

Government of Madras.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

(EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 975, 14th September 1916

NOTES
PRINTED

INDEXED

Principals of Government colleges

Recording letter from the Government of India inviting this Government to consider the question of affording relief to principals of large Government colleges by delegating to other members of the college staff a portion of their administrative duties.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

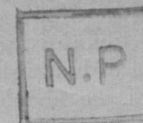
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

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ORIGINAL.

Principals of Government colleges

Recording letter from the Government of India inviting this Government to consider the question of affording relief to principals of large Government colleges by delegating to other members of the college staff a portion of their administrative duties.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
HOME DEPARTMENT
(Education).

READ—the following paper :—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Sir E. D. MACLAGAN, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education (Education).

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Educational Department.

Dated—Simla, the 20th July 1916.

No.—709.

In this department letter No. 728-736, dated the 19th April 1913, the various local Governments and Administrations were consulted on the question of disassociating the principals of large Government colleges from actual teaching and confining them to the administration and general supervision of the institutions under their charge. The replies received showed general opposition to the idea of relieving principals of Government colleges from all teaching duties, but some of the local Governments consulted considered that the principals were overworked and in order to relieve them suggested the delegation to other members of the college staff of a portion of their administrative duties.

2. The matter has been again brought to the attention of the Government of India in connection with the report made by a committee appointed in February last by the Government of Bengal to enquire into the general conditions of discipline at the Presidency College, Calcutta. That committee in the course of its report has made the following remarks :—

“The principal should take an active part in the work of instruction of the students and thus come into direct contact with them. A principal who is constrained to occupy mainly the position of an administrator can hardly be expected to exercise a permanent and effective influence upon the students, as he would unquestionably do if he had the opportunity by direct teaching to impress upon them a full recognition of his high intellectual attainments. In order that the principal may be able to deliver lectures, he should, we think, be relieved of routine duties as far as possible, which may be delegated to a professor who would hold a position similar to that of the Dean of an English college. We understand that scheme has already been drawn up by the Governing Body of the college with a view to give effect to the suggestion we now make, and we trust it will receive early consideration.”

3. The necessary steps in the direction indicated by the committee have already been taken in the case of the Presidency College, Calcutta, but in view of the importance attached by the committee to the delegation of powers in connection with the maintenance of discipline in the Presidency College, Calcutta, the Government of India desire to take this opportunity of bringing the suggestions made by the committee to the notice of other local Governments and Administrations with a view to the consideration of the question in connection with the larger Government colleges existing in other parts of India outside Calcutta.

Order—No. 975, Home (Education), dated 14th September 1916.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR,
Secretary to Government.

Copy to the Director of Public Instruction.

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION).

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 975, HOME (EDUCATION),
DATED THE 14TH SEPTEMBER 1916.

[SUBJECT.—*Delegation to a Professor of the Presidency College of the routine duties of the Principal.*]

From the Government of India, No. 709, dated the 20th July 1916.

The Government of India commend for the consideration of this Government the question of relieving the principals of the larger Government colleges of their routine duties, as far as possible, by delegating them to a professor. So far as this Presidency is concerned, the question can have reference only to the Presidency College, the other Government colleges being of much less importance. The question is not, however, a new one.

2. The fact that the Principal of the Presidency College was overworked has been recognized for some time and the question of appointing a full-time principal for that college has been under consideration since 1912. The Secretary of State, however, refused to sanction the appointment—Despatch on pages 3 and 4 of G.O. No. 1279, Educational, dated the 13th November 1914. This Government then requested the Director of Public Instruction to consider the question, now raised by the Government of India, of relieving the principal of a portion of his routine administrative functions—paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 1279, Educational, dated the 13th November 1914. The Director of Public Instruction then pointed out that no arrangement for such relief was possible and emphasised the need for the creation of a real principalship not only as the first but as an essential step in the direction of a more satisfactory organization of the work of the college. It was then decided to address the Government of India again to move the Secretary of State for a reconsideration of the orders already passed. The draft letter prepared on that occasion will be found on pages 15-22 of G.O. No. 275, Educational, dated the 12th March 1915. That letter did not, however, issue as His Excellency did not wish to move the Government of India in the matter just then—vide Secretary's note on page 13 of the Government Order.

3. Subsequently on the representation of the Director of Public Instruction that the appointment of a chief professor of the college as principal weakened the department of the college in which he was professor, the Government sanctioned an additional professorship on Rs. 200 per mensem in the Provincial Educational Service for the Presidency College, tentatively for a maximum period of three years from the 1st July 1915—vide G.O. No. 533, Educational, dated the 18th May 1915.

4. Submitted that the file may be forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction u.o. for remarks, if any.

P.R.—23-8-16.

N.K.—23-8-16.

There has been a difference of opinion in the manner of giving relief to the Principal of the Presidency College. All possible methods have been already discussed. Relief in routine administrative functions was the one suggested by Pages 3 and 4 of G.O. 1279, Educational, 13th November 1914. the Secretary of State and is now commended by India. The Director of Public Instruction's arguments against this form are—

(i) that notwithstanding the appointment of separate officers for the purpose, the concentration of administrative work and the responsibility for their discharge have still to be in the principal; and
Pages 8 and 9 of G.O. 275, Educational, 12th March 1915.

copy to the D. P. S. (l to) ✓

B. Jos. approval. 20/9/16
21.9.16

H. M. S. P. H. K. 15/9/16

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17 with G.O. 275
P.R. 23-8-16

2 NOTES TO G.O. No. 975, HOME (EDUCATION), 14TH SEPTEMBER 1916

(ii) that in proportion as the principal is relieved of administrative work his opportunities of coming in personal relations with the bulk of the students would be diminished.

2. The form of relief eventually decided upon by the Local Government was the appointment of an additional professor to the particular department of studies of which the principal is the chief by his qualifications which would relieve him of the responsibilities for the detailed management of that particular department. This arrangement has now been in force for a year and is apparently successful.

It may be premature to think of altering it.

The suggestion is only brought to notice by the Government of India.

The file may be sent to the Director of Public Instruction u.o.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—24-8-16.

P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR—25-8-16.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

The present arrangement in the college by which the Principal is relieved of a good deal of lecturing and the organization of the department of history seems to be working satisfactorily. The suggestion to relieve the Principal of disciplinary work seems to me and Mr. Allen, with all respect to the Government of Bengal, simply absurd because it is exactly such work as gives him most opportunity of coming into touch with the students. I do not suppose the intellect of a principal of the college has ever been questioned; the students need to realise him as a friend and where necessary a censor. If any additional office were to be created in the college it should be that of bursar, but I do not think it necessary in existing circumstances to propose this.

J. H. STONE—4-9-16.

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION).

In the circumstances stated above no action appears to be necessary on the current letter from the Government of India. The file may be submitted to His Excellency the Governor for orders as to whether the communication may be recorded and a copy sent to the Director of Public Instruction for his information.

P.R.—6-9-16.

N.K.—7-9-16.

C.R.—8-9-16.

Action may be taken as at M above.

P.R.—9-9-16

P[ENTLAND]—12-9-16.

A draft recording the papers is submitted below.

E.A.V.—12-9-16.

N.K.—13-9-16.

[G.O. No. 975, Home (Education), dated the 14th September 1916.]

ORDINARY.

PRESS SLIP.

PREFERENCE.

URGENT (a).

Home DEPARTMENT.

15 SEP 1916

Current No., dated.....191

G.O. No. 975, dated 14.9.1916.

(b)
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Notes.....

Brief subject..... See top of draft order

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