

Home (1917) Department.  
Education

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 797

DATED 15-6-17

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council.

Recording notes connected with the resolution proposed by the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao to be moved at the meeting of the ——— held on the 2nd April 1917 on the subject of the establishment of another Engineering College.

# BACK PAPERS.

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# FURTHER PAPERS.

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*Resolu XXXIV*  
*Esth gas second engineering college*  
**NOTES.**

NOTES CONNECTED WITH A RESOLUTION ON MATTERS OF  
GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

[For the Meeting of 2nd April 1917.]

[SUBJECT.—*Establishment of another Engineering College.*]

The Hon'ble Rao Bahadur N. RAMACHANDRA RAO PANTULU :—

XXXIV. This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a scheme for the establishment of another fully equipped Civil Engineering College be drawn up and submitted for the approval of the Secretary of State and the Government of India.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

The number of students to be admitted annually into the College of Engineering is ordinarily limited to 20 in the Engineer class and 90 in the Probationary Subordinate class—vide rule 29 of the College Rules. The number of applicants for admission to the Engineer and the Subordinate classes during each of the last five years and the number actually admitted are given below :—

| Class.                                 | 1911-12. | 1912-13. | 1913-14. | 1914-15. | 1915-16. |
|----------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <i>Engineer class.</i>                 |          |          |          |          |          |
| Number of applicants .. .. .           | 44       | 104      | 104      | 124      | 157      |
| Number admitted .. .. .                | 24       | 24       | 27       | 29       | 28       |
| <i>Probationary Subordinate class.</i> |          |          |          |          |          |
| Number of applicants .. .. .           | 262      | 401      | 385      | 454      | 468      |
| Number admitted .. .. .                | 77       | 102      | 111      | 125      | 124      |

2. In 1913, 1915 and 1916 three separate resolutions were moved in the Legislative Council urging the establishment of an additional engineering school to train more students in order to meet the growing demand for qualified overseers and lower subordinates. The Government while sympathizing with the object of the resolutions felt themselves unable to accept them in view of the recommendation of the Committee appointed by the Government of India to inquire into the question of technical institutions that "engineering education of every grade should be concentrated when possible in large colleges where the lower classes can obtain the advantage of the traditions, ideals, moral training, and above all the supervision of a high grade competent staff which can only be met with, in large institutions in India." Besides it was thought advisable to bring about the completion of the new Engineering College buildings under construction at Guindy and to watch the effect of the working of the college in its new habitation before deciding to start a new institution. Recently, however, the Government have reconsidered the matter; and proposals for the opening of a new engineering school in the Northern Circars preferably at Vizagapatam are under consideration. Under these proposals the new school will admit, to begin with, thirty students every year, though as the institution progresses, it will be possible to admit a larger number later on. The instruction will be confined to lower subordinate students only, but a proportion of the students in the school will be admitted annually into the upper subordinate class of the Engineering College, Madras.

3. There appears to be no immediate need for the provision of further additional facilities for the training of engineer students. Most of them who pass out find employment as Upper Subordinates and only a few are able to secure posts of Assistant Engineers as will be seen from the figures given below :—

|                | Number of students who completed their course. | Number employed as Assistant Engineers. | Number employed as Upper Subordinates. |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1913-14 ... .. | 16                                             | 8                                       | 8                                      |
| 1914-15 ... .. | 16                                             | 4                                       | 12                                     |
| 1915-16 ... .. | 15                                             | 3                                       | 12                                     |

In the Memorandum prepared by Mr. James, Principal, College of Engineering for the Public Works Department Reorganization Committee, he observed :

"I assume the reason for Government placing restrictions on the number of admissions to the Engineer classes has been the knowledge that appointments are not available in Government or private service for large numbers of men with high technical qualifications, an attitude that can fully be justified by the fact that roughly about half the number of students who pass through our engineer course have latterly taken upper subordinate appointments in the Public Works Department. If more appointments are available, it obviously follows that the number of admissions may be increased, but the country is far from ripe for doing away altogether with restrictions of this kind, though the normal line of progress points in that direction."

Besides the new Engineering College buildings now under construction at Guindy will provide accommodation and facilities for efficient instruction in Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. In planning the buildings the possibility of the development of the institution on broader and technological lines has been borne in mind, and the main and subsidiary buildings are so designed and arranged that they can be readily extended and adapted for any such purposes. There is ample space for additional structures and the laboratories have been designedly kept separate so as to avoid difficulties that might otherwise arise in future should any particular laboratory require considerable additions. Instead, therefore, of establishing a second college all that is necessary whenever any need for additional engineers is felt is to enlarge the existing college. The objections to the opening of a new Engineering College at the present juncture are set out in the following extract from the speech made by His Excellency the Governor at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 13th March 1915 :—

"As we are aware, at the present moment the new Engineering College is to be built at Guindy and it will provide for the training of a slightly larger number of these subordinates than we can train in our present Engineering College. The Honourable gentleman says, and quite rightly, that that will not meet the whole demand. Possibly it will not. But the Government are entirely at one with him in the desire to meet that demand. All that we say is, for the present let us get on with the construction of the college at Guindy; let us finish what we are doing at present. We have no desire but to promote the interests of the people and to give larger opportunities to those who want to enter this field than at present exist. There is no radical difference of opinion, let me suggest to the Hon'ble Mr. Sarma, between the Government and Members of Council in regard to that matter. All that we say is, as practical men, especially just at this juncture, we cannot commit the Government to the erection of another college or to a very extensive enlargement of the college we have now undertaken."

"I do suggest to the Honourable Member, because I am warmly interested in the subject—the Government are warmly interested in it—that it is not wise at this moment to place on record a decision against the establishment of another Engineering College of the first class. I do not think it is wise at this moment to press the Government to place upon record a decision against it. The case against it at this moment is overwhelming. We have not finished our college; we have hardly begun it; and it is quite impossible for us without injury to other interests—there are many interests clamouring for satisfaction in the Presidency—to commit ourselves to the expenditure of establishing another first-class college. Whereas if, on the other hand, the consideration of this question is deferred to a more favourable opportunity, then it will be quite open to discussion whether, if funds are more plentiful, it would not be wise to adopt a less centralising policy in regard to all such institutions. It is quite true, and I think it is quite reasonable to lay it down, that for 45 millions of people and a Presidency of 150,000 square miles there should be more than one first-class institution in more than one branch of education. But the question of finance is of prime importance. The Honourable gentleman opposite has said that it is a question "merely" of finance. Finance is the governing consideration in many

of these matters and is certainly a most paramount consideration in this. If I may offer a suggestion to the Honourable Member—I do so with the greatest respect, feeling perfectly convinced that there is no difference of opinion between him and the Government in this matter, viz., the importance of providing as far as we can further facilities—I would urge him not to press the Government to record a decision against it at the present time."

4. At the meeting of the last Finance Committee the Hon'ble Mr. Ramachandra Rao pressed for a provision of Rs. 30,000 to be entered in the Civil Budget Estimate for 1917-18 for the establishment of an Engineering school somewhere outside Madras for the training of engineer subordinates required by local boards, municipalities and departments of Government. It was pointed out to him then that the proposal was unacceptable in view of the recommendation of Col. Atkinson and Mr. Dawson, but that this objection did not always prevail and that there was a separate proposal to establish another Engineering school in the Presidency. The Additional Member then intimated his intention to move a resolution on the subject at the April meeting. From the foregoing it appears that the Additional Member will be satisfied if an Engineering school instead of a college is opened at present. As already pointed out in paragraph 2 above the Government have now under consideration proposals for the opening of such a school.

5. It is for consideration whether the resolution may be opposed, whether it should be discussed in Council, whether additional information should be called for and as to who should take charge of it.

N.K.—25-3-17.

The demand hitherto made has been only for a second Engineering school. The present proposal for a second college does not appear to be a serious one. It is evidently intended to avoid any objection to another school on the ground suggested by the committee that such an institution isolated from a college will lose in ideals and traditions and the advantage of a high grade supervision. In the new school which is to be opened it is sought to get over this difficulty by treating the institution as a branch of the college placing it entirely under the control of the Principal of the College. The latter is also expected to pay visits to the school. Perhaps if this position is explained to the Honourable Additional Member and if it is stated that the Committee's objection will not be allowed to prevail, he may feel assured that the school will be opened and may not press for the college. From the linked file it will be seen that the preliminaries for the settlement of a scheme for the school are almost now complete.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARI—26-3-17.

The resolution as it stands will clearly, if pressed, have to be opposed; the demand is inopportune; the objections set forth by His Excellency the Governor and quoted in the note supra have even more force now than they had when made. Opportunity may perhaps be taken to make a statement on the proposed school in the Circars, in view of which the Honourable Additional Member may see fit to withdraw the resolution.

E. A. HARVEY—27-3-17.

yes

For Council on Thursday

P. 27.3.17

Mr. G. V. Venkataswami

27/3/17

Not moved

4.4.17

4

Extract from the Proceedings of an Adjourned Meeting of the Council of the Governor of Fort St. George assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Act of Parliament, 5 & 6 Geo. V, Ch. 61.

The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, the 4th day of April 1917.

RESOLUTION *RE* ESTABLISHMENT OF A SECOND ENGINEERING COLLEGE.

The following resolution of which the Hon'ble Rao Bahadur M. Ramachandra Rao had given notice was not moved :—

XXXI. This Council recommends to the Governor in Council that a scheme for the establishment of another fully equipped Civil Engineering College be drawn up and submitted for the approval of the Secretary of State and the Government of India.

R. A. GRAHAM,  
*Acting Secretary to Govt., L. & M. (Legislative) Dept.*

The resolution was not moved at the meeting.

2. Proposals have since been called for in regard to the establishment of an engineering school at Vizagapatam - f.o no 722, dated the 31<sup>st</sup> May 1917.

3. The papers may it is submitted, be  
order no 797 & 15.6.17  
more. Recorded

CR 15/6/17  
14.6.17

Legislative Council

Recording notes cancelled  
with the resolution proposed  
by the Hon. Rao Bahadur  
M. Ramachandra Rao  
Panhulu to be moved at  
the meeting of the  
held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April  
1917 on the subject  
of the establishment  
of the Eng<sup>g</sup> College.

Se  
13.6.17

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MINISTRY  
OF  
GOVERNMENT

191

MAIN G.O. No. 191 DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

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A = Copy in full.  
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