



13/3/94

Navesh Chadha,  
Hare Krishna Temple  
Defence Movement,  
HKTDM,  
P.O. Box 624, Harrow,  
Middlesex, HA2 7ND

Dear Mr. Chadha,

Please find attached herewith a copy  
of a reply letter from our Local M.P.  
for your record.

Yours sincerely,

R Patel

Mrs. R. PATEL



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

9th March 1994

Mrs R Patel  
Hindu Womens Group  
259 Preston Drove  
Brighton  
East Sussex  
BN1 6FL

Dear Mrs Patel

Thank you for your letter of 3rd March together with a petition about the removal of the Temple at Letchmore Heath.

As you will no doubt realise planning issues are quite properly a matter for local decision by the locally elected council and, as such, I am not able to intervene.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Patel', written in a cursive style.

D A Chotai  
17 Cheltenham Place  
Kenton. Harrow.  
Middx HA3 9NB.

28th March 1994

Naresh Chadha Esq  
The Chairman  
Hare Krishna Temple Defence Movement  
P O Box 624  
Harrow  
Middx HA2 7ND.

Dear Mr Chadha,

**HARE KRISHNA TEMPLE AT LETCHMORE HEATH**

My family and I take this opportunity in thanking you and your committee for organising a huge rally and procession in London on 16th March 1994 against closure of our temple in Watford. The rally was successful in bringing to the attention of the British public and British MPS that our demand is for equal treatment and justice in this matter. Our joint efforts have led the Hertsmere Council to review their earlier decision and they have allowed us to continue worship until 13th June 1994 when they will reconsider our application to build an access road to the temple.

I am enclosing copies of letters I have written to various authorities and replies received so far, for your information. I shall write to my MP again and local Harrow councillors in due course to intervene in our dispute with the Hertsmere Council and support us in finding a sensible and amicable solution to our problem. All copies of such correspondence will be sent to you for your information.

Yours Sincerely,



Encls.

D A Chotai  
17 Cheltenham Place  
Kenton. Harrow.  
Middx HA3 9NB.

14th March 1994

The Prime Minister  
Rt.Hon John Major  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1.

Dear Mr Major,

RE: Closure of HARE KRISHNA TEMPLE at Letchmore Heath, Watford.

There may be many pressing matters you have to deal with at present but my family and I beg you to get involved in avoiding a major confrontation between the Hindu Community and the Hertsmere Borough Council and government authorities.

You will no doubt be aware that an Enforcement Notice has been served by Hertsmere Borough Council to prevent public worshipping at the Temple and the said Enforcement Notice has been supported by the British Government. In our opinion the Enforcement Notice is a breach of basic Human Rights and an affront on the rights of all minorities residing in this country. This is a horrible injustice to the Hindu Community and should not be allowed in our democratic society.

There are many Hindus living in London and surrounding areas who regularly use this temple for worship and unfortunately we will not be able to worship where we have always been worshipping for the last 20 years from 16TH MARCH 1994 when the council's ban to use the temple comes in operation.

You may be aware that the temple has lodged an application with the Hertsmere Council to build an access road from the main A1/MI route leading to the temple so that the worshipers' vehicles going to the temple on festival days do not cause any traffic congestion and any inconvenience to the local residents although worshipping in large numbers only occur during festival days which is three times a year. Moreover, the cost of building this road will not fall on the council but it will be met entirely by the temple.

We understand that the council will consider temple's application in June 1994 and in the meantime the council's Enforcement Notice banning public worship stays thus taking away our democratic right to use the temple. We have made so many pleas and requests to the council to suspend their ban whilst considering our application but it seems that the council is very stubborn in its approach and is not prepared to suspend their ban which is effective from 16th March 1994.

We know that you are a firm believer for respect to all the religious communities which exist in our multi cultural British Society and no doubt you will uphold the freedom of worship allowed in the constitution.



HERTSMERE  
BOROUGH  
COUNCIL

Civic Offices, Elstree Way,  
Borehamwood, Herts. WD6 1WA  
Telephone: 081-207-2277  
Fax: 081-207-2197

MANAGING DIRECTOR

PHILIP H COPLAND, LL B

15 MAR 1994

Dear Sir/Madam,

Bhaktivedanta Manor, Letchmore Heath, Herts.

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the above.

A planning application has been received for a new access road and change of use for the Temple, and I shall ensure that your letter is reported to the relevant Committee when the application is determined.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philip Copland', written over a horizontal line.

Philip Copland  
Managing Director

c.c. Head of Planning

Your Ref:  
My Ref: PHC/CS/BHAKTIMAN

Ext: 2001

DIRECT LINE:

DIRECT FAX:

PLEASE QUOTE MY REFERENCE  
ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE

D A Chotai  
17 Cheltenham Place  
Kenton. Harrow.  
Middx HA3 9NB.

14th March 1994

The Chief Executive  
Hertsmere Borough Council  
Civic Offices  
Elstree Way  
Borehamwood  
Herts WD6 1WA.

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: Hare Krishna Temple at Bhaktivedanta Manor in Letchmore Heath.**

My family and I with friends and relatives have been regularly attending the above temple for worship and we have been worshipping at this temple for the last 20 years.

We are very disappointed to learn that you have served an Enforcement Notice on the temple preventing public worship at the temple without any justifiable cause. The 16th of March 1994 when your Enforcement Notice comes into effect is really a SAD DAY for all HINDUS in this country and throughout the whole world !

In our opinion the Enforcement Notice is a breach of basic Human Rights and an affront on the rights of all minorities residing in this country. This is a horrible injustice to the Hindu Community and must not be allowed in our democratic society.

We understand that the temple has lodged an application with yourselves to build an access road from the main A1/M1 route to the temple so that the worshipers' vehicles going to the temple do not cause any traffic congestion or any inconvenience to the local residents although worshipping in large numbers only occur during festival days which is three times a year. Moreover, the cost of building this road will not fall on the council but it will be met entirely by the temple and the British Hindu Community. We also understand that your council will consider temple's application in June 1994 whilst in the meantime your Enforcement Notice banning public worship stays.

It seems that you and the other councillors in the council are acting silly and are being stubborn for no apparent reason. We strongly feel that you must suspend the Enforcement Notice until June 1994 when you consider the temple's application and at this meeting, you should approve the application without any hesitation. Surely, this is the most sensible and honest thing to do in the interest of both the Hindu Community and the council.

We humbly request and strongly urge you to reconsider your decision by suspending the Enforcement Notice immediately and APPROVE the temple's application NOW !

Yours faithfully,



HUGH DYKES MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

23 March 1994

D A Chotai  
17 Cheltenham Place  
Kenton, Harrow  
Middx HA3 9NB

Dear Mr. Chotai,

In reference to your letter of 14 March, Mr. Dykes has already signed the Early Day Motion put forward by Mr. Keith Vaz.

You will also be pleased to note that Mr. Dykes has contacted Hertsmere Borough Council directly to express his concern.

Please do not hesitate to let Mr. Dykes know if you feel there is anything more he can do.

Yours Sincerely,

*Tricia Cohen*

Tricia Cohen  
Research Assistant

Printed at  
South India Press, Ltd.  
No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

D A Chotai  
17 Cheltenham Place  
Kenton, Harrow.  
Middx. HA3 9NB.

12th May 1992

Hugh Dykes Esq.  
Member of the Parliament  
House of Commons  
London. SW1.

Dear Mr Dykes,

**RE: Closure of Hare Krishna Temple at Letchmore Heath in  
the borough of Hertsmere Council**

My family and I take this opportunity to congratulate you on being returned as the Member of Parliament for the Harrow East constituency of which we are a resident.

There may be many pressing matters you have to deal with at present but we beg you to get involved in avoiding a major confrontation between the Hindu Community and the government authorities when on March 1994 the government ban at the temple in Letchmore Heath comes into effect.

This is a horrible injustice to the Hindu Community and should not be allowed in our democratic society. All negotiations with the council have been exhausted and our Appeal to the Secretary of State for the Environment has been turned down. The only last resort now available is to take this matter to the European Court of Human Rights and we hope we can get justice there where we have failed in Britain.

We acknowledge that the temple is not in your constituency. There are many other Hindus like ourselves who do live in your constituency and use this temple as and when necessary especially during our religious festival days. We feel that it is your job as our elected M.P. to serve our needs.

We would humbly request you to make our views known to the Secretary of State for the Environment and request him to start negotiations with the Temple to resolve this dispute amicably. That surely is the only sensible way forward.

We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,





9/3/94

465 SOUTH BURY RD  
DONDERS END  
ENFIELD  
MIDDX  
EN3 4HT  
LONDON.

Dear Naresh Chadha.

I recieved your letter in the post. My name is Sonal Patel. I am 13 years old. I will be 14 in May 15<sup>th</sup>. Today I wrote a letter both sides of an A4 paper to MP Tim Eggar. I wrote that I didn't like what they were doing etc. I have attached one copy to this letter and I hope it is alright. This is the first time I have written the letter to MP Tim Eggar and I wasn't really sure what to write. Please read this letter and write back if it would help MP Tim Eggar to stop the closure of the Temple or give us more time to improve the travel to the Temple without causing any pain to the neighbours who live near the Temple.

Yours  
Sincerely  
Sonal Patel.

465 SOUTHBURY ROAD

PONDERS END

ENFIELD

LONDON

MIDDLE EN34HX

9/MARCH/94.

Dear Tim Eggar

I know it is a bit too late to write this but I just don't understand why your closing our Temple down in Watford. The Hare Krishna Temple must have been running for about 50 or 60 years. Since I was small every once a year I went to that temple to help celebrate Lord Krishna's Birthday Janmāstami. I might only be 13 years old but because it is closing next week I have been having so many thoughts in my head. I believe in god. Every one does. But by closing this temple down it seems you and the government don't believe in god. Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Sikhism, Buddhism, Judaism all believe in god even if each religion has a hundred gods. If you believe that just by some people out of 100 complain about the noise is a reason to close it down think again. Say we were in their places (complainers) and we complained of a church being noisy you wouldn't believe us, you would ignore our complaints because you were a Christian. I know for a fact that we don't make noise. All we do is ask for directions. If there was a funfair or carnival making 100% more noise than us, they wouldn't complain. I thought governments etc were not racists. But now it seems they are. Gandhi, Mahatma

I know it is abit too late to write this but I

Just dont understand why your closing our Temple down in Watford. The Hare Krishna Temple must

have been running for about 50 or 60 years. Since I was small every once a year I went to

that temple to help celebrate Lord Krishna's Birthday Janmashtami. I might only be 13 years

old but because it is closing next week I have been

having so many thoughts in my head. I believe

in god. Every one does. But by closing this temple

down it seems you and the government dont

believe in god. Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jainism, all believe in god even if

each religion has a hundred gods. If you

believe that just by some people out of

100 complain about the noise is a reason

to close it down think again. Say we were

in their places (complainers) and we complaining I wouldn't believe you, you would ignore our complaints because you were a Christian. I know for a fact that we dont make noise. All we do is ask for direction. If there was a funfair or carnival making 100% more noise than us, they wouldn't complain. I thought governments etc were not racists. But now it seems they are. Gandhi, Mahatma Gandhi said "They may beat my body,

465 Southbury Road

PONDERS END

ENFIELD

LONDON

MIDDLESBROUGH

9 MARCH 84

Dear Tim Eggar