

Edn. & P.H.

(194 9.) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. NO. 425 Edn.

Dated 17/2/49.

Closed
MB

Supdt.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Records - Devasthanam, Madurai - Request
of the Executive Officer for transfer of
records relating to orders passed.

Back Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Further Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Tele: "Religious"

Office of the Board of Commissioners for
Hindu Religious Endowments,
Madras - 6.

Letter No. 80140/48-2Adm dated 3-12-1948

From

Sri T.M.Chinnaiya Pillai, M.A., B.L.,
President, Hindu Religious Endowments Board,
Cathedral P.O., Madras - 6

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Firkadevelopment Department,
Fort St.George, Madras - 9.

Sir,

Sub: Hindu Religious Endowments - Sri Madura Etc. Devasthanams
Madura - Ancient documents and Records relating to the
temple - Petition of the Executive Officer - Forwarded.

Ref: No. 8433/57-A8 dated 9-11-48 from the Executive
Officer Sri Madura Etc. Devasthanams, Madura.

A petition addressed to the Government by the Executive
Officer of the Madura Etc. Devasthanam ~~to~~ requesting that
ancient
certain/documents relating to the administration of the Devasthanam
may be handed over to him is forwarded. If the documents
referred to by the Executive Officer are in existence and can be
handed over, Government may be pleased to pass orders accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

Legh...
President.

Encl: 1. Executive Officer's
letter.

G.K.6/12/48.





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Final Dev. Dep.
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May be sent to EDM. J. W.

Jm
14/12/48

15/12/48
EDM. J. W.

J. D. W. 5038/48.
14-12-48

No. 8433/57-48.

Office of the Executive Officer, Sri Minakshi Sundareswarar etc., Devasthanams, Madura, 9-11-48.

To

The Secretary,
Hindu Religious Endowments Department,
Government of Madras,
MADRAS.

Through

The President,
Hindu Religious Endowments Board,
MADRAS. 6

Sir,



Sub:- Ancient documents and records relating to the temple-Return of -Request for.

During the reigns of the ancient Hindu and Muslim Rulers the Meenakshi Sundareswarar Temple at Madura and the Sri Andavar Subramaniaswami Temple at Tirupparankundram and their endowments were under the direct control and management of the Rulers. When the East India Company took over the administration of Madura from the Navab of Carnatic in 1801 they also recognised it an important duty of the Government to administer these temples and their endowments. The temples were therefore directly administered by the Collectors of the District through their subordinates. For various reasons the British Government had later on to divest themselves of the management and leave the management in "the hands of individuals -- professing the faith to which the institutions belonged". -- Accordingly one Muthu Chella Thevar, Manager of the Ramnad Estate was appointed as the Manager of the temple in 1842. A few months later he was followed by one Dhan Singh with whom the Collector entered into an agreement with regard to certain customary rights etc. Though from his time onwards the Collector ceased to interfere with the internal administration of the temple, Regulation VII of 1817 still being on the statute book, the Collector was nominally in charge. This

state

state of affairs continued till 1863, when Act XX of 1863 was passed vesting the management and supervision of the temples in the hands of a statutory committee consisting of 5 persons.

When the statutory Committee took charge of the administration of these temples in 1865, the documents relating to the temple -- prior to that year were not fully handed over to the Committee.

A list of documents relating to the records "in the Huzur Collectorate relating to the Devasthanam" was prepared. A public copy of it is available in the Devasthanam records. This consists of 7 volumes dealing with documents from 1804 to 1865. Nothing is known with regard to the documents relating to the administration or history of the temple prior to 1804. Since the ancient documents relating to the temples are very essential to examine the history of the temple and also to investigate into the rights of the Devasthanam with regard to the numerous properties owned by them, it is requested that early steps are taken

(1). to investigate and ascertain the whereabouts of the documents relating to the temples prior to 1804,

(2). and to return to this temple the above documents and the original documents relating to the administration of this temple for the period from 1804 to 1865; detailed in the seven volumes referred to above.

Heare

Executive Officer.

KR/12-11

7/12/48

pp 3-4 cb	Ancient documents and records relating to the temple - Return of Request. from the Exe. officer, Sri Minakshi Sundareswarar etc. Devasthanams, Madurai Letter No. 8433/87-A.R.2/9.11.48. from the President. H.R.E. Bd., No. 80140/48-2 Adm. dated 3.12.1948
pp 3-4 cb p. 1 cb	Endt. No. 94475.48.93-1. Edm. dated 28-12-1948. A copy of the letter from the Exe. officer, Minakshi Sundareswarar etc. Devasthanams cited above with a copy of the letter from the Pt. H.R.E. Bd. is <u>referred</u> to the Curator, M.R.O., for remarks.
Spd. E. in original Dec 30/48 To the Curator, M.R.O. (with copy of Exe. officer's letter and Pt. H.R.E. Bd's letter in reg. to be referred with reply)	24.12.48 24.12.48

From
Dr. B.S. Baliga, Ph.D. (Lond.),
Curator, Madras Record Office,
CHITTOOR.

To 43 5
The Secretary to Government,
Education & Public Health Department,
Fort St. George.

No. 11-D-VII/49-1, dated 17th January 1949.

Sir,

Sub:- Hindu Religious Endowments - Sri Minakshi Sundareswarar
etc. Devasthanams, Madura - Ancient documents and records
relating to the temple.

Ref:- Government Endorsement No. 94475-48-33-1.Edn., dated 28th
December 1948. psubra

19 JAN 1949
3649
The Executive Officer appears to confuse the records belonging
to the temple with the records relating to the temple. There may be
several documents relating to the temple in question among the records
of the Collectorate of Madura and the records of the Board of Revenue
and the Government kept in this office. But these documents are Govern-
ment records. They do not belong to the temple and therefore they cannot
be handed over to the Executive Officer. Even the seven volumes in the
Madura Collectorate exclusively relating to the temple must be looked
upon as records of the Collector of Madura. They cannot be regarded as

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the property of the temple. It is also against the principles of archive administration to separate the records relating to any particular subject from the original files and to send them out to be kept by some other agency.

2. The proper course for the Executive Officer to follow is to apply for copies of such of the documents as he requires. Copies can then be granted if it is found that the documents are of an unobjectionable nature. He may in that case have to pay search fee and copying fee like other institutions and individuals.

3. The two enclosures received with the Government Endorsement cited above are returned.

Yours faithfully,

CURATOR

18-1-1949.

Encl. 2

BR.

18-1-49

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Tel: "Religious"

9 40 45
17/2/49
Office of the Board of Commissioners
for Hindu Religious Endowments,
Madras.6.



Letter No.80140/48-4 Adm.dated 11.4.49.

From
Sri T.M.Chinnaiya Pillai, M.A.,B.L.,
President, Hindu Religious Endowments Board,
Madras.6.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Firka Development Department,
Fort St.George,Madras.9.

Sir,

Sub: Hindu Religious Endowments -Sri Madura etc Devasthanams
Madura - Ancient documents and records relating to the
Temple - petition of the executive officer.

Ref: 1. My letter to Government No.80140/48-2 Adm.dated
3-12-48.

I invite attention to the letter referred to above and request
that orders may be communicated at an early date.

Yours faithfully,

President.

vs.12.4

14-4-49



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From Dev Dept

May be sent to Edm 804. no.
in continuation of this Dept. no.
no. 5038/48. 1707, 14-12-48.

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Record — — — — —
Madr Record Office - Madras etc
Devasanam Madras - Request of
the Executive Officer for transfer
records relating to - order for.

From the Pl HRE B. M.
48-2 Adm - D. 3.12.48.

From the Curator MRO no 48
Order Ms 428 Edw 17/2

The Pl. H.R. & B.
Requested to inform the Execut
Officer, Sri Minakrishnaswami
etc Devasanam, Madras, that
Records relating to the De
Namams, with the Madras Re
Officer cannot be transferred to
the Executive Officer, as they
State Records and that if the
requires any of these Record
for reference or requires extra
of these records, he may app
to the Curator, Madras Recor
Office, Chittoor. Permission
have access to the Records
then be granted to the Execut
Officer; and Copies of the Record
will, if necessary, also be granted
to him provided the grant of such
Copies is considered unobjectionable
and the prescribed Search fee
& Copying fee are paid.

To the Pl HRE B.
" Curator MRO
" Asst. Secy
S.C. Dept
no 57

9.2.49

10/4/49

PTD

2. The order in paragraph 1 will apply also to the records relating to the Devasthanams which are stated to be in the Collectorate in which may be with the Board of Revenue. Application for perusal or for copies of these documents may be made to the authorities concerned -

13.2.49.

To
The P. H. R. E. B.
" Curator
M. R. O.
" Bd. of Rev.
" P. H. R. E. B.
S. C.

C. No. 9447543/49 Sub: Ancient documents and records relating to Sri. Muniakshi Sundareswarar etc. Devasthanams at Madurai.
Return of - request.

pp 1-4 of Ref: From the President H. R. E. Bd. Letter No. 80140/48-2 Adm dt 3-12-48
" " Curator M. R. O. No. 11-D-VII/49-1 dt 17-1-1949.

pp 3 of Please see the letter from the President, Hindu Religious Endowment Board at p 1 of forwarding a ~~letter~~ addressed to Govt by the Executive Officer of the Muniakshi Sundareswar Devasthanams requesting that certain documents relating to the administration of the Devasthanam may be handed over to him. The President, has stated that if the documents referred to by the Executive Officer are in existence and can be handed over to him, Govt may be pleased to pass orders accordingly.

pp 5 of The matter was referred to the Curator, M. R. O. ~~who has suggested~~ that the Executive Officer appears to have confused the records belonging to the temple with the records relating to the temple. The Curator further states that there may be several documents relating to the temple in question among the records of the Collectorate of Madurai and the records of the Bd of Rev and the Govt kept in his office and that they are Govt records and do not belong to the temple and therefore they cannot be handed over to the Executive Officer. The Curator, has also reported that the seven volumes in the Madurai Collectorate exclusively relating to the temple should be looked upon as records of the Collector of Madurai, and that they cannot be regarded as the property of the temple. It is also pointed out by the Curator that it is against the principles of archive administration to separate the records relating to any particular subject from the original files and to send them out to be kept by some other agency.

para 1 of 2 of

13.2.49

A on p 2 of

The Curator has ~~been~~ suggested that the proper course for the Executive Officer to follow is to apply for copies of the documents required by him. ~~at that time~~ ^{that} Copies may then be granted to him if it is found that the documents are of an unobjectionable nature and if he ~~subject to the condition that he~~ pays the search fee and copying fee like other institutions and individuals.

For orders whether the Curator's suggestion at para 2 of p 8 of ^{A alone} may be accepted and the President, H.R.E. Board informed ~~meetings~~ that the records cannot be transferred to the Executive Office & that the latter, if he requires any item or items of the records for reference, he may adopt the course at A.

Firka Devt may see -

lex

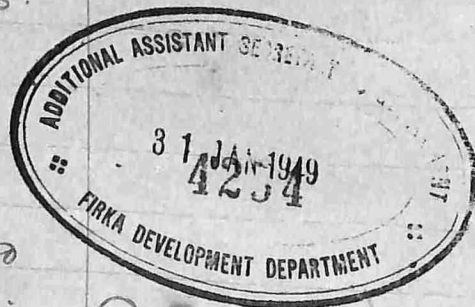
2.2.48

26.1.49

S

Firka Devt Dept

EXPH.V.O.No. 944754/192
Dated 28-1-49



(Y)

31.1.49

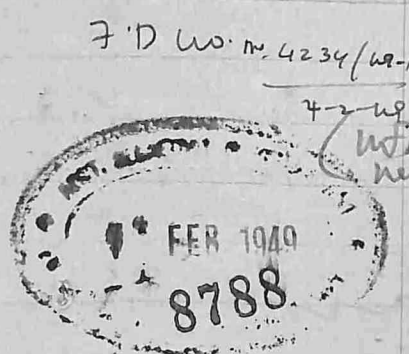
May be perused and the file returned to Edu for use. This Dept may agree with B above.

Atanku is, in this connection, wishes to be able in Govt No. 16647 in which the Govt have held that no search fees or copying charges shall be levied from the H.R.E. Board for the searches undertaken by its staff & the H.R.O. at the instance of the Board and that the officers of the Board be allowed to have an access to the records. In the present case, however, the records will be required by the Executive Officer and not the Board and

There seems to be objection to the levy of fees as suggested at A on page 2 ante. With these remarks, the file may be referred to Exph. No.

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2.2.48

4.2.49



The case may be circulated to Hm (Edn) & Hmble Pr. for orders both on A & B on the previous page - Subject to orders a draft order is submitted for approval.

lex
9.2.48

10.1.49

S (app'd by Secy)

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year 1880 was
a great one -
the first of the
year 1880 was
a great one -

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