

N. P.

Government of Madras

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT

G.O. No. 680, 29th May 1918

Victoria College, Palghat

Acceding to the request of the Municipal Council, Palghat, that the — should be taken over by Government and requesting the Director of Public Instruction to submit proposals to give effect to the decision.

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Acceding to the request of the Municipal Council, Palghat, that the — should be taken over by Government and requesting the Director of Public Instruction to submit proposals to give effect to the decision.

READ—the following paper:—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, M.A., F.R.H.S., C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—the 25th February 1918.

No.—Ref. on Cur. 710.

In submitting the letter of the Chairman, Municipal Council, Palghat, C. No. 199, dated the 8th December 1917, with the endorsement thereon of the Collector of Malabar No. 503, dated 19th January 1918, I have the honour to observe that the arguments adduced by the Chairman amount to a plea for Government to assume management of the college in order to relieve the municipality of its financial responsibility for the institution. It is no doubt true that the institution serves the need of a much larger area than Palghat, that instead of as formerly being a source of income to the municipality it is likely to entail on the management an increasing expenditure and that speaking generally collegiate education is not a proper charge on municipal funds. If therefore, as I presume, Government is not prepared to see the college classes closed and if the institution continues under municipal management, the grant of a considerable annual subsidy seems inevitable. Further whatever non-recurring expenditure may be needed for buildings and equipment will probably fall mainly upon Government. Taking all these facts into consideration I am of opinion that on the whole the college under the immediate control of Government would probably cost not much more than if left under the municipality. Also from the standpoint of its smooth and efficient working there is hardly room for doubt that the transfer would be of great advantage.

2. A statement of the existing scale of staff obtained from the Principal is submitted herewith. If the college is taken over the existing scale cannot, it is submitted, be reduced but it can be slightly modified so as to fit in well enough with that in the existing Government colleges and that adopted for the colleges proposed to be taken over under departmental management under the model school scheme.

I consider that the post of Principal should be included in the Provincial Educational Service and the posts of college assistants and school assistants in the cadre of subordinate collegiate service and in the cadre of headmasters and school assistants, respectively.

Proposals for suitable scales of staff and establishment will be submitted if Government decide on assuming the management of the institution.

3. The net cost of taking over the college under Government management may roughly be estimated as follows:—

Expenditure.				RS.
Salaries and establishment	...	...	...	38,000
Contingencies, etc.	...	...	...	5,000
Pension and leave allowance charges	...	...	...	9,000
Total				52,000
Receipts.				
School fees	...	...	...	30,000

The net cost will thus be Rs. 22,000. Against this net cost credit may be taken for the annual subsidy of Rs. 6,000 now paid to the municipality. The fee income is estimated at a smaller figure than that in the statement accompanying the Chairman's letter inasmuch as the stricter regulation of admissions to colleges by the University and the introduction of the system of examinations by compartments in the

Intermediate will probably result in a fall in the fee income of the college department.

4. I would further invite the attention of Government to the fact that of the Rs. 21,000 advanced by Government to the council for hostel buildings to be repaid in twenty annual instalments of Rs. 1,545, Rs. 17,525-1-11* still remains unpaid and that the municipality presumably contemplate its continuing to do so if Government takes over the college.

	RS.	A.	P.
* Outstanding loan ...	17,181	7	10
Interest ...	343	10	1
Total ...	17,525	1	11

ENCLOSURES

Letter—from M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib R. SEKHARA MENON AVARGAL, B.A., Chairman, Municipal Council, Palghat.

To—the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department (through the Director of Public Instruction, the Collector of Malabar and the Sub-Collector, Palghat).

Dated—the 8th December 1917.

No.—C-199.

I have the honour to bring the following resolution of the council for the very favourable consideration of the Government:—

- “5. Read Chairman's memorandum containing suggestion for the council's consideration the question of handing over the Victoria College to the Government.
“The council unanimously resolves to request the Government to take up the management of the Victoria College.”

2. I may be permitted to bring to the notice of the Government that a similar resolution was passed by this council in 19th November 1913 and in forwarding the said resolution for the consideration of the Government, I wrote the appended letter. That letter contains the history of the college and its financial conditions. The Government was then not pleased to take up the management of the college—vide G.O. Mjs. No. 1085, dated 17th July 1915.

3. In addition to the reasons mentioned in the above letter I have only to add that almost all the complications in the administration of municipal affairs in Palghat have centred round college problems. It will be a great relief to the council if the Government is pleased to take up the management of the college.

Letter—from M.R.Ry. R. SEKHARA MENON AVARGAL, B.A., Chairman, Municipal Council, Palghat.

To—the Secretary to Government, Local and Municipal Department (through the Director of Public Instruction, the Collector of Malabar and the Sub-Collector, Palghat).

Dated—the 26th November 1913.

No.—C. 507.

In forwarding herewith a resolution of the council requesting that the Government may be pleased to take up the management of the Victoria College, I have the honour to bring to the notice of the Government certain facts connected with the college in detail for the very favourable consideration of the Government.

By G.O. No. 406, Educational, dated 4th August 1887, the Government sanctioned the opening of a second-grade college department in the Municipal High School, Palghat, on the condition stated by the Director of Public Instruction. Up to that time, the Government was meeting the net cost of the high school department amounting to Rs. 4,701 in the year 1886-87. The then Director of Public Instruction suggested that the council should meet the cost of the high school department and that the Government should meet the net cost of the college department. The council in their resolution, dated 22nd June 1887, resolved to request the Government to allow them to open a second-grade college on the understanding mentioned above and accordingly the college was opened on the 1st January 1888. The college was worked under this system till 1891 when the council when submitting their budget estimate for 1891-92, requested the Government to change the system and to give them salary grant.

“The council resolve to inform the Government of their wish to put an end to the present system by which the Government bears the net cost of the college department of the Victoria College and to apply from the next official year in the ordinary way to the Director of Public Instruction for salary grant under chapter 11 of the Grant-in-Aid Code as suggested by the Director of Public Instruction in his letter No. 384, dated 13th July 1888.”

The Government in their G.O. Mis. No. 521, dated 8th April 1891, approved the suggestion of the council. This salary grant was being paid by the Government till 1905, the amount of such payment coming to nearly Rs. 4,000 annually till 1904 and Rs. 2,000 in 1905. The amount was reduced to Rs. 2,000 in 1905 on the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction and finally the whole grant was suspended as the Director considered that the College “fee revenue alone is more than adequate to cover its current expenditure.” In 1906-1907 and 1908-1909 no necessity was felt to apply for grant and so no grant was applied for.

The college staff was reorganized in 1909. The Government when sanctioning the proposal of the council for reorganization of the staff requested the council to enhance the rate of fees levied in the several classes to make the college self-supporting as the new scheme involved an additional expenditure of Rs. 5,300 per annum while the average annual surplus has been only about Rs. 1,500—vide G.O. No. 1541 M., dated 16th September 1908. The council brought to the notice of the Government that “any enhancement of fees will prove most prejudicial to the interest of the college unless a general enhancement of fees in all the college and high schools in the Malabar and adjacent districts is ordered by Government and requested the Government to make an annual grant of Rs. 4,000 from Provincial funds. The kind attention of the Government is requested to this office letter No. 206, dated 16th October 1908, read in G.O. No. 577 M., dated 14th April 1909. From a perusal of that letter and the resolution quoted therein it will be clear that the college is more a Malabar district college than a college of the town council and that the council will not be justified in utilizing the rate-payers' funds for higher education without aid from Government. The Government in their G.O. No. 577, dated 14th April 1909, stated that they will be satisfied for the present if the fees in the college classes alone are raised by Rs. 3 per term and if this is done they will be prepared to make a grant not exceeding Rs. 3,000 towards the meeting of excess of charges over receipts. Accordingly Rs. 3,000 each was paid by the Government during 1909-10 and 1910-11, though the deficit during these years were only Rs. 1,570-4-7 and Rs. 742-11-0, respectively. As there was a surplus in 1911-12 no grant was applied for.

As there was no sufficient accommodation in the college and a hostel was found necessary for the college department, the council was granted a loan of Rs. 21,000 by the Government to make up the amount of the cost of these buildings. This is returnable in twenty equal instalments of Rs. 1,545 each. This is an additional and annual burden for full twenty years. Including this charge the college worked at a deficit of Rs. 8,811 in 1912-13. In December 1912, the council applied for a grant of Rs. 5,500, the anticipated deficit, but the Government was not then pleased to make any grant from Provincial funds in aid of the institution. In their review of the administration report of this municipality for 1912-13, the Government remarked “that the Victoria College worked efficiently, but cost the council Rs. 8,812”, but were not pleased to point out any source from which the council was to recoup the deficit.

It will be seen from the statement of the facts above, that the Government was originally meeting the net cost of the high school department till 1886-87 amounting to Rs. 4,000 a year, that the second-grade college was introduced in 1887 with the sanction of the Government and under the belief that the Government will meet the entire net cost of the college department, that the Government met such cost till 1891 when the salary grant system was introduced under which the grant was continued till 1905 but no grant was given during 1906-07 to 1909-10 as the college worked with a surplus and when the reorganization of the college staff involved an additional expenditure the Government agreed to make a fixed grant of Rs. 3,000 per year if the fees in the college classes were raised by Rs. 3 per term and such grant was made for two years ending with 1910-11.

The Government was not pleased to assign any reason for refusing the grant in 1912-13, but it is clear that it is practically impossible for the council to continue the management under such adverse circumstances.

During the current year the college hostel was opened on the 2nd October and it cost the council over Rs. 3,000 and odd for furniture, cooking utensils and other things and the council has not been able to sanction for want of funds several other necessary things asked for by the principal and it is roughly estimated that the college itself will be working at a deficit of Rs. 2,500. A new teacher on a salary of Rs. 80-2-100 was also recently sanctioned in G.O. Mis. No. 2129 M., dated 3rd November 1913. For the next financial year, too, a deficit of Rs. 8,413 has been anticipated by the Principal in his budget estimate just received for which help from Government is expected. The hostel is primarily meant and taken advantage of by pupils who come from outside municipal limits. A new hostel is to be opened soon for the benefit of the high school pupils and this will also involve additional expenditure.

In this connexion, I have the honour to invite the attention of the Government to their remarks contained in their Memorandum No. 459-2 M., dated 2nd March 1909, that “the Government are not in favour of municipal councils burdening themselves with collegiate education” and also to the remarks of the Collector of Malabar contained in G.O. No. 244, dated 8th February 1913, stating that “the college is becoming a serious drain on the resources of the council”, and to add that the municipal council and the general public are not in favour of the rate-payers' money being utilized for higher education.

I have, therefore, the honour to request that as the council will not, within their limited means, be in a position to meet the large expenditure for efficiently maintaining the college, its hostel, and the high school department, from municipal funds, you will be so good as to obtain the sanction of the Government to take up the institution under their departmental management.

Endorsement No. 1754-R., dated 11th December 1917.

Submitted to the Collector of Malabar.

P. MACQUEEN,
Sub-Collector.

Endorsement R.O.C. No. 503-Ml., dated 4th January 1918.

Returned.

2. I kept this till receipt of the budget to see the financial position of the college this year, and the anticipated position next. But I cannot find what I want.

3. The budget estimate for 1918-19, including college receipts and expenditure, provides a balance of Rs. 1,640, which is below the minimum. College charges are put at Rs. 35,000+2,550—what are the estimated receipts?

4. I understand that the hostel is self-supporting—income and expenditure are both put at Rs. 8,000.

F. B. EVANS,
Collector.

C. No. 199/17, dated 15th January 1918.

Resubmitted:

2. The budget figures relating to Victoria College for 1918-19 furnished by the Principal showed a deficit of Rs. 2,229-3-0. As the municipal balance would be too low if those figures were adopted, the council had to reduce allotments under certain items of expenditure.

3. A statement showing the receipts and charges as revised by the council is herein enclosed.

P. N. MADHAVA MENON,
Vice-Chairman, Palghat Municipal Council.

Victoria College.

BUDGET ESTIMATE, 1918-19.

Receipts.					RS.
School fees	...	...	...	...	35,750
Other receipts including hostel room rent	...	...	...	...	100
Grant from Government	...	...	...	...	6,000
					41,850
Expenditure.					
Establishment salary	...	...	...	...	35,000
Contingencies	...	...	...	...	2,550
Books, periodicals, etc.	...	...	...	...	900
Stationery	...	...	...	...	900
Printing	...	...	...	...	200
Repayment of loan	...	...	...	...	1,545
Provident fund bonus	...	...	...	...	1,800
					42,895
Deficit					1,045

Endorsement No. 503/ML-17, dated 19th January 1918.

Forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction.

2. The figures now given will show the anticipated financial situation for 1918-19.

3. I recommend that the college should be taken under Government management, because I do not think that a municipal council is the proper body to manage a college which provides education for a large extra-municipal area, and because in this case municipal management has led to constant difficulties.

F. B. EVANS,
Collector.

Order—No. 680, Home (Education), dated 29th May 1918.

The Chairman, Municipal Council, Palghat, submits for orders a copy of a resolution passed at a meeting of the municipal council held in December 1917 unanimously requesting the Government to take up the management of the Victoria College. After a careful consideration of the representations made, the Government are pleased to direct that the Victoria College at Palghat be taken over at an early date under direct departmental control. The Director is requested to submit detailed proposals to give effect to the decision.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
" Chairman, Municipal Council, Palghat.
" Collector of Malabar.
" Local and Municipal Department.
" Financial Department.
Editors' Table (order only).

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 680, HOME (EDUCATION), DATED 29TH MAY 1918.

[SUBJECT.—Proposals for taking over the Victoria College, Palghat, under Government management.]

Previous papers.

G.O. 512 M.,	8th April	1891.	G.O. 583, Educational,	31st May	1915.
" 1541 M.,	16th September	1908.	" 592 "	7th June	"
" 577 M.,	14th April	1909.	" 1085 M.,	17th July	"
" 1323 M.,	17th August	"	" 1416 M.,	9th September	"
" 86, Educational,	21st February	1910.	" 106, Educational,	3rd February	1916.
" 315 M.,	21st "	1912.	" 608 M.,	28th March	"
" 1102 M.,	14th June	"	" 536, Educational,	16th May	"
" 244 M.,	8th February	1913.	" 651 "	13th June	"
" 394, Educational,	1st May	"	" 1625 M.,	14th September	"
" 452 "	17th "	"	" 510 M.,	19th March	1917.
" 1007 "	5th November	"	" 1430 M.,	22nd August	"
" 1221 "	2nd "	1914	" 128, Home (Edn.),	4th February	1918.
" 1254 "	9th "	"	" 456 M.,	21st March	"
" 470 M.,	24th March	1915.			

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated the 25th February 1918,
R.O.C. No. 710.

The Chairman, Municipal Council, Palghat, submits for the favourable consideration of the Government a resolution passed by the council that the Government should take up the management of the Victoria College, Palghat, which is at present a municipal institution. The Victoria College, Palghat, was one of the institutions which it was proposed to take over under Government management in the original scheme for the establishment of model high schools in this Presidency—please see paragraph 7 of Letter No. 87, Educational, dated the 21st February 1910. That scheme was opposed by missionary bodies and the public generally. Please see correspondence on pages 2 to 13 of G.O. No. 536, dated 16th May 1916, and His Excellency the Governor's note on page 7 of notes to Government Order *ibid.* The scheme was therefore abandoned. In its place, however, a smaller scheme was substituted under which it was proposed to take over four institutions under Government management and to attach to these and to a few of the already existing Government secondary schools training sections for the training of secondary grade teachers (please see letter No. 537, dated 16th May 1916). Though the original idea was to attach the training section for Malayalam-speaking teachers to the Victoria College, Palghat, the Director of Public Instruction subsequently altered the proposal (paragraph 2 of Director of Public Instruction's letter, page 15 of G.O. No. 536, dated 16th May 1916). He selected Tellicherry instead of Palghat for the location of the training class for the reasons that the former is more central and suitable and that the Brennen College, Tellicherry, "which admits of considerable development seems to be in greater need of efficient control than the Victoria College". The Government accepted the proposal of the Director of Public Instruction and in the scheme which was submitted to the Government of India in letter No. 537, Educational, dated 16th May 1916 (with G.O. No. 536, dated 16th May 1916) it has been proposed to provincialize the Brennen College, Tellicherry.

2. The Palghat Municipal Council requested in 1913 that the Victoria College should be taken over under Government management as it was found that the college could not be maintained without loss to the council (pages 1 to 6 of G.O. No. 1085 M., dated 17th July 1915). The Director of Public Instruction, however, without going into the question of the management recommended the payment of a subsidy of Rs. 2,500, being the anticipated loss to the council on account of the college in 1913-14 (page 13 of G.O. No. 1085 M., dated 17th July 1915). Subsequently in G.O. No. 1085 M., dated 17th July 1915, the council was informed that the Government were unable to comply with their request to take over the college under their management.

3. The main reasons on which the present as well as the former proposal of the council are based are—

- (1) that the council is not able to meet the growing expenses of the college,
- (2) that it is not in favour of its money being utilized for higher education, and
- (3) that several complications in the administration of municipal affairs in Palghat have centred round college problems and that it will be a great relief to the council if the Government take over the management of the college.

As collegiate education is not a proper charge on municipal funds and as the grant of a considerable annual subsidy is inevitable if the college should be retained under municipal management, the Director of Public Instruction considers that on the whole the college under the immediate control of Government would probably cost not much more than if left under the municipality. There are three municipal colleges in the Presidency, viz., the Brennen College, Tellicherry, the Victoria College, Palghat, and the Salem College. Of these the first will shortly be provincialized as stated in paragraph 1 above. There is no question of change of management so far as the Salem College is concerned. The receipts and charges of the Victoria College, Palghat, for the three years 1914-15 to 1916-17 were as below :—

Paragraph 11, page 3 of G.O. 1416 M., 9th September 1916.		Receipts.*	Charges.
Paragraph 12, page 3 of G.O. 1625 M., 14th September 1916.		RS.	RS.
1914-15	...	41,315	38,914
1915-16	...	41,388	41,351
1916-17	...	46,618	47,870

* Includes Government grant of Rs. 5,349 in 1914-15 and 6,000 per annum afterwards.

The budget estimate of the college for 1918-19 is expected to result in a deficit to the council of Rs. 1,045. The Government are at present paying a subsidy of Rs. 6,000 to the council towards the cost of the salaries of the staff of the college (page 8 of G.Os. No. 1007, Educational, dated 5th November 1913 and No. 583, Educational, dated 31st May 1915). It may be possible for the Government to meet any deficit on account of the college which may occur in the near future if the council is unable to meet it. But if it is taken over under Government management it may entail an extra expenditure, according to the Director of Public Instruction's rough estimate, of Rs. 16,000 per annum. It is therefore for consideration whether the plea of financial inability put forward by the council may be deemed valid.

4. As regards the other plea, viz., that it feels unable to manage the affairs of the college smoothly, it is submitted that the policy of Government in regard to secondary and higher education is to rely mainly on private agency. It is doubtful whether in the present case the college can be placed under private management. An enquiry in this regard was made in 1909 but the council then reported that there was no private body who would undertake the management of the college (page 7 of G.O. No. 1323 M., dated 17th August 1909). It is for consideration whether the council may be informed that the Government are unable to comply with their request to take over the management under their control.

S.K.—14-3-18.

T.K.—19-3-18.

The assumption by Government of the management of the college will in a measure be in contravention of the observations of the Secretary of State on the model schools scheme, which had been accepted and acted upon by this Government (Letter

No. 2339-3, dated 20th June 1913 on page 14 of G.O. No. 536, Educational, dated 16th May 1916). The modified scheme has not yet been sanctioned by the Secretary of State; and in respect of the West Coast, another college (the Brennen College, Tellicherry) has been proposed to be taken up. It seems therefore to be out of the question at present to consider any proposal to take over this college.

Short of finding a private management for the college, which under present conditions may obviously be undesirable, the continuance of the existing system seems the only course feasible. Of course some further easing of the burden to the municipality on account of the college may be necessary. From the figures (on page 4 of current file) for 1918-19 it will be seen that not much in this direction may be needed. A deficit of only about Rs. 1,045 has to be faced. Provincial subsidy towards this may be granted. After all the subsidies given to the council in this way may be much lower than what might have had to be paid in the shape of grants if the institution had been an aided college under private management. Another means of giving relief to the council may be the waiving of the balance of loan of Rs. 21,000 taken from Government towards the extension of the college buildings and hostel (G.O. No. 1102 M., dated 14th June 1912). The council is paying Rs. 1,545 annually and the waiving of this sum will be a substantial reduction in the charges on account of the college. The loan outstanding is Rs. 17,181.

The incapacity of the council to manage an institution like the college has been sufficiently well demonstrated already. But we may get on for a few more years as best as we could, with all the assistance the department could give to the management, before considering the question of assumption of control.

Local and Municipal may be consulted u.o.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—20-3-18.

I agree generally.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU—22-3-18.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Please see this office-note previously written and the Secretary's remarks thereon. The Home (Education) Department do not propose to consider for a few more years to come the question of assuming the control of the Victoria College, Palghat. The financial position of the Palghat Municipal Council is far from satisfactory. Its budget for 1918-19 is expected to close with a balance of Rs. 930 under general funds or 0.75 per cent of the estimated receipts under those funds (vide paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 456 M., dated 21st March 1918). The Home (Education) Department suggest the following means for mitigating the burden of the municipal council on account of managing the college :—

- (1) the grant of a subsidy to meet any deficit on account of the college; and
- (2) the waiving of the balance of loan of Rs. 21,000 (viz., Rs. 17,181) taken from Government towards the extension of the college buildings and hostel.

Submitted that there seems to be no objection to accept these views. It is, however, for consideration whether it may be suggested to Home (Education) that in lieu of item (1) above the net cost on account of the college may be paid from Provincial funds.

G.V.—4-4-18.

K.A.G.—4-4-18.

The management of the college by the council has led to difficulties in the past and its transfer to the Government would be a most advantageous step. On this ground, we may support the council's request strongly.

V. T. KRISHNAMA ACHARIYAR—4-4-18.

From the Local and Municipal point of view it is eminently desirable that the college should be taken over at once.

R. A. GRAHAM—5-4-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Both the Director of Public Instruction and Local and Municipal Department support the request of the Palghat Municipal Council that Government should assume control of the Victoria College. The institution is now working at a deficit and in view of this fact and also of the circumstance that almost all the complications in the administration of the municipal affairs in Palghat have centred round college problems, the council is anxious to be relieved of its management.

2. The college classes are well attended and there were on the 31st March 1917 as many as 187 students in the junior and senior intermediate classes. The institution thus serves a real public need. The college classes cannot therefore be closed without inflicting undue hardship on many poor parents who now send their boys to Palghat for higher education. Nor, having regard to recent events, does it appear desirable to continue the institution under municipal management. There is constant risk of high educational ideals being sacrificed to petty local squabbles. Most of the troubles that till now arose in connexion with the college could have been avoided by a transfer at the proper time of individual members of the staff to some other institution but this is not possible under present conditions. There is at present no competent private body willing to assume the control of the college and, in the circumstances, the only course appears to be to bring the institution under departmental control. The Director states that, for the efficient maintenance of the college, the subsidy now paid by Government will have to be increased, if continued under municipal management. He also points out that the taking over of the college by Government would probably cost not much more than if left under the municipality.

3. Having regard to the above considerations, this department may support the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction that the college should be taken over by Government. Such a measure need not, however, prejudice the consideration of applications, if any, that may be submitted in future years by private bodies able and willing to take over the college under their management.

4. The file may be sent u.o. to Financial for remarks.

N.K.—17-4-18.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—18-4-18.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Both the Local and Municipal and Home Department support the proposals of the Chairman, Municipal Council, Palghat, Collector of Malabar and the Director of Public Instruction that the Victoria College (now a municipal institution) should be taken over under Government management.

2. The financial effect of taking over the college has been roughly calculated by the Director of Public Instruction at an extra cost to Provincial funds of about Rs. 16,000 per annum (after taking into account the pensionary and leave charges of the staff). The Director of Public Instruction states—

(a) that if the institution continues under municipal management the grant of a considerable annual subsidy is inevitable; and

(b) that the college under the immediate control of Government would probably cost not much more than if left under the municipality.

As regards (a), it is submitted that the receipts of the college excluding the Government grant of Rs. 6,000 per annum has been during recent years far less than the expenditure and it would therefore appear that large Government grants will be necessary in future also. As regards (b), however, it is submitted that it is possible that the college, as a Government institution, will be more expensive than as a municipal institution—cf. paragraph 4 (5) of Secretary of State's Despatch on page 3 of G.O. No. 536, Educational, dated 16th May 1916, regarding Government model high schools. Further in connexion with the recommendations of the Public Services Commission, the Home Department have proposed an officer of the Indian Educational Service (future class I) as Principal of the Mangalore College; if this proposal is finally adopted, the Principalship of the Victoria College, which is now proposed to be provided for in the Provincial Educational Service will also have to be included in the future class I.

3. The reasons adduced in support of the assumption of the college by Government are—

(i) the municipal council is financially unable and unwilling to maintain the college; and

(ii) there have been complications in the administration of municipal affairs, which have centred round college problems.

With reference to (i) above, it is submitted that a similar application made by the council in 1913 on this ground was not entertained by Government (G.O. No. 1085 M., dated 17th July 1915). With the present subsidy from Government of Rs. 6,000 per annum, the financial position of the college is not very alarming—the anticipated deficit in 1918-19 is only Rs. 1,045. Also Government can always help the council by sanctioning grants when the need therefor is established and it does not therefore appear that the taking over of the college need serious consideration on this ground.

The Collector of Malabar, the Local and Municipal and the Home Departments seem to attach much importance to the circumstance referred to as (ii) above, and it is a matter for consideration whether on this ground Government should assume the management of the college.

4. There is however a course which may be adopted if the Government consider that the college need not be made a Government institution avoiding at the same time the disadvantages brought to notice. Government may agree to meet the net cost of the institution and this will relieve the municipality of the financial burden complained of. As regards the complications in municipal affairs on account of the college in its present state, the Government may agree to provide the whole or a portion of the staff from the permanent cadres of the Educational Department, the officers so deputed being treated as on foreign service of the first kind. This course will have the advantages referred to at A of the Home Department notes on page 4 ante.

The above arrangement will practically amount to treating the college as a Government institution although it will be a municipal institution nominally; but it will obviate the necessity of a reorganization of the staff and the college generally on the model of other Government colleges.

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L. DAVIDSON—2-5-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Submitted that the file may now be circulated to His Excellency the Governor, the Honourable Member (Local and Municipal) and the Honourable Member (Financial).

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—3-5-18.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—4-5-18.

6 NOTES TO G.O. No. 680, HOME (EDUCATION), 29TH MAY 1918

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P[ENTLAND]—16-5-18.

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A draft order is submitted for approval.

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N.K.—20-5-18.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—21-5-18.

Draft to Local and Municipal for acceptance.

R.R.—22-5-18.

LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Accepted in Local and Municipal.

R. A. GRAHAM—27-5-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

The file may now be circulated to the Honourable Member (Financial).

C.R.—27-5-18.

R.R.—28-5-18.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—29-5-18.

Issue.

R.R.—29-5-18.

[G.O. No. 680, Home (Education), dated 29th May 1918.]

Victoria College, Palanai.

READ AGAIN G.O. No., dated 191

” ” ” ” ” 191 .

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 560-A, From the D. P. I. R. O., (No. 710, dated 25-2-1918 191

” ” ” ” ” ” ” ” 191

” ” ” ” ” ” ” ” 191

ORDER.

Press.

No. 680, dated 29. 5 - 1918.

N.P.

Page 5 of c.f.

N.K.
21-5-18.

1st reminder to issue after
one month.

To the D.P.I.
 C. M. C. Palghat.
 Collector of Malabar
 & M. Dept.
 Financial Dept.

R.B. copy given

2. The Palghat Municipal Council requested in 1913 that the Victoria College should be taken over under Government management as it was found that the college could not be maintained without loss to the council (pages 1 to 6 of G.O. No. 1085 M., dated 17th July 1915). The Director of Public Instruction, however, without going into the question of the management recommended the payment of a subsidy of Rs. 2,500, being the anticipated loss to the council on account of the college in 1913-14 (page 13 of G.O. No. 1085 M., dated 17th July 1915). Subsequently in G.O. No. 1085 M., dated 17th July 1915, the council was informed that the Government were unable to comply with their request to take over the college under their management.

3. The main reasons on which the present as well as the former proposal of the council are based are—

- (1) that the council is not able to meet the growing expenses of the college,
- (2) that it is not in favour of its money being utilized for higher education, and
- (3) that several complications in the administration of municipal affairs in

Palghat have centred round college problems and that it will be a great relief to the council if the Government take over the management of the college.

As collegiate education is not a proper charge on municipal funds, as the grant of a considerable annual subsidy is inevitable if the college should be retained under municipal management, the Director of Public Instruction considers that on the whole the college under the immediate control of Government would probably cost not much more than if left under the municipality. There are three municipal colleges in the Presidency, viz., the Brennen College, Tellicherry, the Victoria College, Palghat, and the Salem College. Of these the first will shortly be provincialized as stated in paragraph 1 above. There is no question of change of management so far as the Salem College is concerned. The receipts and charges of the Victoria College, Palghat, for the three years 1914-15 to 1916-17 were as below:—

				Receipts.*	Charges.
				RS.	RS.
Paragraph 11, page 3 of G.O.					
1416 M., 9th September 1915.					
Paragraph 12, page 3 of G.O.					
1625 M., 14th September	1914-15	...	...	41,315	38,914
1916.	1915-16	...	...	41,388	41,351
Paragraph 13, page 3 of G.O.	1916-17	...	...	46,618	47,870
1430 M., 22nd August 1917.					

* Includes Government grant of Rs. 5,340 in 1914-15 and 6,000 per annum afterwards.

The budget estimate of the college for 1918-19 is expected to result in a deficit to the council of Rs. 1,045. The Government are at present paying a subsidy of Rs. 6,000 to the council towards the cost of the salaries of the staff of the college (page 8 of G.Os. No. 1007, Educational, dated 5th November 1913 and No. 583, Educational, dated 31st May 1915). It may be possible for the Government to meet any deficit on account of the college which may occur in the near future if the council is unable to meet it. But if it is taken over under Government management it may entail an extra expenditure, according to the Director of Public Instruction's rough estimate, of Rs. 16,000 per annum. It is therefore for consideration whether the plea of financial inability put forward by the council may be deemed valid.

3. As regards the other plea, viz., that it feels unable to manage the affairs of the college smoothly, it is submitted that the policy of Government in regard to secondary and higher education is to rely mainly on private agency. It is doubtful whether in the present case the college can be placed under private management. An enquiry in this regard was made in 1909 but the council then reported that there was no private body who would undertake the management of the college (page 7 of G.O. No. 1323 M., dated 17th August 1909). It is for consideration whether the council may be informed that the Government are unable to comply with their request to take over the management under their control.

S.K.—14-3-18.

T.K.—19-3-18.

NOTES TO G.O. No. 680, HOME (EDUCATION), 29TH MAY 1918

3

The assumption by Government of the management of the college will in a measure be in contravention of the observations of the Secretary of State on the model schools scheme, which had been accepted and acted upon by this Government (Letter No. 2339-3, dated 20th June 1913 on page 14 of G.O. No. 536, Educational, dated 16th May 1916). The modified scheme has not yet been sanctioned by the Secretary of State; and in respect of the West Coast, another college (the Brennen College, Tellicherry) has been proposed to be taken up. It seems therefore to be out of the question at present to consider any proposal to take over this college.

Short of finding a private management for the college, which under present conditions may obviously be undesirable, the continuance of the existing system seems the only course feasible. Of course some further easing of the burden to the municipality on account of the college may be necessary. From the figures (on page 12 of current file) for 1918-19 it will be seen that not much in this direction may be needed. A deficit of only about Rs. 1,045 has to be faced. Provincial subsidy towards this may be granted. After all the subsidies given to the council in this way may be much lower than what might have had to be paid in the shape of grants if the institution had been an aided college under private management. Another means of giving relief to the council may be the waiving of the balance of loan of Rs. 21,000 taken from Government towards the extension of the college buildings and hostel (G.O. No. 1102 M., dated 14th June 1912). The council is paying Rs. 1,545 annually and the waiving of this sum will be a substantial reduction in the charges on account of the college. The loan outstanding is Rs. 17,181.

The incapacity of the council to manage an institution like the college has been sufficiently well demonstrated already. But we may get on for a few more years as best as we could, with all the assistance the department could give to the management, before considering the question of assumption of control.

Local and Municipal may be consulted u.o.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—20-3-18.

I agree generally.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU—22-3-18.

~~Previously sent to~~ LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT.

Please see this office-note and the Secretary's remarks thereon in the linked file. The Home (Education) Department do not propose to consider for a few more years to come the question of assuming the control of the Victoria College, Palghat. The financial position of the Palghat Municipal Council is far from satisfactory. Its budget for 1918-19 is expected to close with a balance of Rs. 930 under general funds or 0.75 per cent of the estimated receipts under those funds (vide paragraph 3 of G.O. No. 456 M., dated 21st March 1918). The Home (Education) Department suggest the following means for mitigating the burden of the municipal council on account of managing the college:—

- (1) the grant of a subsidy to meet any deficit on account of the college; and
- (2) the waiving of the balance of loan of Rs. 21,000 (viz., Rs. 17,181) taken from Government towards the extension of the college buildings and hostel.

Submitted that there seems to be no objection to accept these views. It is, however, for consideration whether it may be suggested to Home (Education) that in lieu of item (1) above the net cost on account of the college may not be paid from Provincial funds.

G.V.—4-4-18.

K.A.G.—4-4-18.

The management of the college by the council has led to difficulties in the past and its transfer to the Government would be a most advantageous step. On this ground, we may support the council's request strongly.

V. T. KRISHNAMA ACHARIYAR—4-4-18.

From the Local and Municipal point of view it is eminently desirable that the college should be taken over at once.

R. A. GRAHAM—5-4-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Both the Director of Public Instruction and Local and Municipal Department support the request of the Palghat Municipal Council that Government should assume control of the Victoria College. The institution is now working at a deficit and in view of this fact and also of the circumstance that almost all the complications in the administration of the municipal affairs in Palghat have centred round college problems, the council is anxious to be relieved of its management.

2. The college classes are well attended and there were on the 31st March 1917 as many as 187 students in the junior and senior intermediate classes. The institution thus serves a real public need. The college classes cannot therefore be closed without inflicting undue hardship on many poor parents who now send their boys to Palghat for higher education. Nor, having regard to recent events, does it appear desirable to continue the institution under municipal management. There is constant

A risk of high educational ideals being sacrificed to petty local squabbles. Most of the troubles that till now arose in connexion with the college could have been avoided by a transfer at the proper time of individual members of the staff to some other institution but this is not possible under present conditions. There is at present no competent private body willing to assume the control of the college and, in the circumstances, the only course appears to be to bring the institution under departmental control. The Director states that, for the efficient maintenance of the college, the subsidy now paid by Government will have to be increased, if continued under municipal management. He also points out that the taking over of the college by Government would probably cost not much more than if left under the municipality.

3. Having regard to the above considerations, this department may support the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction that the college should be taken over by Government. Such a measure need not, however, prejudice the consideration of applications, if any, that may be submitted in future years by private bodies able and willing to take over the college under their management.

4. The file may be sent u.o. to Financial for remarks.

N.K.—17-4-18.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—18-4-18.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Both the Local and Municipal and Home Department support the proposals of the Chairman, Municipal Council, Palghat, Collector of Malabar and the Director of Public Instruction that the Victoria College (now a municipal institution) should be taken over under Government management.

2. The financial effect of taking over the college has been roughly calculated by the Director of Public Instruction at an extra cost to Provincial funds of about Rs. 16,000 per annum (after taking into account the pensionary and leave charges of the staff). The Director of Public Instruction states—

(a) that if the institution continues under municipal management the grant of a considerable annual subsidy is inevitable; and

(b) that the college under the immediate control of Government would probably cost not much more than if left under the municipality.

As regards (a), it is submitted that the receipts of the college excluding the Government grant of Rs. 6,000 per annum has been during recent years far less than the expenditure and it would therefore appear that large Government grants will be necessary in future also. As regards (b), however, it is submitted that it is possible that the college, as a Government institution, will be more expensive than as a municipal institution—cf. paragraph 4 (5) of Secretary of State's Despatch on page 3 of G.O. No. 536, Educational, dated 16th May 1916, regarding Government model high schools. Further in connexion with the recommendations of the Public Services Commission, the Home Department have proposed an officer of the Indian Educational Service (future class I) as Principal of the Mangalore College; if this proposal is finally adopted, the Principalship of the Victoria College, which is now proposed to be provided for in the Provincial Educational Service will also have to be included in the future class I.

3. The reasons adduced in support of the assumption of the college by Government are—

(i) the municipal council is financially unable and unwilling to maintain the college; and

(ii) there have been complications in the administration of municipal affairs, which have centred round college problems.

With reference to (i) above, it is submitted that a similar application made by the council in 1913 on this ground was not entertained by Government (G.O. No. 1085 M., dated 17th July 1915). With the present subsidy from Government of Rs. 6,000 per annum, the financial position of the college is not very alarming—the anticipated deficit in 1918-19 is only Rs. 1,045. Also Government can always help the council by sanctioning grants when the need therefor is established and it does not therefore appear that the taking over of the college need serious consideration on this ground.

The Collector of Malabar, the Local and Municipal and the Home Departments seem to attach much importance to the circumstance referred to as (ii) above, and it is a matter for consideration whether on this ground Government should assume the management of the college.

4. There is however a course which may be adopted if the Government consider that the college need not be made a Government institution avoiding at the same time the disadvantages brought to notice. Government may agree to meet the net cost of the institution and this will relieve the municipality of the financial burden complained of. As regards the complications in municipal affairs on account of the college in its present state, the Government may agree to provide the whole or a portion of the staff from the permanent cadres of the Educational Department, the officers so deputed being treated as on foreign service of the first kind. This course will have the advantages referred to at A of the Home Department notes on page 4 ante.

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Issue.

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[G.O. No. 680, Home (Education), dated 29th May 1918.]

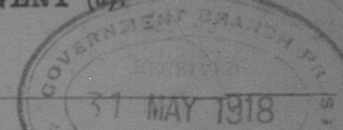
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