

Educational (191 /) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 217

DATED 12-4-1911

[Despatch Abstract.]

Questions in the Lepse Council.

Recording papers connected with
the question asked at the meeting of the
Lepse Council held on the 4th April 1911 regarding
village pial schools.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Duplicate of No. 619
20.5.11

Legislative Department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur R. Ragoonatha Rao Avl.

35
Q. Will the Government be pleased to
state whether they are disposed
to organize village p^ual schools ?

Page 17 2 of the evidence
taken before the Education
Commission.

Page 21 D.O.

Pial schools are those indigenous schools which are held on pials, by the side of houses, or under trees or other places exposed to the public view. Dr. Bradshaw, a former Inspector of Schools, gave the following description of them ^{in his evidence} before the Education Commission of 1883:-

"The instruction given in the pial schools

"is purely elementary; reading fluently

"(without understanding the meaning) any

"manuscript or printed book, prose or

"poetry, writing a fair and running-hand

"on paper or a cadjan leaf, and a know-

"ledge of arithmetic enough to carry on

"the mercantile and agricultural accounts

"of a village, are the aims of these

"schools, and these meet the requirements

"of a village life. The teachers, being

"themselves brought up in such schools

"are in general good readers, writers

"and skilled in the village accounts,

"and are able to train the boys in their own

"style.

"Every pial school is open for nine hours in

"the day, from 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. The

"morning school, from 6 to 8 or 9 A.M.,

"is devoted by the elderly boys to the

"preparation of their previous day's

"lesson, when the beginners write the

"letters of the alphabet or multiplication

"tables on sand. During these hours

"the masters' presence is not necessary,

"the school being watched by the monitor.

"After breakfast, the day-school begins

"at 10 A.M. and closes at 12 or 1 P.M.

"The advanced boys then write a copy set

"by the teacher on paper or cadjan leaf

"while the master attends to his own

"domestic affairs. The busy time of the
 "schools is from 2 to 5 P.M. Then the
 "teacher has to write the lessons in a
 "cadjan book, hear the lessons being
 "repeated, and teach what was written
 "by him in their books. The young and
 "the less advanced boys are given lessons
 "by the monitor. After all the boys
 "have thus had their lessons, they are
 "made to stand in a line before him
 "and the multiplication tables of fraction
 "and integers, or the names of the Tamil
 "years, are then repeated by each boy in
 "his turn. The teacher then prescribes
 "some sort of home exercise, - a problem
 "to be solved orally in the case of
 "advanced students."

2. These schools do not conform to the
 standards of efficiency or accept the courses of
 study prescribed by the Educational Department
 and are therefore not recognised under the
 Educational Rules. Please see The Honble Dewan
 Bahadur, Raghunatha Rao's letter in the Madras Times
 of the 22nd March 1911, on the subject of the pial schools.
 3. The reply to the Honble L.C.M.'s question
 may be that the Government are not prepared to
 organize village pial schools.

76/
 23-3-11

On the 31st March 1910, there were 5,329
 indigenous schools in the Presidency,
 of which 3,985 were of the elementary
 grade, the rest being either Quran schools
 or advanced schools teaching Arabic,
 Persian or Sanskrit. The total number
 of scholars in all these schools
 was 127,082, of whom 60,437 were in
 elementary

note pages 26 & 27 of vol I
 of the Public Instruction
 Report for 1909-10 -

not
 put up
 5

elementary schools. The system of instruction in the ⁵ pial schools is quite different from that pursued in schools conforming to the departmental rules, and it would be a retrograde step to go back to the system of pial schools. Perhaps the D.P.G. may be consulted w.
RD

23. 3. 1

H. M. Strong. = Secretary

As an instance of methods of education in public schools.
I may perhaps be permitted to quote the following cases.

4. Бее 0 Ekase Ba-kuo

Ceē ō ēkāsē Cā-kus

Yéf ō é Kāsě Fā^h-Kuo."

Which is intended to teach the children to spell B-o-x - b-o-x.

The following answer is suggested

"I own an outfit prepared to organize a system of free schools on the
Adams as the standard of education ^{the most} low scale of any practical value."

[illegible]

802
23/3/11

Circulated in Box N- 50.

H.M.

Mr. Addison's draft is virtually an answer to the L.C.O.'s letter in the House of the 22nd inst. He would probably prefer this to the alternative, viz.

The Govt. do not contemplate any such measure.

2. If H.M. is disposed to adopt the longer draft, I would suggest ^{pro major cautela} that the wording of it should be scrutinized by the D.P. before final adoption.

J
L.S. 3 X 1

I am afraid I cannot read the Deputy Secretary's chap. reply. But I think in this case we sh^d do more than merely refuse - we sh^d explain what are our objections. If the D.P. approves a chap. reply, as not committing us to anything which is foolish, let it be typed & put in the file for approval -

Type Mr. Addison's
Draft V.E. & send up
to D.P. for remarks

J
26th 11

and suggestion is to amendment
by 27th of Aug. 1894

6/6

C.No 619, from the Legislative Department, dated 20th March 1911.

7

Subject.

Legislative question re. pial schools.

Type Mr. Paddison's draft V. E. and send u.o. to the Director of Public Instruction for remarks and suggestions as to amendments, if any.

L.D.
27-3-11.

A copy of the question of the Dy Secretary's draft reply is placed below. It may be sent to the D.P.G. for very early remarks ~~no and suggestions as to amendments~~.

Edd. u.o 619-2
27.3.11

DP
27/3

RD
27.3.11

D.P.G. up for remarks very early. The paper reply is based on a letter from E. H. and L.C.M. since afternoon & morning of Wednesday morning.

22nd March.

u.o. No 41 of 27-3-11.

I would suggest the omission 27.3.11

of "taught" after therein. ^{positions}
As a matter of fact a ~~great~~ ^{large} number of the elementary schools of the country have developed out of pial schools. (Many are still held in pials). They are indigenous schools that have more or less completely conformed to departmental standards and have consequently made themselves eligible for aid and consequently subject to departmental control.

Jan
27.11

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur R. Ragoonatha Rao Aml.

28. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are disposed to organize village pial schools ?

DRAFT ANSWER.

Government are not prepared to organize a system of pial schools on the old lines as the standard of education therein ~~was~~ was too low to be of any practical value. ~~The~~ Government, however, understand that the objects the Hon'ble Member has in view are that education should be cheap, practical and moral. Government have general sympathy with all these objects provided that economy is not inconsistent with efficiency in teaching and an adequate supply of light and air. That Government have every ~~desire~~ desire to encourage a practical and moral education will be clear from a perusal of the scheme of studies for elementary education which was published in 1908.

*Appd.
28. Mar 11*



The question and answer as finally approved was as follows:—

Question 35. Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are disposed to organize village pial schools? Village pial schools.

Answer 35—

The Government are not prepared to organize a system of pial schools on the old lines as the standard of education therein was too low to be of any practical value. The Government, however, understand that the objects the Honourable Member has in view are that education should be cheap, practical and moral. The Government have sympathy with all these objects provided that economy is not inconsistent with efficiency in teaching and an adequate supply of light and air. That Government have every desire to encourage a practical and moral education will be clear from a perusal of the scheme of studies for elementary education which was published in 1908.

2. A draft order recording the papers is submitted for approval.

OTP
10.4.11

RO
10.4.11

SM
11.4.11

[Go. no 217 misd/2-4-11]

” ” ” ” , ” 191 .

C. No., From the, No., dated 191

Question re 35 and the answers given thereto. 191

” ” ” ” ” ” 191

No. 217, dated 12-4-1911.

Wino

Recorded

10.4.11

20
10.4.11

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____ } 191

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____, DATED
191 _____

CURRENT No. _____

ENCLOSURES TO G. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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