

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1913.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O. No. 560, 14th June 1913.

Presidency College, Madras.

Recording letter from the Director of Public Instruction stating that there is no demand for Arabic teaching in the —.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers :—

I

G.O. No. 404, Educational, dated 10th May 1912.

ABSTRACT.—Passing orders on various questions relating to the education of Muhammadans.

II

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.

Dated—Madras, the 28th October 1912.

No.—Ref. on Cur. 6786.

With reference to paragraph 8 of G.O. No. 404, Educational, dated 10th May 1912, I have the honour to state that there is no evidence of any demand for the teaching of Arabic in the Presidency College and that while it is not taught in secondary schools there is no possibility of there being such a demand. Such demand as there is for Arabic teaching seems to be met by the Arabic colleges which form the subject of my letter Ref. on Cur. No. 5932, dated 28th October 1912, and it is impossible that students from them should go to the Presidency College with a view to pursuing any of the Arts courses. To provide adequately for the teaching of Arabic at the Presidency College, an appointment of at least the grade of Assistant Professor would have to be created and considerable additions made to the library, and in the absence of a demand for Arabic teaching such a provision seems unnecessary.

In the meeting of the Senate on the 25th and 26th instant, the claims of Arabic and Persian to a University Professorship were strongly advocated and the matter *inter alia* was referred to the Committee on Oriental Studies. Further consideration of the subject may perhaps await the Senate's action on the report of this committee.

III

Order—Mis. No. 1017, Educational, dated 18th November 1912.

The Director of Public Instruction will be requested to submit a report to Government on the subject after a decision has been arrived at by the Senate on the report of the Committee on Oriental Studies.

(True Extract.)

L. DAVIDSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

IV

Letter—from the Hon'ble Sir ALFRED GIBBS BOURNE, D.Sc., F.R.S., K.C.I.E.,
Director of Public Instruction.

To—the Secretary to Government, Educational Department.

Dated—Madras, the 27th May 1913.

No.—R. C. 6786/12.

With reference to the reminder from Government, dated 17th May 1913, calling for an early reply to G.O. Mis. No. 1017, Educational, dated 18th November 1912, requesting me to submit a report to Government on the subject of teaching Arabic in the Presidency College after a decision has been arrived at by the Senate on the report of the Committee on Oriental Studies, I have the honour to state that that committee declined to advise as to the arrangements the University should make for the furtherance of oriental studies in the event of Government's approving the proposals for utilizing the Government of India University grant. The decision of Government as to the utilization of that grant is still awaited. The question of Arabic teaching depends on it in so far as the amount and kind of provision to be made would be governed by the amount and kind of help that the University would afford to teaching work. Whether any provision should be made at all is another question.

2. So far as I am able to judge there is no demand whatever for Arabic teaching in the college. Mr. Stone and Mr. Middlemast report that no student has wished to study it in the years 1907–13 during which one or other of them has held the office of Principal. Practically no students come up from the schools with any knowledge of the language. One pupil presented himself for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate examination last year and none this year, and none passed in it in the Matriculation examinations in 1911, 1912 and 1913.

3. If it is desired to stimulate the study of Arabic it would be necessary to begin with the schools. There is an Arabic Munshi in the Madrasa-i-Azam, but no boys are studying Arabic and his time is devoted to other subjects. How this study could be stimulated in schools I do not know. People interested in it resort to indigenous colleges such as that at Vellore from opposite motives from those which bring them into our schools.

Order—No. 560, Educational, dated 14th June 1913.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

W. FRANCIS,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 560, EDUCATIONAL,
DATED 14TH JUNE 1913.

[SUBJECT.—*Teaching of Arabic in the Presidency College, Madras.*]

*From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 27th May 1913,
No. 6786/12.*

Please see paragraph 14 of the Muhammadan Educational Conference Committee's letter on page 9 of G.O. No. 404, Educational, dated 10th May 1912, paragraph 12 of office-note on page 11 and paragraph 10 of Mr. Davidson's note on page 13 of the notes to that Government Order and paragraph 8 of the Government Order itself. Please see also G.O. No. 1017, Educational, dated 18th November 1912.

2. From the current communication from the Director of Public Instruction it is clear that there is no demand whatever for Arabic teaching in the Presidency College. Though the conference committee tried to make out in their letter that Muhammadan students had been deterred from taking Arabic for want of teachers in such languages, the experience of Madrasa-i-Azam and the dearth of candidates at public examinations show that little interest is taken by the community in the study of the language. The question of introducing facilities for the teaching of vernacular in Muhammadan schools of the elementary and secondary grade and in colleges will be considered by the Director of Public Instruction in connection with G.O. No. 557, Educational, dated 12th June 1913. The question of Arabic may also then come up for consideration. In these circumstances no separate action appears to be called for with regard to the minor question now under consideration. It seems enough to record the papers.

3. If the above view is concurred in, the draft order placed below is for approval.

P.R.—12-6-13.

C. RAMANUJACHARI—12-6-13.

W. FRANCIS—13-6-13.

[G.O. No. 560, Educational, dated 14th June 1913.]

[L. M. 95]
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LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in Proceedings:—

Again G.O., No. 404 & dated 10-5-1912.

Again G.O., No. 107, dated 12-4-1912.

Current No. 1750 From the 809, No. 6786, dated 29-5-1913.

P1 attached
A (attached)

ORDER. No. 560 & dated 14-6-1913.

not for ET

Quiz/6

Record.

1/10/13

1/13/16

(C)

2/1/16
To
The 809
distd 1/16
809
12-7-13

ORDINARY.

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