

Sub: T.T.D. Diversion from surplus funds - Donath  
of Rs.7 lakhs to Hindu Temple Society of  
North America - sanction - requested.

Ref: D.O.Lr. dt. 9-9-72 from Sri A. Valliappan, IAS  
District Collector, Chittoor.

Sri A. Valliappan, District Collector, Chittoor  
in his D.O. letter cited has enclosed the letter of  
A. Alagappan, Secretary - Hindu Temple Society of  
North America, regarding temple project for further  
necessary action.

Dr. A. Alagappan, in his letter dated 23.8.1972  
has stated that the Society has been established in  
New York and a plot of land has been purchased in  
urban area for \$ 41,000 where most of the Indian  
families in New York reside.

It is the proposal that, in U.S.A. they erect  
in His (Lord's) name a number of institutions. It  
is proposed to build a hall or cultural and infor-  
mation centres and name it after Lord Venkateswara  
and become an executive arm of T.T. Devasthanams.

He welcomed the visit of some senior officials  
to come to U.S.A. and assist the joint planning.  
He requests the approval by earmarking a sum of  
Rs.7 lakhs for the above purpose.

He further stated that they would be grateful  
if the inputs needed from India in each case are  
given whole-heartedly and fully by the T.T.D. In  
the case of New York he requested a grant of Rs.7  
lakhs to be spent in India. Atleast 75% is to  
be used in A.P. to prepare Gopura, Garba Griha  
and columns and for transportation costs.

The Commissioner, Endowments Department,  
Hyderabad in his D.O. letter dt. 19-9-1972 while  
enclosing the copy of the letter of Dr. Alagappan  
stated that when the project is completed, the  
Hindu Temple Society is expecting good response  
from the public and they propose to invest the  
proceeds of their project in India and mainly  
in the institutions maintained by the T.T.D. It  
may be in the form of equipment or even by way  
of financial contribution by the Society. In  
this way, the good gesture of T.T.D. by way of  
contribution to this project will be adequately  
recompensed by the Society in due course. The  
Board may therefore take this aspect into con-  
sideration at the time of sanctioning financial  
assistance, so that in the long run this invest-  
ment may not be considered as a burden to the  
T.T.D. Finances.

In this connection it is submitted that the T.T.D. Board of Trustees in its resolution No.693, dated 31-12-70 sanctioned a sum of Rs.20,000/- for construction of a new temple in North America and the amount has also been paid.

The above proposal is placed before the Board for consideration and taking a decision regarding the amount of financial assistance to be offered for the proposed project.

Resolution dated 12-10-72; 9-11-72; 22-12-72;  
and 22-1-1973 - adjourning the subject:

Res.No. 1008/72 dt.12-2-73:  
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RESOLUTION: At the outset I should place on record the fact that the Secretary of the Hindu Temple Society of North America is my brother. I should also add that this has not influenced the consideration of the proposal in any manner and that the proposal has been dealt with only on merits.

The proposal of the Hindu Temple Society of North America has been considered at length. For the present it involves only a commitment on the part of T.T.D. to participate in the various inputs required for the establishment of the Temple at New York and other allied buildings which would eventually cost about Rs.7 lakhs, including transportation of materials (transportation suggest cost has been estimated at 25% of the total amount). The suggestion is that the various sections of the temple be prepared locally under the supervision of the Government and the T.T.D. upto a maximum of 75% of the estimated amount. Hence the commitment to be given now may have to be fulfilled only in the succeeding 2 to 3 years.

The proposal is capable of being entertained under Section 67 and 91 of the Act 17 of 1966. In spite of the long term potential including the possibility of the Hindu Temple Society of North America feeding back the Parent Organisation with various forms of assistance, it is recommended that the proposal may be accepted. In making this recommendation it has been specially kept in view that the bulk of the work could be carried out by the Sthapathi of the Endowment Department and the staff and students of S.V. SCULPTURE Training Centre, Tirupati.

It has been pointed out that the surplus funds position for the current year ending with March, 1973 is not satisfactory to meet the requirement. As noted, acceptance of the proposal is not to be viewed as a commitment for the current financial year only but as a continuing one for the next 2 to 3 years. Subject to approval of the Government even a small token provision would be adequate to commence the work this year. Should the approval of the Government be forthcoming only early next year a provision of about Rs.2 to 3 lakhs would be adequate for the next year for which provision can be found out of the anticipated surplus or the other funds as contemplated under Sec.91 of the Act. It is therefore recommended that an amount of Rs.3 lakhs may be set apart for the year 1973-74 and the balance (Rs.4 lakhs) for the next year.

The Hindu Temple Society of North America have welcomed the visit of Senior Officials for planning the project. It had also been informed that they would meet the cost in this regard. It would be desirable if the Commissioner, Endowments Department may make it convenient to visit New York preferably with the Executive Officer, T.T.Devasthanams for finalising the details. It is accordingly recommended to the Commissioner, for obtaining necessary approval of the Government.

(sd.) A . Valliappan,  
Collector.

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