

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

1912.

Enclosures

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G.O. No. 785, 26th August 1912.

DESPATCHED

Hostel for Brahman Widows.

Sanctioning the proposals submitted by the Director of Public Instruction for the opening of a — in connection with the Presidency Training School for Mistresses.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. A. G. BOURNE, D. Sc., F.R.S., C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.
To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department (through the Accountant-General).
Dated—Madras, the 3rd August 1912.
No.—Ref. 5531./12.

I have the honour to submit for the consideration of Government a scheme for the establishment of a hostel for widows in connection with the Presidency Training School for Mistresses, Egmore.

2. The Inspectress of Girls' Schools, Central Circle, in proposing the scheme states that at present almost all the Board and Municipal Girls' schools are staffed with male teachers, that there are also a large number of vacancies in Government Girls' schools for which qualified female teachers cannot be found, and that the scheme is therefore proposed with the object of enabling young Brahman widows to take up the teaching profession in order to meet the growing demand for caste women teachers for girls' schools under public management. She thinks that the time has now come for taking very effective steps to attain this object. It is reported that the Brahman widow pupils of the secondary school attached to the Presidency Training School are desirous of boarding and lodging in a well organized hostel near the institution and that R. S. Subbalakshmi Ammal, B.A., First Assistant in the Tamil section of the school and a niece of the late Diwan Bahadur R. V. Srinivasa Aiyar, Inspector-General of Registration and her widowed aunt are willing to manage a hostel for the purpose without prejudice to the legitimate duties of the former.

The Inspectress recommends—

(i) that a house should be rented near the Presidency Training School and has one in view at a rent of Rs. 25 a month—this being the lowest rent at which a suitable one can be obtained;

(ii) that ten scholarships of the value of Rs. 12 each (with no guardian allowance) be awarded to Brahman widows and that the scholarships should be drawn in advance for each month and paid to the pupils allowing Rs. 9 for boarding, lodging and medical attendance and Rs. 3 for books and clothing—a uniform rate being proposed for all the pupils irrespective of their attainments for the reason that the cost of living is the same for a widow pupil of the third standard as for one reading in the sixth form since widows are not very young when they come to school and Rs. 12 being the minimum required for a widow pupil to maintain herself fairly comfortably in Madras;

(iii) that the house-rent amounting to Rs. 25 per mensem be borne by Government for the reason that it will not be possible for the pupils to meet the charge from the scholarships paid to them;

(iv) that a supervision fee of Rs. 40 per mensem be allowed to Subbalakshmi Ammal and her widowed aunt, in consideration of the fact that the work in connection with the management of a hostel and the supervision of the Brahman widows out of school hours is very onerous and involves a great amount of care and attention in India where caste widows have to be jealously guarded so as to ensure the confidence of the public in the institution; I consider that in view of the sacrifice of leisure and convenience which will be entailed on these ladies the amount of remuneration proposed is not excessive; and

(v) that the tuition fees of these widow pupils be remitted as the scholarships proposed above cannot cover such fees and their remission will be a great inducement for the widows to remain at school.

Both Miss Arnold and Miss Lynch have given considerable attention to the question of establishing hostels for widows. This is the first scheme that has been definitely proposed and I think it a promising one that should be given a trial.

3. The annual cost of the scheme is estimated to be as follows :—

	RS.
Ten Scholarships at Rs. 12 per mensem $12 \times 10 \times 12$..	1,440
House-rent at Rs. 25 per mensem 25×12 ..	300
Supervision fee at Rs. 40 per mensem 40×12 ..	480
Contingencies at Rs. 5 per mensem 5×12 ..	60
Total ..	2,280

If the hostel is started from the 1st proximo, the cost for the six months of the current year will be Rs. 1,140. The amount required for scholarships can be met from the provision for scholarships in secondary schools under 22-H. Education, a separate debit head "Widow Scholarships" being opened in the accounts, and the contingent charges from the contingent allotment of the Presidency Training school.

I shall submit the necessary reappropriation statement for meeting the house-rent and supervision fees on receipt of the final issue of the civil budget estimates.

4. I may add that the existing widow scholarships will continue as they are, for mofussal pupils and non-Brahman widows reading in other schools in Madras.

5. I request the favour of very early orders on this communication.

No. P. A. 21-9809, dated 14th August 1912.

Forwarded.

2. There is no audit objection to the proposal of the Director of Public Instruction being sanctioned by Government.

J. F. GRAHAM,
Offg. Accountant-General.

To the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.

Order—No. 785, Educational, dated 26th August 1912.

The Government sanction the proposals submitted by the Director of Public Instruction for the opening of a hostel for Brahman widows in connection with the Presidency Training School for Mistresses with effect from 1st September 1912. The establishment of the hostel should in no way be allowed to curtail the existing facilities for the education of non-Brahman widows or pupils in the school.

(True Extract.)

L. DAVIDSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
" Financial Department.
Editors' Table (order only).

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 785, EDUCATIONAL, DATED
26TH AUGUST 1912.[SUBJECT.—*Establishment of a hostel for Brahman widows in connection with the
Presidency Training School for Mistresses, Madras.*]

Previous papers :

G.O. No. 759, Educational, dated 11th December 1902.	
" " 476 " " 15th July 1911.	
" " 683 " " 26th " 1912.	
" " 904 " " 2nd March 1912.	

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 3rd August 1912, No. 5531

The Director of Public Instruction proposes to open a hostel for Brahman widows in connection with the Presidency Training School for Mistresses, Madras. The object of the proposal is stated to be to enable young Brahman widows to take up the teaching profession in order to meet the growing demand for caste women teachers for girls' schools under public management.

2. The liability which is sought to be thrown on Government in respect of this scheme consists of (i) providing a number of scholarships of a value sufficient to cover the maintenance charges of the widow pupils, (ii) finding suitable accommodation for the hostel, and (iii) providing for its supervision and contingent charges. At present it is proposed to confine the number of inmates in the hostel to 10; the value of the scholarship is to be fixed at Rs. 12 *per mensem*; and the pupils are to be from the school attached to the training school. The cost of the scheme is estimated at Rs. 2,280 *per annum* as shown below :—

	RS.
(1) Ten scholarships at Rs. 12 <i>per mensem</i> each	1,440
(2) Rent of the hostel building at Rs. 25 <i>per mensem</i>	300
(3) Cost of supervision at Rs. 40 <i>per mensem</i>	480
(4) Contingencies at Rs. 5 <i>per mensem</i>	60
Total	2,280

3. The idea of providing facilities for the education of widows so as to induce them to take up the teaching profession has been engaging the attention of Government for the past ten years and more. So far back as 1902, the Government sanctioned the creation of a number of special scholarships and guardian allowances for Hindu and Muhammadan widows—G.O. No. 759, Educational, dated 11th December 1902. Further facilities for widows were proposed in 1910 in the form of

Page 10 of G.O. No. 476, Educational, dated 15th July 1911. establishing a hostel for widows to be attached to the Training School for Mistresses at Coimbatore. The proposal was

made with the object of exercising supervision over the work and conduct of the widows out of school hours. The details of the scheme then suggested were exactly similar to those now proposed, except in one respect. It was intended to abolish the system of awarding scholarships for widows and to utilize the savings for the establishment of

the hostel. It was, however, subsequently found to be undesirable to abolish the scholarships; and Miss Arnold, who had become the Inspectress, did not fall in with the hostel scheme, but considered that "a separate hostel for widows would do little or nothing towards solving the 'problem of attracting caste widows to teaching work' and that a general hostel where the widow students would live along with other students would be an excellent thing. In these circumstances the idea of the hostel for widows at Coimbatore was deferred.

4. In connection with the recent proposals for the opening of a Government girls' high school at Vizagapatam, the Director again expatiated upon the object of securing a supply of educated widows as teachers. Please see paragraph 2 of his letter on page 2 of G.O. No. 683, Educational, dated 26th July 1912. It is under contemplation eventually to provide a hostel in this institution also. In the tentative programme of female education, the Director has suggested the opening of special institutes for the education of child widows.

5. The only objection against the Director's present scheme appears to be that it is not general as those proposed previously, but will benefit only one section of the community. It is not stated whether there is not a similar demand for a hostel for non-Brahmans. As the proposal is only an experimental measure, as there is apparently a demand at present only from the Brahman widow pupils of the school and as the offer of supervision is also available, no objection need, it is submitted, be raised to the scheme on this score. If later on the institution of a separate section for non-Brahman widows is considered necessary, the Director of Public Instruction will doubtless consider the question. There is also apparently no demand for a "general" hostel for the whole institution, though there can be no objection to widows' living in a hostel with other pupils if of the same caste.

6. *Scholarships.*—The amount of each scholarship under the present scheme, viz., Rs. 12, is not higher, but in some cases is actually less, than that of the general scholarships* available for widows. Please compare the list of such scholarships on page 20 of G.O. No. 476, Educational, dated 15th July 1911. No unusual expenditure is therefore imposed on Government on this account.

In paragraph 4 of his letter, the Director says that the existing scholarships for widows will continue for mufassal pupils and non-Brahman widows reading in other schools in Madras. It will be observed that in that case, there will be no facilities for non-Brahman pupils in the Presidency Training School for Mistresses. There will be no hostels for them; and the abolition of the scholarships also will prove a hardship to that class of students.

7. *Supervision.*—It is proposed to pay Subbalakshmi Ammal (first assistant in the Tamil section of the school) and her widowed aunt a consolidated sum of Rs. 40 for supervision. It would have been better if the amounts payable to each of them were separately specified. Apparently the whole amount is to be paid to the former, suitable arrangements being made by herself for assistance with this amount. Though the number of inmates is at present to be confined to only ten, the consolidated fee of Rs. 40 for supervision does not appear to be too high considering the paucity of suitable persons available for the purpose.

8. The provision for house-rent and contingencies, Rs. 25 and Rs. 5 respectively per mensem, may also be accepted.

9. If the hostel is opened with effect from the 1st September next, as proposed by the Director of Public Instruction, the cost during the current year will be Rs. 1,260. The Director calculates this cost at Rs. 1,140, which figure does not seem to be correct. He has apparently omitted to take into account the fact that the scholarships are to be paid in advance and that the expenditure under this head during the current year will be for seven months.

For this year the charges on account of the scholarships will be met from the provision under the head 22. H—EDUCATION—SCHOLARSHIPS and the contingent charges will be met from the contingent allotment of the Presidency Training School for Mistresses. Funds have only to be found for the house-rent and supervision charges; these will amount to Rs. 390 only, and to provide this sum the Director will submit a re-appropriation statement as soon as the final issue of the Civil Budget Estimate has been received.

10. If the Director's proposal is approved, the file may in the first instance be sent to the Financial Department for remarks.

C. RAMANUJACHARI—20-8-12.

Yes please. Educational support the proposal.

L. DAVIDSON—20-8-12.

To the Financial Department u.o.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

The extra cost involved in the proposals to establish a hostel for Brahman widows in connection with the Presidency Training School for Mistresses, Egmore, is Rs. 2,280 per annum. The amount involved seems, it is submitted, to be a proper debit against the eight-lakhs grant sanctioned by the Government of India for the promotion of truly popular education.

2. The proposals may, it is submitted, be accepted in Financial.

C.P.K.—20-8-12.

V.G.K.—21-8-12.

C. REILLY—21-8-12.

A. G. CARDEW—21-8-12.

To the Educational Department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

His Excellency the Governor—

L. DAVIDSON—22-8-12.

An interesting experiment; I hope it will succeed. Mrs. Rhenius told me at Waltair that she thought she could induce many widows in Cocanada and elsewhere to come to the new school at Vizagapatam. The proposals here should be sanctioned.

M. H[AMMICK]—23-8-12.

A draft is submitted for approval.

T.K.—25-8-12.

C. RAMANUJACHARI—25-8-12.

L. DAVIDSON—26-8-12.

[G.O. No. 785, Educational, dated 26th August 1912.]

[$\frac{E. \& I.}{74}$]
1,500-8-12-10.

Educational DEPARTMENT.

READ AGAIN G.O., No., dated 191

" " " " , " 191 .

READ ALSO :—

C. No. 2223, From the D.P. 9, No. 5531/12, dated 3-8-1912

” ” ” ” ” ” ” 191 .

191 .

ORDER.

P. S.

No. 785 ²⁵⁸, dated 26/8/1912.

Order only may be placed on E.T.?

The Govt sanction the proposals submitted by the D.P.I. for the opening of a hostel for Brahman widows in connection with the Presidency Training School for mistresses with effect from 1st September 1912. The establishment of the hostel should in no way be allowed to curtail the existing facilities for the education of non-Brahman widows or pupils in the school.

~~1. This painting ⁵⁷has been~~
~~registered as no. 26.5m of 1962-63.~~

7.21 CR
25.8-12 26.8-22

[No registry of sanction in
file is necessary. The pay
of remuneration of Rs 40 which
Mubalakshuni demand is not
in the nature of an addl. salary but
only a fee. It has been verified from
the D.F.I. of the file department. That this
is not necessary.]

-- Fertil Dept

Chrysops discolor

20/9/12 ~~26/8/13~~

Current No., dated 190 ..

G.O., No. *786*, dated *26* *8* 19*02*

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Docket *Hostel for Brahma widow*

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