

Political (1897) Department.

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G.O., No. 189

DATED 22- 3- 97

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Lukman Madan Gosha Widows' Charity Fund.
Receiving the annual report on the work-
ing of the — for 1896; continuing the usual
grant of Rs 50 per mensem; and appreciating
the valuable services rendered by Col. Steu-
art in behalf of the Fund.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	C. no 3 72		19-3-98				

Government {1897} of Madras. POLITICAL.

Recd.

Regd.

1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 189, 22nd March 1897.

MARCH.

Muhammadan Gosha Widows' Charity Fund.

Recording the annual report on the working of the — for 1896; continuing the usual grant of Rs. 50 per mensem; and appreciating the valuable services rendered by Colonel Stewart in behalf of the fund.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 125, Political, dated 25th February 1897.

ABSTRACT.—

READ—also the following paper:—

From Colonel H. S. STEWART, I.S.C., Paymaster, Carnatic Stipends, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Chépák, 4th March 1897, No. 87.

With reference to G.O., No. 125, Political, dated 25th February 1897, I have the honour to forward a revised report of the Muhammadan Gosha Widows' Aid Fund with an additional statement marked "C" accompanying.

2. I have the honour to state with regret that when the Honorary Secretary, who is a very busy official, sent me his report asking me to prepare the usual statements to be attached thereto, I entrusted this work to my subordinates, and unfortunately at a time of pressure of work I did not carefully compare the report with the statements which are correct in themselves. I have rebuked my subordinates for failing to point out to me the discrepancies between them.

ENCLOSURES.

From GHULAM MAHMUD SAHIB, Honorary Secretary, Muhammadan Gosha Widows' Aid Charity, to the President, Muhammadan Gosha Widows' Aid Charity, dated Madras, 1st February 1897.

I have the honour to forward, for your information and for favour of submission to Government, the fourth annual report on the operations of the Muhammadan Gosha Widows' Aid Charity.

2. It will be seen from the attached statement marked "C" that the charity afforded relief to 1,401 destitute women during the year under report ending with 31st December 1896; these results compare favourably with those of any previous year. Of the total number aided, 609 were granted monthly stipends and 792 rice-doles through Mrs. Firth. The latter class is chiefly composed of women who have given up the "Purdah" through the harrows of dire necessity, who are too old, infirm, or sickly to earn a living, and whose miserable condition is enough to melt the hardest heart.

3. Our average monthly collections, including the much-valued Government grant, as will be seen by the statement marked "A", amounted to Rs. 164-4-0, and the monthly expenditure to Rs. 139-12-0, as per particulars given below—

	RS.	A.	P.
(i) Monthly stipends to gosha widows	97	8	0
(ii) Rice-doles to non-gosha widows through Mrs. Firth.. ..	36	0	0
(iii) Pay of peon and bill-collector	6	0	0
(iv) Contingencies	0	4	0
Total	139	12	0

so that the disbursements very closely approximated the receipts and a small balance was left to supplement possible short collections during any particular month, or to meet any other unforeseen contingencies.

4. The monthly subscriptions in aid of the Charity have practically remained stationary during the last two years on account of many adverse circumstances—a condition which has precluded the number of stipends being increased to any appreciable extent.

5. It will be observed from the appended statement of cash balance sheet marked "B" that the Charity has now a "Reserve fund" of Rs. 3,048 in the Madras Bank and a cash balance of Rs. 178 with the President and Treasurer of the Charity. In paragraph 6 of the annual report for 1894, I stated that it was in contemplation to lay out such capital in some profitable investment with a view to add to the Charity's income and to increase thereby the scope of its usefulness. This matter formed the subject of much anxious consideration, and at one time the prospect of the final settlement of the issue was considered to be very remote, as some of the members were vehemently opposed to any transactions which involved the drawing of interest, while others disapproved of the Charity funds being risked in unsafe investments. Several meetings of the Executive Committee were held to consider the question, but only ended in long and desultory discussions. At last, after considerable diffidence and delay, it was decided to act on the opinion of the majority, who were in favour of purchasing Government promissory notes. Accordingly, out of the "Reserve Fund" of Rs. 3,048, a sum of Rs. 2,753-13-11 was invested towards the purchase of two Government bonds of the value of Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 500 in May and September 1896, the former bearing interest at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. and the latter 3 per cent., the difference (of Rs. 253-13-11) between the investment and the value of bonds being due to the premium and commission, &c. The balance of the "Reserve fund" after the above transactions—i.e., Rs. 294-2-1—is in the Madras Bank.

6. When the interest accruing on the Government bonds is drawn, steps will be taken to sanction some more stipends in proportion to the additional income, as our register of applicants shows several deserving cases which call for early consideration and aid.

7. With reference to paragraph 2 of G.O., No. 139, Political, dated 25th February 1896, communicated by you for my information and guidance, I beg to invite your attention to paragraphs 4 and 6 of this report which deal with the points raised by Government. As the income derived from private subscriptions is always subject to fluctuations and as several charities have more or less come to grief on this account, it has always been the wish and aim of the projectors and promoters of this Charity to make it, if possible, self-supporting to a degree. With this object in view, the reserve fund was started, as it would eventually prove the back-bone of the Charity, and I respectfully trust that this policy will commend itself to Government.

8. In conclusion, as this is probably the last year of your connection with the Charity, I consider that the report will be incomplete without referring to your most valuable services on its behalf. This institution, which is doing so much good to the most helpless section of the Muhammadan female population and has acquired a well-merited popularity amongst the community, owes its origin to your happy conception. Since then it has invariably enjoyed the benefit of your keen interest and sympathy; and the present satisfactory state of its finances and administration is in a great measure due to your personal labour and influence. The severance of your connection therefore from it cannot but be deplored as an irreparable loss. Personally, I am much indebted to you, Sir, for the ready help and advice I have always received at your hands in the discharge of my functions, and I trust, when you retire from the field of your labour, the well-being of this institution will be one of those objects which will continue to enjoy your sympathy and good-will.

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A.

RECEIPTS and Disbursements, 1896.

Subscriptions and Donations.					Expenditure.								
Months of the year.					Amount.		Months of the year.					Amount.	
Subscriptions.					RS. A. P.							RS. A. P.	
January 1896	..	..	..	..	120	0 0	January 1896	..	..	..	..	138	0 0
February "	..	..	..	..	105	0 0	February "	..	..	..	..	139	0 0
March "	..	..	..	..	100	0 0	March "	..	..	..	..	138	0 0
April "	..	..	..	..	100	0 0	April "	..	..	..	..	138	0 0
May "	..	..	..	..	105	0 0	May "	..	..	..	..	138	0 0
June "	..	..	..	..	100	0 0	June "	..	..	..	..	138	0 0
July "	..	..	..	..	119	0 0	July "	..	..	..	..	142	0 0
August "	..	..	..	..	107	0 0	August "	..	..	..	..	140	0 0
September "	..	..	..	..	101	0 0	September "	..	..	..	..	142	0 0
October "	..	..	..	..	108	0 0	October "	..	..	..	..	142	0 0
November "	..	..	..	..	101	0 0	November "	..	..	..	..	142	0 0
December "	..	..	..	..	105	0 0	December "	..	..	..	..	140	0 0
Donations.													
Government grant for 12 months at Rs. 50 per mensem					600	0 0							
Donation from Mirza Khurshid Husain Sahib					100	0 0							
Total ..					1,971	0 0	Total ..					1,677	0 0

B.

CASH Balance Sheet, 1896.

Receipts.	Amount.	Disbursements.	Amount.
	RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.
Balance in hand on 1st January 1896	2,932 4 0	Amount paid to widows, &c., from 1st January to 31st December 1896	1,677 0 0
Subscriptions collected from 1st January to 31st December 1896	1,271 0 0	Amount deposited in the Madras Bank, as "Reserve Fund"	† 3,048 0 0
Donations received from 1st January to 31st December 1896	* 700 0 0	Amount in the cash chest of the Paymaster's office	178 4 0
Total	4,903 4 0	Total	4,903 4 0

* This sum includes the Government grant of Rs. 600 at the rate of Rs. 50 per mensem for 12 months.
† Out of this sum Government 3 per cent. interest bonds of the value of Rs. 2,500 were purchased.

C.

STATEMENT showing the number of widows aided by the Charity during 1896.

Description.	January 1896.	February 1896.	March 1896.	April 1896.	May 1896.	June 1896.	July 1896.	August 1896.	September 1896.	October 1896.	November 1896.	December 1896.	Total.
By money allowances	50	50	50	50	50	50	51	51	52	52	52	51	609
" rice-dole	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	792
Total	116	116	116	116	116	116	117	117	118	118	118	117	1,401

ORDER—No. 189, Political, dated 22nd March 1897.

Recorded. His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to continue the usual grant of Rs. 50 per mensem.

2. The Government notes with regret that Colonel Stewart's official connection with the Charity now ceases and takes this opportunity of recording its appreciation of the valuable services rendered by him in behalf of the fund.

(True Extract.)

Chief Secretary.

To the Paymaster, Carnatic Stipends.
 " Accountant-General.
 Copy to Colonel H. S. Stewart, I.S.C.

Exd. A. Raitt.

62W
Political (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 308



From

*The Paymaster
Carnatic Shikando
Chepak*

Order

No. 87 of 1897

Dated 4th }
Received 4 } March 1897
Registered 5 }

Enclosures four (4)

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SUBJECT.

*Forwards a revised report of
Mohammadan Goshawidows
aid funds as directed in G.O.
No. 125 d/25 February 1897 Poll*

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BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
125:	25-2	97 <i>h</i>	
139:	25-2	96 <i>h</i>	
130:	22-2	98	
59:	30-1	94	
97:	20-2	93.	

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

1891m
3-97
For
1-9
 I enclose herewith the

Annual Report of the
 M.G. W. and (hantz for
 1896 for your kind
 peruse & approval.
 The Statement required
 be attached but may
 be ordered to be
 prepared in your

[G.]
25

1,000-14-12-96.

Supp no 189 P.M.
for 22-3-97.

Political DEPARTMENT.

C. No. ~~217~~ 308

- (1) H. E. THE GOVERNOR. ✓
(2) THE HON'BLE MR. BLISS, C.I.E.
THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

SUBJECT.

Annual report on the working
of the Muhammedan Gosha
widows' charity fund.

FOR ORDERS.

G

In his letter no 51
the Paymaster Carnatic Stipends
submitted the Hon. Sec's annual
report on the working of the above
fund. On comparing this report
with the statements enclosed with
it some glaring discrepancies were
found. It was at first supposed
that some mistake had been
made in the P.C.S. office in
copying the original statements.
It was explained, however, by the
P.C.S. in answer no 251 that the
statements A & B to which the
Hon. Sec's referred in his
report were not in existence when
the report was written, but were ^{subsequently} made
made out in the Paymaster's
office. The Paymaster was requested
to submit a revised report, this

ndi 9.0 no 125 d. 25.2.97
ct E.

46

E

C 11/3/97 C 17/3/97
R 16/2/97 R 16/3/97

has now been done.

The latter part of para 5 in the present revised report differs altogether from the corresponding passage in the original report. The PCS' explanation of the carelessness shown in not checking the original report with the statements which purported to illustrate it is given in his letter no 87 d. 4-3-97 where he states that he has rebuked his subordinates.

* I consider that they should be rebuked.

* He adds that the Secy is a very busy official. He is apparently the manager of the Surgeon Genl's Office.

In G.O. no 139 P.O. d. 25-2-96 which reviewed the working of the fund during 1895, the Paymaster was requested to ascertain & report what steps were being taken towards "laying out the funded capital in some profitable investment". The Secy of the fund in para 5 of the current reports which after much consideration, & some opposition from members of the fund, Govt. Bonds of the

* A Muhammadan of strictly orthodox should never derive income from lending money in any form.

value of Rs 2500 (Rs 2000 at 3½ percent, & Rs 500 at 3 percent) have been purchased at a cost, including commission of Rs 2753.13.11.

A

Para 2 of the same G.O. pointed out that during 1895 the expenditure was so much less than the receipts that not only the whole of the Govt. grant but also Rs 90 from current receipts had been funded. The Secretary of the fund was informed that unless the expenditure & the receipts approximated more closely the question of reducing the grant would have to be considered. In answer to this the Secy now states that as soon as interest on their funded property becomes new stipends will be sanctioned. He submits that the policy which they have hitherto followed of allowing a balance to accrue each year & investing the funds thus obtained is a better than spending all

para 7 of the report

* The Govt. grant was not given with this intention but for present expenditure

The income each year.

Excluding the Govt grants of Rs 600 per annum the subscriptions & donations during 1894-1895 & 1896

compare as follows:

	1894	1895	1896
Subscriptions Rs	1,365	1,450	1,271

	1894	1895	1896
Donations Rs	122	403	100

	1894	1895	1896
Totals Rs	1,487	1,853	1,371

The expenditure on stipends, rice distribution & office contingencies was:—

	1894	1895	1896
	Rs. 1620	Rs. 1763	Rs. 1677

The balance on hand at the end of each of these years was

1894 Rs 2,242.

1895 Rs 2,932

1896 Rs 8,226.

It will be seen that in 1896 the expenditure exceeded the receipts (excluding the Govt grant) by Rs 306, whereas in 1895 the whole of the Govt grant and Rs 90 from current receipts were ~~transferred~~ found as balance at the end of the year. The Secretary remarks

of this Rs 3048 is shown as deposited in the Madras Bank, the Rs 2500 amount of Bonds to be paid for 253.13.11. cost of buying the Bonds. 294.2.1. cash at the Bank
Rs. 3,048.0.0

Indi notes at C

G.O. no 97 Ph. B.
d. 20-2-93

I think Govt. might note the expression of the regret felt as Govt. Secretary ~~official~~ severance of his official connection with the Charity (See the Report para. 5)

17/3/97

In para 3 of his report that the expenditure thus approximates closely to the receipts. It is to be observed however that this approximation has been brought about not by increasing the expenditure but by decreasing the receipts which was, it is submitted, by no means what Govt. wished

In making the first grants Govt fixed its contribution at a sum equal to a month of the sum raised by subscription subject to a maximum of Rs 50 per mensem. The average ^{monthly} ~~annual~~ subscriptions ~~subscriptions~~ exceeded Rs 100 as shown in Statement A. It is submitted that the grant of Rs 50 per mensem may therefore be continued.

M. 9/3/97
H. 11/3/97

ub

[G.]
24.
100-28-10-06.

Papers to be read in proceedings:--

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.
Again G.O., dated 25th Feb 1897, No. 125 Pol (P)
Current No. 308 of 1897, dated 4/3, from the P.C.S. (print as marked)
" " " 189 , " " "
" " " 189 , " " "

ORDER. N^o. 189 of 22-3-97.

Recorded - H.E. the Governor

in Council is pleased to continue
the usual grant of Rs 50 per
month

2. The foot notes with
regret that Col Stewart's
official connection with
the Charity now ceases,
and takes this opportunity
of recording its appreciation
of the valuable services
rendered by him
on behalf of the fund.

Paymaster, Carnatic Shipend
Acct. sent 4
Copy to Col H.S. Stewart Esq
Copy to Col H.S. Stewart Esq

Recd
21/4/97

C.W. MK.
19/3/97 19/3/97

1 from order
28/3/97

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

Read again G.O. No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

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