CHAPTER - III

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS
The educational policies and administrative machinery at Central and State levels are explained in the previous chapter. The present chapter deals with the general aspects of the T.T.D. administration.

This chapter is divided into three parts dealing with (1) the administration of T.T.D. from the earliest times up to the period of the British rule (2) the administration of the T.T.D. temples under the various Acts of the State Government and their related functions and (3) the appointment of various officers-their powers and functions.

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The temples of Tirumala and Tirupati are the most prominent among the South Indian temples. They have been well known from ancient times. In Mahabharatha Lord Krishna mentioned that he was giving up the present human form to take the form of an Idol on the Hills of Vengadam\(^1\). The earliest reference about Vengadam is available in ancient Sangam literature of 2nd century B.C. particularly in the Tamil classical work namely 'Tolkappiam'\(^2\)

The earliest political history of this Vengadam was connected with the Satavahanas who were the feudatories of the Mauryan dynasty. The 'Nasik inscription' clearly declares that this area was under the complete control of

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\(^1\) The word "Vengadam" is considered the holiest hill of Vishnu Kshetrams in India, i.e. Tirumala Hills.

Gautamiputra Satakarni, the eminent ruler of that Satavahana dynasty. After Satavahanas, Vengadam was ruled by a local chieftain, by name, Pulli. According to local sources he was the person who erected a small temple over the Idol of Lord Venkateswara and arranged for pujas.

3.1.1 Pallava Period (3rd Century to 9th Century A.D.)

After the Satavahanas the Pallavas of Kanchi established their authority over this region. From this time onwards the Vengadam area was known as 'Thondamandalam'. The actual history of Tirumala Temple starts only with the Pallavas. The pallavas constructed the present temple complex of Tirumala and covered the Sikhara with gold plates. It is learnt that the people began to visit the temple regularly from this period only.

References are available in the earlier inscriptions to the administrative set up of this temple. A close study of the T.T.D. inscriptions would reveal that there was an assembly called Sabha at Tiruchanur (3 km. from Tirupati) during the early Pallava period. This Sabha was looking after political, administrative and religious functions on behalf of the king. This body acted as a custodian of

4 Sitapati, P., Sri Venkateswara, the Lord of the Seven Hills, Tirupati: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 1977, p.86.
the temple for the proper execution of the different endowments, charities, etc., instituted by different donors.\textsuperscript{7}

3.1.2 Chola Period (9th century to 13th century A.D.)

After the Pallavas the Cholas of Tanjore extended royal patronage to these temples. There are 31 inscriptions belonging to the various rulers of the Chola dynasty which record the gifts made to the temples, the introduction of festivals and imposition of several rules and regulations for the conduct of the administration\textsuperscript{8}.

In between the Pallavas and the Cholas the Pandyas also patronised the temple of Lord Venkateswara and added some structures to the temple complex. In the same manner the Telugu pallavas, Yadavarayas who were the chieftains under the pallavas and cholas held this region for a shortwhile, worshipped the Lord and made provision for different endowments. There are about 75 inscriptions at Tirumala and Tirupati belonging to the above dynasties.\textsuperscript{9}

3.1.3 Vijayanagara Period (1336 to 1672 A.D.)

Vijayanagara rulers ruled south India from 1336 to 1672 A.D with their fortunes fluctuating from time to time. Among the Vijayanagara rulers the Saluva Narasimha, Srikrishna devaraya and his queens made several gifts and


\textsuperscript{8} Ibid, Ins. No.12 to 42.

\textsuperscript{9} Ibid, Ins. 43 to 117.
endowments to the Lord of the Seven Hills. In general, the Vijayanagara rulers took a great deal of interest in the proper administration of temples and they intervened in the temple affairs, whenever necessary.\(^{10}\) During this period there was one officer, called 'Sthanattar' or Trustee who received gifts and endowments offered to the temple.\(^{11}\)

After Vijayanagara rulers Matla family showed a lot of interest in the Tirumala temple. Matla Kumara Anantharaya was the last Hindu benefactor of the temple. He made gifts of vehicles and ornaments to the temple of Lord Venkateswara.\(^{12}\) He was the person who constructed a foot-path from Alipiri to Tirumala with number of rest houses and gopuras at intervals.

3.1.4 Tirumala during Muslim Rule (1650 A.D. to 1800 A.D.)

By 1650 A.D. South India came under the Muslim rule. An air of insecurity and uncertainty was created during this period. Lala Khemaram, the Rajput General of Nawab Sadat-ulla-Khan (1710-1732), acted as a protector of the Tirumala temple. He had the title of 'Todaramal' (proficient fighter). There are images of Todaramal, his mother and his wife in the temple complex commemorating his services to the temple.

After the Rajputs the Marathas seem to have controlled the temple for a certain period and introduced certain reforms. The records indicating those

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\(^{10}\) Ibid., Vol.III p.158.


\(^{12}\) Ibid., p.7.
reforms were written in Modi script and preserved. Most of the nomenclatures used in the temple today were introduced by the Maratha rulers.

From 1746 to 1751 A.D. the Tirumala-Tirupati area came under the control of the French. During this period the income and the pilgrim traffic to the temple increased\textsuperscript{13}. The rulers of Mysore, namely, Hyder Ali and his son Tippu Sultan extended their patronage to the Tirumala temple. Azim-u-Doula, Nawab of Arcot, surrendered the Karnataka region to the British East India Company in 1801. As a result Tirumala and Tirupati, which were then in the Karnataka region, came under the control of the East India Company.\textsuperscript{14}

3.1.5. During the Period of East India Company (1801-1843 A.D)

The East India Company took over the management of the temples at Tirumala and Tirupati from the Nawab of Arcot in 1801. These temples were under the direct control of the Company from 1801 to 1843. During this period the Company prepared the 'Kainkarya Patti' laying down the duties and emoluments of different classes of functionaries and servants in the temple.\textsuperscript{15}

The Company also prepared a code of rules called 'Bruce Code' for the efficient administration of these temples. According to the provisions of this code, the District Collector of North Arcot with his headquarters at Chittoor was

\textsuperscript{13} Ibid., p.8.


empowered to supervise and control the entire staff of the temple as an ex-officio agent of the Government. The British Government enacted the Regulation VII of 1817 for the Presidency of Madras for the purpose of regulating the administration of temples, religious endowments and mosques. According to this Regulation the supervision of Charitable and Religious Trusts was vested in the Board of Revenue. During this period care was taken for the collection of money and other gifts from the pilgrims to increase the income of the temple.

3.1.6 Temple Administration during the Period of the Mahants of Hatheeramji Mutt, Tirupati (1843-1933 A.D.)

In 1842 some members of the House of Commons in the British Parliament demanded that the British Government in India observe a strict policy of non-intervention in the religious matters of India. As a result, in 1843, the administration of Tirumala and Tirupati temples was handed over to the Mahant of the Hatheeramji Mutt and a 'Sannad' (decree) was issued to that effect. From then onwards the Mahants acted as 'Vicharanakartha' (manager) for these temples and were vested with all the powers of the administration hitherto exercised by the company. During the Mahants

16 Ramesan, N., op.cit., p.487.
20 It is an organisation founded by Sri Swami Hatheeramji a great saint who came from northern India to Tirumala with a large number of disciples.
21 Krishnaswamy, T., op. cit. p.135.
management, the income of these temples increased gradually and it touched Rs.11 lakhs in the year 1930. But in course of time their administration proved to be ineffective and allowed scope for many abuses like misuse of temple funds and misappropriation of the temple-property.

3.2 ADMINISTRATION OF TEMPLES UNDER THE STATE GOVERNMENT

In order to prevent the mismanagement of temple funds and property the Government of Madras Presidency during the British rule enacted a number of Acts for the better administration of temples including those of Tirumala and Tirupati. After Independence the then composite Madras State and the State of Andhra Pradesh, after its formation in 1956, have enacted several Acts for the better administration of the Hindu religious institutions in the entire State. The important features of some of the Acts are given below:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Year of the Act</th>
<th>Important features</th>
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| 1.    | Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act I of 1925 | Constituted the Hindu Religious Endowments Board with a president and 4 members nominated by the government for a term of 5 years to supervise and control the administration of temples and mutts in the whole Madras Presidency as a statutory body, with temple committees in each district.  
|   | Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act II of 1927 | a. Classified temples into 1. temples administered by hereditary trustees and 2. temples administered by non-hereditary trustees. Temple committees were empowered to exercise supervision on trustees of non-hereditary temples.  
b. Hindu Religious Endowments Board was empowered to exercise certain specified powers of supervision and administration over the Tirumala-Tirupati Temples.  
|---|---|---|
|   | Separate Act for Tirumala Tirupati Temples - 1932 | a. Tirumala, Tirupati temples designated as Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (T.T.D)  
b. A Board was constituted with seven members which include the Mahanth also and was called the "Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams committee," for a period of three years vested with all powers including the power to appoint and punish officers of T.T.D.  
c. A full time officer designated as commissioner who will be appointed by the government for a period of three years to assist the committee which delegates its powers to him  
d. Constituted an advisory council with the service holders in the temple.  
|   | Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act of 1951 | a. The full time Officer hitherto called Commissioner is redesignated as Executive Officer with all executive powers.  

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23 Ibid, pp.8.9.

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<td>b.</td>
<td>The T.T.D. Committee redesignated as Board of Trustees, reduced to a mere policy making body - The members reduced from seven to five but the tenure increased from three to Five years.</td>
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<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>Constituted the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department with a commissioner with head-quarters at Madras to deal with the administration of all religious endowments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>Increased the number of members of the T.T.D. Board of Trustees from Five to Eleven. The tenure is again reduced from five to three years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>Created the post of Deputy Executive Officer to assist the Executive Officer of T.T.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>The T.T.D Act No.20 of 1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>Increased the number of members of the Trust Board from Eleven to thirteen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>Constituted a Five-member Management committee with the chairman of the T.T.D. Board, Commissioner of Endowments, Executive Officer of T.T.D and two members of the Board nominated by the government. This committee was empowered to exercise the general superintendence and control over the administration of T.T.D. in conformity with the policy laid down by the Board.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

25 Rajasikhamani, V., op. cit. p.22


27 Ibid, Section 87.

28 T.T.D. Act No. 20 of 1979 Section 4 and 9

29 Ibid, section 6

30 Ibid, Section 7
|   |   | c. Posts of Joint Executive Officer, Financial Advisor and Chief Accounts Officer are created and appointed by the government with a 3 year tenure. Special Grade Duputy Executive Officer post, a higher post for T.T.D Officers, is created on promotion  

| 7. | A.P. Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowments Act No 30 of 1987 | This is the latest Act under implementation. The provisions of this Act are discussed hereunder in detail. |

A.P. Endowments Act No. 30 of 1987

After due consideration of the deficiencies of the earlier Act No. 20 of 1979 the Government of Andhra Pradesh has enacted Act No. 30 in the year 1987. The Chapter XIV of this Act relates exclusively to the constitution, administration and governance of the T.T.D.

The set up of the top management of T.T.D under the provisions of the Act No. 30 of 1987 is as follows:

Government of A.P  
(ministry of Endowments)  
↓  
Endowment Commissioner  
↓  
T.T.D Board of Trustees  
↓  
Executive Officer.

31 Ibid, Section 17(1)
The management, administration and organisation of T.T.D. is subject to the guidelines issued by the Government through the Ministry of Endowments from time to time. The Government controls the T.T.D. through the constitution of the Board of Trustees, and the appointment of the Executive Officer and other officers on deputation.

The Commissioner of Endowments is a State level officer appointed by the Government from the officers not lower in rank than a District Collector in any other service in the State\textsuperscript{32}. The administration of all Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowments including T.T.D. shall be under the general superintendence and control of the Commissioner\textsuperscript{33}

3.2.1 T.T.D. BOARD OF TRUSTEES

As per the Act there is a separate Board of Trustees for the administration of T.T.D. consisting of not more than thirteen members including the chairman to be appointed by the Government, of whom-

1. The Commissioner shall be a member Ex-Officio,
2. The Executive Officer shall be the member Secretary, ex-officio,
3. One person shall belong to the scheduled caste and one woman member shall be chosen to represent women.

\textsuperscript{32} A.P. Endowments Act No 30 of 1987, Section 4

\textsuperscript{33} Ibid. Section 8
The persons appointed as members of the Board of Trustees shall be persons 'Professing Hindu Religion'.

The Board of Trustees may constitute as many special committees as it may consider necessary for the examination of any subject or proposal and can give its recommendations. Such recommendations of the Sub-committees shall be placed before the Board of Trustees for consideration and decision.

3.2.1.1 Powers and Functions of the Board of Trustees

The entire administration of T.T.D. is mainly vested in the Board of Trustees. The following are the powers and functions of the Board of Trustees of T.T.D.:

1) The Board of Trustees shall manage the property, funds and affairs of T.T.D. and arrange for the conduct of the daily worship and ceremonies and of the festivals in every temple according to its custom and usage.

2) The Board of Trustees shall have power to fix fees for the performance of archana and of any service or ritual or Utsavam or ceremonies connected with the T.T.D.

3) The Board of Trustees shall have power to call for such information and accounts as may, in its opinion, be necessary for reasonably satisfying

34 Ibid Section 96

itself that T.T.D. is properly maintained, the endowments thereof are properly administered and their funds are duly appropriated for the purposes for which they were founded and the Executive Officer or other officers in possession of such information shall on such requisition furnish such information to the Board of Trustees.

4) The Board of Trustees shall exercise the general superintendence and control over the administration of T.T.D.

5) The Board of Trustees shall fix the 'Dittam' in the Temples specified in the First schedule and the endowments attached thereto and the amounts to be spent therefor in such manner and after following such procedure as may be prescribed.

6) The Board of Trustees may, subject to such conditions and restrictions as it may lay down, delegate to the Executive Officer such of the powers conferred on it by or under this Act, as it may consider necessary.  

The Board of Trustees in accordance with the Act of 30 of 1987 can take policy decisions regarding the facilities to be provided to the pilgrims, devotees, worshippers, resorting to T.T.D.

36 'Dittam' means the schedule of articles and other requirements of worship for food offerings for Deity.

37 Endowments Act No.30 of 1987, Section 97.
3.2.1.2 Term of Office and Allowance of the Board of Trustees

The Chairman and any other member of the Board of Trustees other than the Ex-Officio member shall hold office for a period of three years from the date of appointment by the Government. The tenure of the Board is reduced, in 1990, to two years by amending Section 99 of the principal Act. The Chairman or members are not eligible for drawing any salary or other remuneration from the funds of T.T.D. except such honorarium or compensatory allowance or travelling allowance as may be prescribed from time to time.

3.2.1.3 Dissolution of the Board of Trustees

The Government may dissolve the Board of Trustees on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Endowments, if the Government concludes that the Board of Trustees has failed to perform its functions or has exceeded or abused any of the powers conferred upon it.

3.2.1.4 Specified Authority

In this context, the Act provided a separate provision for the appointment of specified authority to discharge the powers of the Board of Trustees on any of the following conditions:

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38 Ibid., Section 99.


40 Endowments Act No. 30 of 1987, section 105
1. Where the Board of Trustees have ceased to function after the expiry of its term.

2. Where the Board of Trustees has been dissolved under section 135 for failure to perform its functions or exceeding or abusing the powers. It may function for a period not exceeding one year.\textsuperscript{41}

The powers and functions of the Board of Trustees under the above circumstances are exercised by the Commissioner of Endowments and Executive Officer of T.T.D. as members of the specified authority until the Board of Trustees is reconstituted in accordance with the provisions of the Act of 1987 by the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

3.2.2 THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Executive Officer of T.T.D. shall be appointed by the Government from the rank of a District Collector or a post not lower in rank than that of a District Collector in any other service in the State Government.\textsuperscript{42} The cadre of the Executive Officer is raised to that of the Regional Joint Commissioner, or Deputy Commissioner or an Assistant Commissioner.\textsuperscript{43} He holds office for a term of three years and is eligible for reappointment for another term\textsuperscript{44}

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\textsuperscript{41} Ibid., Section 137.

\textsuperscript{42} Endowments Act NO.30 of 1987, Section 107 and subsection (i)


\textsuperscript{44} Endowments Act No. 30 of 1987 Section 108 and sub-section (i)
3.2.1 Powers and Functions of Executive Officer

1. He shall be the Chief Administrative Officer of T.T.D. and shall, subject to the guidance and control of the Board of Trustees, have general power to carry out the other provisions of this Act.

2. He shall be responsible for the proper maintenance and custody of the records and property of T.T.D. and shall arrange for the proper collection of the offerings.

3. For the smooth and effective functioning of the administration, he may delegate any of his powers and functions to any of the officers working under his jurisdiction as deem fit.

4. He shall have the power to suspend any of the office-holders and servants of T.T.D.

5. He shall fix the wages of all employees of Devasthanams other than those on time scale of pay.

6. He shall have power to issue orders to regulate pilgrims for Darshan in all the temples managed by T.T.D.

7. He shall be responsible to preserve the security, religious and holy environment at Tirumala and to issue any order to preserve the sanctity and environment of the temple.45

8. He may in case of emergency direct the execution of any work, which is not provided for in the budget for the year. He can exercise such

extraordinary power for the preservation of the property of T.T.D. or for the service or safety of the pilgrims visiting the T.T.D. temples. However, he shall forthwith report the matter to the Board of Trustees.\textsuperscript{46}

9. In addition to this, he shall also exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as prescribed by the Government from time to time.

10. He may withhold the implementation of the decisions of the Board of Trustees and refer such decisions to the Government on the following grounds:

a. If the decisions are not in accordance with law.

b. If they are in excess or abuse of the powers conferred on it by or under the Act or by any other law,

c. If their implementation is likely to cause financial loss, danger to human life, health or safety, or likely to lead to a riot or breach of peace.\textsuperscript{47}

3.2.3 FUNCTIONS OF T.T.D.

The Hindu Religious Endowments Commission (1960-62) constituted by the Government of India under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar recommended various functions for the utilization of surplus funds. The Commission in its report divided the objects and purposes of religious

\textsuperscript{46}Endowments Act No. 30 of 1987, Section 110.

\textsuperscript{47}G.O.Ms.No.311, Op.Cit. Chapter-I Rule 13 Sub-section (3) p.4
institutions into two categories, viz., obligatory and optional.\textsuperscript{48} Based on this report, the A.P. Endowments Acts from 1966 onwards mentioned the utilization of T.T.D. funds.

According to the provisions of the Chapter XIV of the Act No. 30 of 1987 the T.T.D. funds are to be spent for the following purposes:

1. The maintenance, management and administration of the temples.
2. The maintenance, management and administration of the educational or other institutions.
3. Propagation, promotion and popularisation of the study of Vedas, Hindu religion, philosophy, Indian languages including Sanskrit, Sculpture, Hindu temple architecture and epigraphy.
4. Training of Archakas to perform religious worship and ceremonies and the training of Adhyapakas and Vedaparayanikas.
5. Construction and maintenance of choultries and rest houses for the accommodation of the pilgrims.
6. Provision of water supply and other sanitary arrangements for the pilgrims and worshippers.
7. Establishment and maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries for the relief of the pilgrims.
8. Construction and maintenance of roads and communications and the lighting there of for the convenience of the pilgrims.

9. Acquisition of any land or other immovable property for the purposes of T.T.D. with the permission of the Government.

10. Establishment and maintenance of a dairy farm and a veterinary hospital for the animals of T.T.D.

11. Any work or undertaking for the purpose of T.T.D. authorized by the Government, and

12. Any other religious or charitable purpose connected with or incidental to T.T.D.

Provision is also made to contribute every year towards the maintenance of Sri Venkateswara University out of the T.T.D. funds.49

3.3 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS IN T.T.D. AND THEIR POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

T.T.D. is having a separate set up of administration with several officers under the control of the Executive Officer. The powers and functions of various officers in T.T.D. are explained with the help of chart III-1

The T.T.D. administration, appointment of officers, their powers and functions, tenure of office and other service conditions are governed by the Act No.30 of 1987 "Charitable and Hindu Religious Institutions and Endowments" of the State of A.P.

49 Endowments Act No.30 of 1987, Section 111
CHART III

ADMINISTRATIVE SET UP OF THE OFFICE OF
THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

TIRUPATI

Deputy E.O.
Department
Deputy E.O.
Local
General
Deputy E.O.
Parakamani
Reception
Officer
I (A.E.O.)

Reception
Officer
II (A.E.O.)

Reception
Officer
III (A.E.O.)

Kalyanasette
Health
Officer

Superintendent
Garden

Canteen

HGRS

D.E.O.

(Secretary)

TIRUMALA

Deputy
E.O.

Reception
Temple

Supt.

Supt.

Supt.

Engineer

Engineer

Engineer

Outside

Works

Executive

Executive

Executive

Executive

Executive

Executive

Executive

Executive

Executive

Executive

Executive

Executive

Engineer

Engineer

Engineer

Engineer

Engineer

Engineer

Engineer

Engineer

Engineer

Tirumala

Tirumala

Tirupati

IV

V

VI

VII

VIII

IX

Hyderabad

Drainage

Delhi

Works

Tirupati

Editor

Press

Manager

Senior

General

Manager

Transport

Officer

Marketing

Officer

Public

Relations

Officer

Welfare

Officer

Audit

Officer

Conservator

of Forests

Chief

Security &
Vigilance
Officer

Chief

Grade
Deputy
Executive
Officer

Special
Grade
Deputy
Executive
Officer

Joint
Executive
C.A.O.
The various other officers appointed for T.T.D. by the Government of A.P. under the provisions of this Act are:

1. Joint Executive Officer,
2. Special Grade Deputy Executive Officer,
3. The F.A. & C.A.O.,
4. Chief Engineer,
5. Chief Security Officer and
6. Any other officer.

They should fulfil the following conditions:

1. They shall be persons professing Hindu religion.

2. They shall be whole time officers of T.T.D. and shall not undertake any work unconnected with their offices without the prior permission of the Board of Trustees and

3. The salaries of all the officers appointed by the Government for the T.T.D. shall be paid out of the funds of T.T.D. The Executive Officer is the appointing authority in respect of all other posts in T.T.D. All service rules applicable to the Government employees of A.P. are applicable to the T.T.D. employees also.

50 Ibid., Section 106.
51 G.O.Ms.No.925 Revenue (Endowments-III)Dept., dt.18-6-1983.
3.3.1 Joint Executive Officer

The Joint Executive Officer is also appointed by the Government of A.P.\textsuperscript{52} on deputation from the cadre of Joint District Collector or a post not lower in rank than that of a Joint District Collector in any other service in the State\textsuperscript{53} to assist the Executive Officer in the administration. The tenure of office is three years with eligibility for another term.\textsuperscript{54} He will discharge his duties and functions as per the powers delegated to him by the Executive Officer from time to time. The various departments and sections of T.T.D. under his control in 1993 are shown in the chart III-1. Besides, all important files of other departments including education section also are generally routed through the Joint Executive Officer for final decision.

3.3.2 Financial Advisor and Chief Accounts Officer (F.A. & C.A.O.)

The T.T.D. is one of the richest religious organisations in India getting huge funds in the form of gifts, donations and kanukkas from the devotees and its annual income increased to Rs.150 crores by 1993. With the growing financial status year after year, it became necessary to appoint a Financial Advisor and Chief Accounts Officer to look after the finances and accounts of the T.T.D. This post was created in 1983. The F.A. & C.A.O. works under the direct control of the Executive Officer. The Chief Accounts Officer, other Accounts Officers and Audit Officers work under the control of F.A. & C.A.O. According to the provisions of

\textsuperscript{52} A.P. Endowments Act No.30 of 1987 Section 106.

\textsuperscript{53} Ibid Section 107, Sub-Section(2)

\textsuperscript{54} Ibid Section 108.
the Act he is appointed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. A person to be appointed as F.A. & C.A.O. shall be:

1. A person having experience of not less than five years in Indian Audit & Accounts Service or its equivalent experience in other service.

2. A person having experience of not less than five years as Head of a Department or in a post equal to or higher than that of a Deputy Secretary in the Finance Department of the State Government or equivalent experience in any other equivalent post.

3. A person having experience as a Chartered Accountant for at least ten years.

The post may be filled on deputation from the State Government or Government of India or appointed on a contract basis for a period of three years.  

Powers and Functions of F.A. & C.A.O.

F.A. & C.A.O. will discharge the following functions:

1. He is responsible for keeping regular accounts of all the receipts and disbursements separately for each financial year as laid down in the T.T.D. Manual of Accounts.

2. He is the Pay and Accounts Officer and cheque drawing and disbursing officer.

3. He shall be responsible for the preparation of annual budget and for spending the appropriation of the annual budget under each head properly. He shall be consulted by the Executive Officer on all matters regarding the expenditure in the T.T.D.

4. It shall be the duty of the F.A. & C.A.O. and his subordinates to produce all the records to the Audit for verification and to rectify the omissions and objections raised by the Audit.

5. The F.A. & C.A.O. shall also conduct a physical verification annually of all valuable properties of T.T.D., such as temple jewellery, vessels, vahansams, furniture etc., 56

3.3.3 Special Grade Deputy Executive Officer

In Section 106 of Act No.30 of 1987 provision was made for the appointment of a Special Grade Deputy Executive Officer. A person who has held the post of a Deputy Executive Officer in T.T.D. for a period not less than 5 years will be appointed as Special Grade Deputy Executive Officer. He will discharge his duties as per the powers delegated to him by the Executive Officer, T.T.D. from time to time. The various departments/sections under his control are shown in chart.III-1.

3.3.4 Deputy Executive Officer and Assistant Executive Officer

In addition to the Special Grade Deputy Executive Officer, there are 10 other Deputy Executive Officers in T.T.D. working at Tirumala and Tirupati. Out of them 9 posts are filled through promotion from the cadre of the Assistant Executive Officer with not less than 5 years of service in the cadre and the remaining one post is filled up by loan of service from the State Government not below the rank of a Deputy Collector of the Civil Services or Deputy Commissioner from Endowments Administrative Service.57

Below the Deputy Executive Officer comes the Assistant Executive Officer in the hierarchy of the T.T.D. administration. This post is only by promotion from the cadre of the superintendent in the T.T.D. service with not less than 5 years. In 1993 there were 35 Assistant Executive Officers working in different departments/sections of T.T.D. Most of the Deputy Executive Officers work either under the control of the Joint Executive Officer or the Special Grade Duputy Executive Officer as shown in the chart.III-1. Some of the Assistant Executive Officers work under the control of a Deputy Executive Officer and some others directly under the control of the Joint Executive Officer or the Special Grade Deputy Executive Officer depending upon the nature and volume of work.

3.3.5 Chief Engineer

T.T.D. is having its own engineering department headed by a Chief Engineer on deputation from State Government Service or by promotion from

57 G.O.Ms.No.1060 Revenue (End-1) dated 24-10-1989, p.35
the cadre of Superintending Engineer with not less than three years of service in T.T.D.\textsuperscript{58} There are nearly 1700 employees in the department.

The Engineering Department of T.T.D. undertakes all engineering works such as construction of buildings, choultries, marriage halls etc., laying roads, water supply, electrical works, maintenance works, and renovation of temples. In addition to these works, with a view to improving the sanitary condition of Tirupati, the State Government has entrusted the underground drainage scheme to T.T.D\textsuperscript{59}. For the execution of these works there are three Superintending Engineers for Tirumala, Tirupati and outside works. The engineering department of T.T.D. has been divided into nine divisions each headed by an Executive Engineer. Executive Engineers are under the control of a Superintending Engineer. Each division is further divided into sub divisions for works at different places and they are headed by Deputy Executive Engineers. These subdivisional heads are assisted by an Asst. Executive Engineer and an Asst. Engineer and other supporting staff.

3.3.6 Devasthanam Law Officer

T.T.D. has several pieces of immovable property such as buildings, lands etc. throughout India donated by the devotees. The Management is facing a number of legal complications at the time of taking possession of certain items of property. In addition to this, there are several anomalies in the service matters of the T.T.D. employees for which the employees have been going to

\textsuperscript{58} Ibid., Rule No. 8, p.4.

\textsuperscript{59} G.O.Ms.No.294 Revenue (Endts -III) Dept date.26-3-1985
courts of law against the Management. To look after the legal matters of T.T.D. a separate section has been functioning headed by Devasthanam Law Officer, of Sub-Judge rank, deputed from the Government Judicial Service or a retired person on contract.

3.3.7 Conservator of Forests

An area consisting of 2,675 hectares of Forest land around the Tirumala Temple was handed over to the T.T.D. by the State Government in 1965.\(^6^0\) To look after this area T.T.D.-is maintaining a Forest Department headed by an officer on deputation from the Government in the cadre of the Conservator of Forests. Several other Forest Officers of different cadres in this department are also deputed from Government to work under the control of the Conservator of Forests.

T.T.D. is spending a lot of money for the implementation of bio-aesthetic plan to rebuild the lost ecosystem and provide a good and healthy environment to the pilgrims. Tree planting and the protection of the T.T.D. forests are the main functions of this department.\(^6^1\)

3.3.8 Vigilance and Security Officer

The annual income and expenditure of the T.T.D. run to hundreds of crores of rupees creating ample scope for exploitation and temptation for committing thefts and other kinds of malpractices. To prevent such activities the

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\(^6^0\) G.O.Ms.No 1784, Revenue (G) Department, Government of A.P. of dt. 4-11-1965.

Management is maintaining a vigilance and security department headed by a Chief Security and Vigilance Officer appointed by the Government on deputation from the rank of the Superintendent of Police. He is assisted by two Vigilance and Security Officers in the cadre of the Additional Superintendent of Police along with two Assistant Vigilance and Security Officers and several Vigilance Inspectors.

The following are the functions of this Department:

1. To provide security and maintain law and order for the smooth functioning of the temples, choultries and other institutions under the control of T.T.D.

2. To protect the property of the institution and to detect malpractice cases in various departments of the T.T.D.

3. To help the pilgrims to be free from the exploitation of the unscrupulous elements and also to give protection.

4. To investigate petitions containing allegations and also to keep a watch over the activities of the employees. and

5. To keep the sanctity of the Seven Hills by ensuring that forbidden foodstuffs, such as mutton and eggs and prohibited liquor are not sold or used.
3.3.9 Audit Officer

In a big public organisation like T.T.D. the role of audit is very important as it is an instrument of financial control. The audit acts as a watch-dog as it helps to check extravagance, carelessness and fraud in financial transactions and enhances the quality of accounting. It also ensures the expenditure to be incurred with due regularity and propriety.\(^{62}\)

There are two branches in the audit department of T.T.D., the pre-audit and the post-audit, headed by separate audit officers of Government. Nearly 100 Auditors are working under the control of Audit officer. In the pre-audit all the bills pertaining to monthly salaries, pay fixation etc., are passed. In the post audit there is a separate team of auditors who would undertake the audit of the accounts of all the T.T.D. institutions periodically. Besides, there is a separate audit wing for passing engineering bills which is headed by a separate Audit Officer.

3.3.10 Welfare Officer

T.T.D. has become a complex organisation with 12,924 employees working in several departments, sections and institutions. To look after the welfare of employees and to function as a liaison between the employees and the Management, there is a welfare department headed by a Welfare Officer.\(^{63}\) He will take the problems of the employees to the notice of the Management and

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\(^{62}\) 'An Introduction to Indian Government Accounts and Audit', Published by Govt.of A.P.1977 pp.3-4

make the Management take proper steps to solve them. Facilities are provided for the employees to organise sports and cultural activities through this department. The Management has introduced the "Welfare Fund" scheme for the employees through their contribution towards their retirement benefits. The Welfare Officer has the responsibility of ensuring the proper maintenance of this scheme.\textsuperscript{64}

### 3.3.11 Public Relations Officer

T.T.D. has a separate Public Relations Officer appointed either on loan of service from the Public Relations Department of A.P. Government in the cadre of Deputy Director or by direct recruitment or by promotion from the cadre of Assistant Executive Officer.\textsuperscript{65}

He serves as liaison between the public and the T.T.D. using the modern channels of publicity. The following are the functions of Public Relations Officer:

1. Maintenance of public relations with the pilgrims and the press.
2. Co-ordination and control of the work of the Editor, the Broadcasting section and the Photographic section.
5. Attending to all advertisement work relating to the T.T.D. institutions and departments.

\textsuperscript{64} T.T.D. Administration Report 1987-88 p.115  
6. Enquiry into all complaints from the pilgrims.

7. All press releases and supervision of the printing and publication of the Sapthagiri journal and other T.T.D. publications.

8. Convening of expert committee meetings for the purpose of granting aid to authors of religious books.

9. Serving liaison with other departments like A.P.S.R.T.C., Air India, Railways, Doordarshan (T.V.) and provides up-to-date information about the activities of T.T.D. and

10. Arranging photographic coverage of the festivals and functions of T.T.D.

3.3.12 Marketing Officer

T.T.D has a number of Temples under its control and there is free distribution of food offerings in the form of prasadam to the visiting devotees daily. The Management is also maintaining a separate canteen complex at Tirumala where free meals are provided to all pilgrims after the Darshan of Lord Venkateswara under the ‘Nithya Annadana scheme’. For all these T.T.D. has to purchase good quality food items such as rice, ghee, pulses and vegetables on a large scale.

In the year 1976 a separate Marketing Department started functioning and a Marketing Officer in the cadre of Duputy Executive Officer was appointed to look after this department. Prior to this all the purchases were made through the T.T.D. Co-operative stores which was wound up subsequently. The

\[66\text{T.T.D Administration Report 1986-87 p.114.}\]
Marketing Officer is also entrusted with the sale of human hair through public auction. This human hair is received from the Kalyanakatta complex of T.T.D. Tirumala, where the devotees offer their tonsure to fulfil their vows to the Lord.

3.3.13 Transport General Manager

Prior to 1944 there was no bus conveyance to Tirumala for pilgrims. In 1944 T.T.D. began to provide transport facility to pilgrims in the newly opened 14 km Ghat road between Tirupati and Tirumala. Initially the facility was provided with only two buses. But in course of time the number of buses and other vehicles increased and T.T.D. had to open a separate department exclusively for the maintenance of vehicles.

In the year 1975 on administrative grounds, the T.T.D. handed over the buses and the two bus stations at Tirumala and Tirupati to the A.P.S.R.T.C. Even after handing over the buses the T.T.D. is maintaining several types of vehicles for the conveyance of the staff, pilgrims, higher officials and for the transport of materials etc.

At present this department is under the control of a General Manager who is on deputation from A.P.S.R.T.C. There are workshops at Tirupati and Tirumala for the proper repair and maintenance of the vehicles.

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67 Sitapati, P., Sri Venkateswara, the Lord of the Seven Hills, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 1977, p. 186.

3.3.14 Senior Medical Officer

T.T.D. is maintaining hospitals and dispensaries at Tirumala, Tirupati and Tiruchanur for the benefit of the pilgrims, employees and the public. One hospital at Tirumala is providing free medical aid to the pilgrims round the clock in three shifts. About 50 Doctors are working in these hospitals under the control of a Senior Medical Officer.

3.3.15 Editor

There is an Editorial wing in T.T.D. headed by an Editor. He is in-charge of the magazine 'SAPTHAGIRI'. The Management has been giving financial assistance to the authors of Hindu religious books. This responsibility has been entrusted to the Editor under the general supervision of the Public Relations Officer. At present the Editorial Section and the Aid to Authors Scheme are under the control of the Editor.

3.3.16 Press Manager

T.T.D. has a modern press for printing and publishing pamphlets, guides and other works dealing with religion as well as pictures of Lord Venkateswara and Sri Padmavathi. The printing work pertaining to all the T.T.D. institutions and yearly Telugu panchangam, diaries and calendars is being carried over by the press. The monthly magazine 'Sapthagiri,' a religious journal in four languages i.e. Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and English is being printed and published by this press every month\textsuperscript{69}. There are 166 employees working in this press under the control of the Press Manager.

\textsuperscript{69} T.T.D.Administration Report 1987-88 p.73
3.3.17 Devasthanam Educational Officer

T.T.D. has entered the field of education by establishing different types of educational institutions to make good use of its surplus funds. In 1988 there are 28 educational institutions under the Management imparting education from primary to research levels.

To look after the proper maintenance and administration of these educational institutions the post of Devasthanam Educational Officer was created in the year 1966.\(^{70}\) He shall be appointed either an deputation from education services of the Government or by direct recruitment or by loan of service from T.T.D. education service. All the 28 educational institutions are under the control of Devasthanam Educational Officer with the powers delegated to him by the Executive Officer from time to time. The Devasthanam Educational Officer also acts as the correspondent of all these educational institutions. As the present study relates to the Educational Administration of T.T.D. more details about the Devasthanam Educational Officer will be furnished in chapter No. IV.

3.3.18 Reception Officers (Dy.E.O/A.E.O)

T.T.D. is maintaining Guest Houses and choultries at Tirumala and Tirupati for providing free or rented accommodation to pilgrims. There are 539 rooms at Tirupati and 932 rooms at Tirumala for providing free accommodation. About 200 furnished rooms at Tirupati and 1345 Cottages at Tirumala are maintained for providing accommodation on rental basis. In addition to this

\(^{70}\) Proc.No.B1-31005/66 Dt 28-4-1966, Commissioner of Endowments Govt. of A.P.
there are 1075 suites reserved for luxury accommodation. To look after accommodation facilities in these guest houses and choultries several employees are working round the clock on shift system. They work under the control of the Deputy Executive Officer (Reception) at Tirumala and Assistant Executive Officer (Reception) at Tirupati.

3.3.19 Health Officer

The Department of Health and Sanitation plays a very important role in T.T.D. This department is maintaining health and sanitation in and around the Tirumala temple and the Tirumala Panchayat. The other institutions of T.T.D., both at Tirumala and Tirupati, are also under the purview of this department. This department is under the control and supervision of a Health Officer taken on deputation from the State Government. There are 2098 employees of different categories ranging from the Senior Sanitary Inspector to the scavenger and the unit worker in this department.

This department is empowered to constantly check up the quality of the food supplied to the pilgrims not only in the T.T.D. canteens but also in the private hotels at Tirumala.

3.3.20 Garden Superintendent

T.T.D. has 260 acres of land spread over Tirumala and Tirupati with beautiful gardens. This department is taking all necessary steps to supply flowers for the decoration of deities daily and on special festival occasions to all temples.
There are 908 employees of different categories working under the direct control of the Garden Superintendent.

3.3.21 Secretary Hindu Dharma Prachara Parishad (H.D.R.S)

The Hindu Dharma Prachara Parishad was established as per the provisions of the Act No. 20 of 1979\textsuperscript{71} with the objective of promotion and popularisation of Hindu Religion. It has been functioning under the control of an officer designated as Secretary. He is in the cadre of Joint Executive Officer if deputed by the Government separately. Otherwise this wing will be under the control of the existing Joint Executive Officer.

It has 23 branch offices spread over South India with its head quarters at Tirupati. There is a governing body constituted of all important Hindu Sects to render their suggestions for propagation of Hinduism. This project is conducting competitions every year in Telugu viz Epic study examination for school children of all high schools, A.P. in the stories from the great epics of Ramayana, Mahabharatha and Bhagavatha and Hindu Dharma. The rankers in this competition are awarded silver dollars and lumpsum amounts for their future studies.\textsuperscript{72}

3.3.22 Estate Officer

The evergrowing assets of T.T.D. are managed and controlled by its Revenue Section which keeps the records of its acquisitions as well as the gifts

\textsuperscript{71} Section 24 of T.T.D. Act No. 20 of 1979.

received. It also deals with the allotment of quarters and house sites to the employees. The Revenue section has two divisions one at Tirumala and the other at Tirupati, under the control of officers of the rank of A.E.O. designated as Devasthanam Revenue Officer (D.R.O). Again their functions are supervised by an Estate Officer, deputed from the Government service of the rank of the Special Grade Deputy Collector of Revenue. The Tirumala panchayat and the office of the basic register cell, which prepares the details of the immovable assets of T.T.D. are also under his control.

3.3.23 Dairy Farm Superintendent

T.T.D. is maintaining a Dairy Farm in 240 acres of land exclusively to supply pure cow’s milk, curd and butter to various temples and institutions of T.T.D. as per ‘Dittam’

It also maintains the temple paraphernalia of animals like elephants, horses and bulls, for the use of different temple functions like Brahmotsavam. There are 122 employees of different cadres working under the direct control of the Superintendent of the Dairy Farm, who is a senior veterinary doctor.

3.3.24 Museum Curator

T.T.D. has established two museums i.e. the Hall of Antiquities at Tirumala and Sri Venkateswara Museum on Temple Art at Tirupati. These two museums are being administered by a section headed by a curator, who is under
the administrative control of a Deputy Executive Officer. There are Guide lecturers working in the institution to guide the visiting public.

A perusal of the above information reveals the extensive character of the T.T.D administration. Obviously, the T.T.D Management has passed through various phases. A growing organisation like T.T.D., in which there are about 12,924 regular employees of various cadres and about 2,000 Non Muster Roll workers, has to confront with a number of problems of personnel management. But surprisingly the Government has not so far realised the need of creating a body of competent and qualified persons to bestow special attention on problems relating to the personnel administration. As mentioned by J. Subramanyam in his doctoral thesis the creation of an independent department of personnel management in the T.T.D. is perhaps the need of the hour. Besides, the T.T.D. has to look after the amenities and safety of the pilgrims too. This aspect also does not appear to have received adequate attention inspite of the evergrowing influx of pilgrims and the enormous increase in their offerings to the Lord. So T.T.D. would do well if a personnel department is created to devote a greater attention to the effective and efficient management of the personnel on the one hand and the pilgrims on the other.

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