

APPENDICES

Appendix - I

THE DEVASWOM PROCLAMATION

DATED THE 12TH APRIL 1922

PROCLAMATION

BY

HIS HIGHNESS SRI PADMANABHA DASA VANCHI PALA SIR RAMA VARMA KULASEKHARA KIRITAPATHI MANNEY SULTAN MAHA RAJA RAJ RAM RAJA BAHADUR SHARMSHER JANG, KNIGHT GRAND COMMANDER OF THE MOST EXALTED ORDER OF THE STAR OF INDIA, KNIGHT GRAND COMMANDER OF THE MOST EMINENT ORDER OF THE INDIAN EMPIRE, F.M.U., M.R.A.S., F.R.G.S., OFFICER DEL INSTRUCTION PUBLIQUE, MAHA RAJA OF TRAVANCORE, L ISSUED UNDER DATE THE 12TH APRIL 1922, CORRESPONDING TO THE 30TH MEENAM, 1997.

Whereas, in virtue of the Melkoima right vested in the State, the administration of Certain Devaswoms along with their endowments was owing to their mismanagement, assumed by it is 987 M.E with a view to their better management of the said temples and their appurtenances in good condition.

And whereas the income from the immovable property alone of the said Devaswoms amounted at the time of assumption to 15, 80, 491 paras of paddy and Rs. 53, 092 in cash,

And whereas the said incomes from Devaswoms had, in Course of time, become absorbed in the general revenues of the State and the expenditure therefore was met out of such general revenues,

And whereas, owing to various Coures, a large portion of the immovable property of the said Devaswoms has been treated in course of time as Pandaravaga lands and in consequence become incapable of identification and separation,

And whereas by proceedings of Governement No. D. 4905, dated the 25th October 1912, Our Government resolved that, in view of their position in respect of the said Devaswoms, it was their duty so to regulate the next land revenue settlement as to ensure to the said Devaswoms the full revenue from their immovable property.

And whereas the above said resolution, if given effect to, is calculated to operate deterimentally on the material welfare of our beloved subjects.

* Devaswom Proclamation dated 12th April, 1922.

And whereas the come from the immovable property of the said Devaswoms and of those whose management has been assumed since 987 M.E., has it been kept separate, should along with their other income, be ordinarily sufficient for their proper maintenance.

And whereas in view of our faith and religion it is our solemn right and duty to maintain efficiency and in good condition, Hindu religious institutions in from such institutions or the cost of such maintenance, and in pursuance of such right and duty our State has, from time immemorial, contributed from its Exchequer to the cost of such maintenance to the extent necessary,

And whereas doubts have been expressed as to the position of our Government in relation to the said Devaswoms,

And whereas it is necessary to remove those doubts and to provide for the better management and more effective control of the said Devaswoms,

We are please to command as follows :-

1. (1) This proclamation shall be called the Devaswom Proclamation, 1097.
- (2) It shall come into force on the 1st Chingom 1098.
- (3) It shall apply to the Devaswoms mentioned in schedule.
2. "Schedule" means the Schedule attached to this proclamation.
3. Our Government shall, out of the Devaswom Fund constituted under section 4, maintain the Devaswoms mentioned in the Schedule, keep in a state of good repair and to the extent they consider necessary the temples, buildings and other appurtenances thereto, and administer the Devaswoms in accordance with such usage and custom as may be recognised by Our Government.
4. There shall be constituted for the Devaswoms mentioned with schedule a Fund called the "Devaswom Fund". Such Fund shall consist of :-
 - (1) Allotment made with State Budget every year for the said Devaswoms, such allotment not being less than forty percent of the Ayacut and Sanchayan land revenue of the Stat,
 - (2) The moneys realised from time to time by the sale of movable properties belonging to the said Devaswoms,
 - (3) All voluntary contributions and offerings made by devotees,

- (4) Interest on investments of Funds belonging to the said Devaswoms, and
 - (5) All other moneys belongings to or other income received by the said Devaswoms.
5. All immovable properties belonging to the Devaswoms mentioned in the Schedule and now shown in the Revenue accounts as "Devaswom Vaga" shall hereafter for all intents and purposes be deemed to be Pandaravaga and dealt with as such.
6. (1) Our Government may for the better and more efficient management and more effective control of the Devaswoms mentioned in the Schedule organise a Devaswoms Department of the State consisting of such number of officers and other servants as they think fit.
- (2) The expenditure in connection with the said department shall, not with standing anything contained in Sections 3 and 4 be met out of the general revenues of the State.
7. Our Government may, from time to time :-
- (1) Define the powers and duties of the officers of the Devaswom Department;
 - (2) Regulate the seale of expenditure of the Devaswoms;
 - (3) Make rules generally for carrying out the purposes of this Proclamation.
8. No suit shall be in any Civil Court against our Government :-
- (1) For anything done in relation to the Devaswoms mentioned in the Schedule and their properties before the Commencement of this Proclamation; and
 - (2) for anything done or purporting to be done in pursuance of the Proclamation.
9. Nothing contained in this Proclamation shall in any way affect Our right to contribute out of the State Funds:-
- (1) towards Sri Pandararaga expenditure to the extent deemed necessary by Us, or
 - (2) to other Devaswoms in or outside the State, or
 - (3) to the performance of the customary religious ceremonies conducted under Our command.