

Copy of D.O. No. 1793, dated 23-10-46 with its enclosures from file
No. 7323 of 2003. S. No. 247, page 1 to 18 only.



No. 1793

Patiala,
Dated 23-10-46.

My dear Smti Sanib,

Please refer to your D.O. letter No. 1876/M

Dated 23-10-1946.

I am sending herewith the statement showing
the powers exercised and functions performed
by Deochi Mulla Department in regard to the
control of Qardwaras, Deras and other
Charitable Institutions in the State.

Yours sincerely,

Sa/X

Smti Sardar Jaidev Singhji,
Private Secretary to His Highness
Sri Maharajahiraj Mahendra
Bahadurji, Patiala.

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY.

Brijji
Archives,
Patiala.

Powers exercised in regard to the
Control of Gurdwaras in the State.



1. By Virtue of the powers invested vide Farmani-i-Shahi dated 18th April, 1921, (copy attached) Sardar Sahib Deochi Mulla is competent to recommend appointments & dismissals of a Mahant or a Mottmin of Religious Institutions in the State. Thus the question of all Religious Institutions belonging to different communities is kept by the Ruler in his own hands and the management of Religious Institutions is made through Sardar Sahib Deochi Mulla, who carries out and conveys His Highness' Gracious Commands.

2. Vice Rozmacha Commands dated D-7-2000, (copy attached) Sardar Sahib Deochi Mulla, is further empowered by His Highness Shri JBS Maharajachiraj Mahendra Bahadurji, that no Mahant, Mutwali or Pujari is competent in his own capacity, for leasing out lands and renting shops for any period what-so-ever without the sanction of Sardar Sahib Deochi Mulla.

3. Where-ever the legal claimant or a suitable Mahant or Mottmin is not found, the management of the place is taken under direct control of the Deochi Mulla Department, through a Manager or the local Committee,

Proposals of the District Authorities are also considered while local Committees are appointed.

Signature

Functions.

Whenever any Montmin is found to be a man of immoral character, un-educated, physically unfit to perform the legitimate duties, or any such sort of complaint, immediate temporary action is taken, and the facts are enquired into through Officers of this Department or through the District Authorities and necessary action is taken by this Department for permanent management on the basis of material thus supplied, which are submitted to His Highness for necessary Commands.

The appointment of local Committees and Managers are also made after thorough enquiries by the Deodhi Department, where the management is found to be defective or no suitable man of the Bakh is found.

From the date of the issue of Farsan-i-Shahi 1921, the appointment of all the Montmins of the Religious Institutions which enjoy Muafi and Bhandar from the State are sanctioned by Ijlas-i-Khas on the recommendations of the Sarfar Sahib Deodhi Mualla, and the Bhandar to such Religious Institution is provided in the Budget of Deodhi Mualla Department and is paid to the Montmin direct by the Treasury Offices on P.P.O. system.

On the sudden death of any Mahant of any important Institution, this Department controls the management of the place till a capable man of the said Bakh is appointed as Mahant.

Regard is also kept to the wishes of the people and the Bakh to which the Institution belongs.

The most important function of this Department is to see if the terms of the Muafi are carried out rightly.

Repairs of the Religious Institution where necessary.

When a Mahant is appointed, this Department honours the Mahant on behalf of His Highness Sri JBS Maharajachiraj Mahendra Bahadur by sending Dastar Doshala if one according to sarishta.

The arrangement of all the festivals, Gurpurbs and Uvans etc., in the Institutions under the direct control of the Deodhi Department.....



If complaints are received regarding those Institutions which do not enjoy Muzil or Bandhan from the State, then Deochi Mualia Department takes necessary action in the matter in consultation with the District Authorities to safe-guard the sanctity of the Shrine.

It has become quite common now that some undesirable elements are backed up by the Revenue petty Officers infringing the 2nd clause of Farman-i-Shahi dated 18th April, 1921.

It is unfortunate that the Tehsil-dars and even District Nazims when pressed by this Department to set things right they rather on the contrary encourage such hostile elements to continue their nefarious activities. In number of cases it has been found that the officials as well as their subordinates in the Districts and Tehsils treat the Gracious Commands too lightly, with the result that the administration of charitable Institutions have gone from bad to worse. One of the chief factor for this attitude on the part of State Officials is that they think themselves as independent entities from the Ruler at whose pleasure they hold Office.

This state of affairs has cropped up only within the last few years although the position of Sardar Sanib, Deochi Mualia is the same towards the Religious Institutions as that of Secretary Ijlas-i-Khas in the matter of conveying Gracious Commands, which the latter obtains regarding the State Departments.

CERTIFIED

Sanib
Addl. Secy. of Revenue,
Punjab, 1921.