

Eol (1915) Department.

Mis. SERIES.

G.O. No. 330

DATED 23-3-15

[Despatch Abstract.]

Address Muhammadan Education
Recording notes on the address
presented to H. E. the Governor by
the North Arcot District Board
regarding _____.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S TOUR, 1915.

Extract from an address to be presented to His Excellency the Governor by the North Arcot District Board.

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"6 (c). The elementary education of Muhammadans in this district is extremely backward. There are only two local fund Hindustani schools having a fourth standard and nine schools teach as far as the third standard. But except in Vaniyambadi, the chasm between elementary and secondary education for Urdu-speaking boys is unbridged, save through the medium of a Tamil school, where they are obviously at a disadvantage."

* * *

Collector's remarks.

* * *

6 (c). A sub-committee of the District Board has been appointed to look into the subject of Muhammadan elementary education. Copy of a note by the President and the resolutions of the sub-committee on this subject are appended (A and B). Out of 31 teachers as many as 11 are untrained, a proportion much higher than that in Hindu schools. As for secondary education, the Madrasa-E-Islamia at Vaniyambadi and the new incomplete secondary school for Muhammadans sanctioned for the Vellore Municipal Council should serve to bridge the gap; it is also hoped to establish a similar institution at Mel-Visharam.

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ENCLOSURE A.

Note on Muhammadan Elementary Education.

I understand there are two obstacles in the way of the proper development of Muhammadan elementary education in this district, viz.—

- (1) The competition between local fund and mosque schools.
- (2) The difficulty in obtaining the best type of teacher.

(1) The co-existence of local fund and mosque schools is a wasteful duplication. The mosque school teachers are deficient in Arithmetic, Geography, and other secular subjects, while the local fund school teachers are defective in their Urdu and religious knowledge. A boy often spends three years or so in the mosque school and then enters the infant class of a local fund school and is thus three years behind his Hindu class-mates. The result is not only is he handicapped in competition with them but he rarely continues his education beyond the third standard.

If mosque schools were on a satisfactory footing, there is no reason why standards infant, first, and second should be maintained in the local fund schools, as the mosque schools should properly be feeders to the local fund schools.

If standards infant, first and second could be abolished in local fund schools, money would be freed to improve the status of mosque schools and I think it would raise the value of mosque schools for general education purposes, if local boards could maintain at least one (more if the number of pupils justified it), trained teacher in every mosque school. I think if this system were adopted we could afford to pay higher salaries to our teachers without increasing the charges on local funds. Such a system, however, can only be made a success if local Muhammadans of influence in each village cordially co-operate with the scheme.

(2) Teachers must at present be trained in Madras. Hence the teachers are either foreign to our district or else if they are people of our district, they have to go for training in a city which is strange to them where they are friendless and exposed to temptation and above all costly.

I think it desirable that a larger proportion of our teachers should be of local extraction living in their own towns and villages along with their kith and kin. It would give them greater local interest and they would be less inclined to migrate from place to place or absent themselves on leave.

To secure such men, it would be necessary to open a Muhammadan Normal school in the district and I think such an experiment is well worth trying for five or six years, preference being given to men selected from schools in this district and representative as far as possible of towns and villages where local fund schools now exist.

The experiment need not be very costly. I think such Normal school should be located either in Vellore or in Vaniyambadi and that it should be in touch with the Arabic and Persian scholars of one or other or both these towns.

F. J. RICHARDS,

12th Jan. 1915. Collector of North Arcot.

ENCLOSURE B.

Resolutions of the Sub-Committee formed to discuss the general question of Muhammadan elementary education at its meeting held on the 14th December 1914.

I. The sub-committee is of opinion that the duplication of institutions, viz., mosque schools and secular schools is a serious impediment to the progress of Muhammadan elementary education and consider that the policy of the taluk boards should be to undertake to pay the full salary of any trained teacher employed in a mosque school on condition that elementary secular instruction of an approved type is taught in such school.

II. Sessional school to be opened in January for Muhammadans at Vaniyambadi.

Provide Rs. 2,000 of which Rs. 500 will be this year.

Stipends Rs. 7.

Maximum number of students 20.

All the above provided the Executive Committee of the Madrasa-E-Islamiah are willing to—

- (1) provide accommodation; and
- (2) supervise the conduct of the school staff and pupils.

Secretary—Mir Gulam Ahmad Kalami to be addressed.

III. *Education of girls.*—Normal school or sessional school for Muhammadan mistresses.

Premature to formulate a scheme at present moment but two lines of action suggested—

- (1) to utilize existing private institutions, e.g., mosque girls' schools. President, Taluk Board, Vellore, says he will try to do something with an existing girls' school at Pallikondah;

- (2) to get married couples to take up the teaching profession.

Secretariat note.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Statistics are not available for verifying the statement that, in point of *elementary* education of Muhammadans, North Arcot is extremely backward. Taking into account the total number of Muhammadan pupils in schools of *all* descriptions in the district, North Arcot stands seventh in the list, the percentage of scholars to the Muhammadan population of school age being 52.4—86.1 for boys and 21.4 for girls—against the general average for all districts of 39.6 per cent. (64.3 for boys and 15.6 for girls).

Statement 109 on page 86 of Volume II of the report for 1913-14.

Ibid.

Ibid.

Director of Public Instruction's note on page 6
of notes to G.O. Nos. 87, 88, Educational,
dated the 20th January 1914.

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2. It is noticed that the question of improving the elementary education of Muhammadans in the North Arcot district is engaging the serious attention of the District Board. The steps which it is proposed to take immediately in the matter are detailed in the resolution of the Sub-Committee of the District Board. No specific request is made to Government for any help. The opening of elementary board schools (including girls' schools) and the improvement of *mukhtabs* were among the objects for which an Imperial grant was originally applied for from the Government of India. Any application made by the District Board for specific assistance in the matter will therefore be considered by the Director of Public Instruction along with the proposals called for in G.O. No. 1053, Educational, dated the 10th September 1914, for the utilization of the Imperial grant of Rs. 30,000.

3. In respect of the Collector's remarks above regarding secondary schools, it is submitted that, as already pointed out in the notes on paragraph 4 of the address of the Mussalmans of North Arcot, the incomplete secondary school for Muhammadans at Vellore has not yet been *sanctioned*. It is under the contemplation of the Government to open such a school there. At the same time there is a separate proposal of the Chairman, Municipal Council, Vellore, to open a similar municipal school at the place. The final proposal in either case is still awaited. It has also been pointed out in the same notes that the establishment of a separate Muhammadan secondary school by Government at Mel-Visharam is not possible at present. It is not known whether it is under the contemplation of the District Board or any other body to open such a school at that place.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—23-1-15.

Educational Dept.

Islamic Muhammadan
elementary education.

Three copies of the printed note on para. 6 (c) of the North Arcot District Board address are placed below. They may be forwarded to the P.S.G. Uo.

PA
28.1.15

CA
28/1/15

PA
28/1/15

PA
28/1/15

P.S.G. Uo

Eolus 201-4

25.1.15

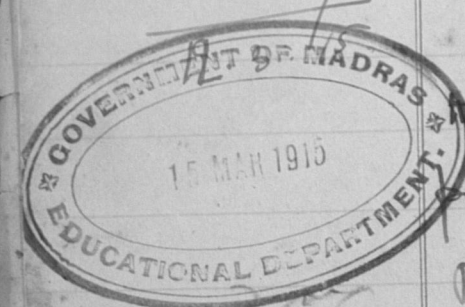
Returned with the following extract from His Excellency's reply:

"Practical proposals on the subject of Muhammadan elementary education are I understand in process of being worked out by a Sub-Committee of your number and should they in due course be submitted to Government, they will receive our sympathetic consideration."

HLH/



Eolus 201-4



PA
13/3/15

PA
10.2.15

CA
10/3/15

19.3.15

14.3.15

Educational Department

Submitted that the above reply may be sent to the P.S.G. Uo. for perusal before the papers are put away.

Educational Dept.

The papers may now be

Order no 330 Mus
mi d-23-3-15.
Recorded.

Sp 22/3

PA 17-3-15
CA 18/3/15

Calc
22.3.15

When given for copying — }
 When copied — } 191 .
 When examined — }
 When signed — }

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

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL

N.B.—

- A = Copy in full.
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- P = Copy abstract only.
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