

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

8th August 1881, No. 394.

Tombs, &c., at Vellore.

Read again—

G.O., No. 517, dated 15th December 1880.

Read also the following papers :—

From W. S. WHITESIDE, Esq., Collector of North Arcot, to the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, dated Palmanér, 1st June 1881, No. 53 [Current No. 304].

not cond
I have the honor, with reference to the Order of Government in the Political Department, dated 15th December last, No. 517, to forward, herewith, an estimate, amounting to Rs. 1,860, received from the Executive Engineer on the 27th ultimo, for the necessary repairs to the buildings connected with the tombs of Hyder Ali and Tippoo Sultan's family and retainers at Vellore.

2. Agreeably to paragraph 2 of the Government Order above quoted, the Superintendent of the tombs has been informed that the Government of India having deliberately refused an additional allowance for the tombs, his application on that head cannot be entertained.

No. 1027.

Referred to the Accountant-General for report whether there is any objection to the charge being met from savings under "Political."

14th June 1881.

(Signed) C. G. MASTER,
Offg. Chief Secretary.

not cond
From H. F. CLOGSTOUN, Esq., Officiating Accountant-General, to the Officiating Chief Secretary to Government, dated Fort St. George, 22nd July 1881, No. 2822 [Current No. 395].

Budget Department.

With reference to the accompanying letter from the Collector of North Arcot, No. 53, dated the 1st June 1881, referred for my report, I have the honor to state that there is no objection to the proposed outlay for the repairs of the buildings connected with the tombs of Hyder Ali and Tippoo Sultan's family being debited to the head "Political," minor head Petty Constructions and Repairs in the Provincial section; but as the estimated provision for 1881-82 under this section is for Rs. 1,000 only, most of which will be appropriated for the payment of charges on account of rents, rates, and taxes, I do not see how the proposed expenditure of Rs. 1,860 can be debited to that head of service in the absence of savings to meet it.

2. Under the former organization of the Public Works Department an expenditure of the kind now proposed would probably have been chargeable against the Public Works Assignment, Provincial, and, if so, I am of opinion that, in the present case, if the work is to be carried out by Civil Agency, the cost should be met from the sum of Rs. 2,00,000 allotted for Civil Departments under "Public Works—Provincial," as per G.O., No. 117, dated the 24th January 1881. It will at the same time be necessary for Government to direct some other of the departments named in that order to effect a corresponding saving.

not cond

ORDER THEREON, 8th August 1881, No. 394.

The Government observe that for the tombs of Fatima Khanam,* widow of Hyder, and Padsha Begum,† widow of Tippoo, monthly allowances of Rs. 50 each are paid respectively to Muhammad Beg, the grand-nephew of the former lady, and Muhammad Abdulla Hussain Thayer, the husband of Padsha Begum's grand-niece, and that the tomb of Bakshi Begum, for keeping up which the allowance now sought to be restored appears to have been mainly devoted, is the same building as that in which Fatima Khanam lies, and for maintaining which the abovementioned monthly allowance of Rs. 50 is made.

2. For the six remaining principal tombs described by Mr. Comyn‡, for the mosque, choultry and other structures built on occasion of Bakshi Begum's death, and for the large number of minor tombs of dependants and adherents of the Muhammadan dynasty, who desired in death to lie near the graves of their masters' widows, or children, there is no specific allowance, but a sum of about Rs. 244 per annum, representing the net proceeds of the landed inam, is all that is available, in addition to the fund allowances of Rs. 50 before mentioned, for maintaining all these tombs and buildings. To supplement this inadequate income, the restoration of the allowances, totalling some Rs. 400 yearly, on account of ceremonies at Bakshi Begum's tomb, is sought.

‡ Nos. 3 and 4.—Tombs of a daughter and some wives of Tippoo.

No. 2.—Tomb of Tippoo's son-in-law.

Nos. 5, 6, and 7.—Tombs of three chief eunuchs of the Mahals.

3. These last allowances were discontinued under the orders of the Government of the day, in 1861, after Mananer Begum's death, evidently on the assumption that the allowances were solely employed for fateahs or ceremonies, and not for the maintenance of the tomb. From this point of view, it was considered that the further continuance of the allowances was not reasonably to be expected from Government.

4. By parity of reasoning, the Government now consider that the existing allowances of Rs. 50 for the tombs of Fatima Khanam (*cum* Bakshi Begum) and Padsha Begum, though doubtless expended to a considerable extent on fateahs, may reasonably be regarded as adequate for all purposes connected with these two tombs, including the ordinary maintenance of the structures; but that for keeping the other tombs and buildings in good order, some further claim beyond the continuance of the inam may reasonably be entertained by the State.

5. The Governor in Council, therefore, directs that the necessary repairs be executed, funds for the purpose being provided from the lump grant under Petty Construction and Repairs.

(True Extract.)

J. S. Davis
A. S. S. S. S.
 Chief Secretary.

To the Collector of North Arcot, with estimate.

„ Public Works Department.

„ Accountant-General.

Exd. J. Wright.

P. h. c. No 4731
Govt. of (1881) Madras.
POLITICAL.

To
THE COLLECTOR OF NORTH ARCOT,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated August, 8th.

Issued

Recd. Aug: 20th Encl.

G.O., 8th August 1881, No. 394.

S. S. C.

AUGUST.

B. No 2095 Wd/24th Aug-7/81

Tombs, &c., at Vellore.—The necessary repairs to the buildings connected with the tombs of Hyder Ali and Tipoo Sultan's family and retainers at Vellore, ordered to be executed, funds being provided from the lump grant under Petty Construction and Repairs.

Entd. as Receipt Regt.
1- copy to Cdg-89
With an O. B.

B. No 2095 Wd/24th Aug-7/81

Communicated
to the Suptg Engr^r
2nd Circle

24/81

S. E. 2 Circle ✓
Encl. P. 11 Recd
Deskd
24-8-81