectural marvel but a temple that had societal connections. King Raja Raja Cholan who built the temple has said this in the inscription

he made in the temple. He speaks about the contribution made by the people for construction of the temple after speaking about his and sister's contribution

Hindu Gods On U.S. Stamps

Source: economictimes.indiatimes.com

WASHINGTON, USA, February 1, 2010: Hindu Gods have made their way into U.S. mail, with an Atlanta based company headed by an Indian American launching a series of legally valid custom-made postage stamps.

The first of these 44 cent stamps featuring Sri Krishna, Shiva-Parvathi, Lakshmi, Lord Venkateshwara, Murugan, Vinayaka and Sai Baba were issued by usa-postage.com last month.

The company made use of a six-year-old U.S. Postal Service (USPS) rule that permits issue of customized postages to launch the series. "These postages have not been issued by the U.S. Postal Service, but these are as good as stamps and are legally valid. We do not call them stamps. We call them postages. But these can be used as any other normal stamp," a USPS spokesman said.

Massive Mela Procession In Haridwar

Source: epaper.mailtoday.in

HARIDWAR, INDIA, February 1, 2020: Time came to a standstill in Haridwar on Saturday. Devotees waited for hours to witness the royal procession of sadhus, including ash-smearing Naga sanyasins. The peshwai, as the procession is called, began from Pandeywala area of the holy town at noon and concluded at Mayadevi temple of the Juna akhara around 9 pm.

For nine hours, the roads of Haridwar witnessed the saints passing through on elephants, ponies, chariots and tractor-pulled gold and silver thrones. Many holy men travelled on foot, while others took cars.

The peshwai marks the arrival of sadhus of a particular camp at the venue of the Maha Kumbh mela. On Saturday, the Juna and Agni Akharas took out the processions. Many more will take out their rallies in the days to come.

The procession wound through 5 miles with locals taking part in festivities by offering the sadhus flowers, water and food.

Govt may ease temple land lease norms

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/Govt-may-ease-temple-land-lease-norms/articleshow/5525914.cms>

CHENNAI: The Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (HR&CE) department has forwarded a proposal to the Cabinet to give temple lands in Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur and Chennai to corporates and trusts on long lease.

The department had passed an order two years ago (GO MS No 25 of January 29, 2008) prohibiting temple lands from being sold or given on long lease to companies and individuals. There are at least three proposals lined up before the government seeking exemption from the order, sources said.

The HR&CE department placed a file before the state cabinet that met last Thursday to grant 10 acres (4,35,600 sq.ft) in Semmenchery village (located along the IT expressway) in Tambaram taluk to Agada Health Sciences on lease for 29 years and 11 months. to set up a hospital that would meet international standards and provide high quality health care at an affordable cost, sources said.

The HR&CE had obtained the views of the revenue, the health and the finance departments before placing it before the Cabinet. In the proposal, the HR&CE department has said the land belonging to Arulmigu Sreenivasa Temple is far away from the temple, which is short of cash to build and rent out commercial complexes.

As the department found it difficult to protect the land, the HR&CE commissioner suggested in his proposal that the land be given on long lease, fixing the rent on the basis of market & guideline values, which worked out to Rs 29.53 lakh per month. It had the provision for upward revision of rent by 15% every three years. The leased out land can only be used for the purpose of health, research, education and should treat a particular percentage of patients free of cost. The HR&CE officials said the file was yet to be cleared by the cabinet.

Interestingly, the HR&CE department's top brass is mulling over two more proposals to grant temple lands on long lease. According to sources, the department proposes to grant 53 kinds of land belonging to 13 temples in Eliambedu, Pudukkottai and Ponneri villages in Tiruvallur district to Mahindra World City. Officials are tight-lipped over the extent of the land to be given on long lease.

Another proposal discussed was about giving seven grounds of land owned by the Arulmigu Kapaleeswarar temple in Oorur Thootam in Adyar to a private educational trust specialising in Montessori education. Children from the families of prominent politicians are studying in the two schools run by the trust, sources said.

Arsha Vidya Newsletter

Annual Subscription: Rs.180/-

Published by:

V. Sivaprasad

Trustee, Sruti Seva Trust, Anaikatti
Coimbatore 641108

And

Edited by

S. Srinivasan

0422-2657001

Printed by:

B. Rajkumar, Rasi Graphics Pvt. Ltd.,

40 Peters Road, Madras 600014

Ph. 28132790, 28131232