

Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION).

G.O. No. 1251, 20th September 1918

Government Girls' School, Cannanore

Permitting the headmistress and the two assistant mistresses of the — to occupy the quarters provided for them free of rent.

N. P.

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ORIGINAL

Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 1251, 20th September 1918

Government Girls' School, Cannanore

Permitting the headmistress and the two assistant mistresses of the — to occupy the quarters provided for them free of rent.

READ—the following papers :—

I

G.O. No. 671, Home (Education), dated 27th May 1918.

II

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 29th July 1918.
No.—R.C. 2919.

I have the honour to request that Government will be pleased to reconsider their orders contained in G.O. No. 671, Home (Education), dated 27th May 1918, and allow the headmistress and the two assistant mistresses of the Government Girls' High School, Cannanore, to live free of rent in the quarters to be provided for them. A concession in the shape of free quarters or house rent allowance has been granted in the case of the marginally-noted institutions and I beg to urge that the same consideration should be shown towards the headmistress and two assistants of the Government Girls' High School, Cannanore. I invite attention to the Government of India's pronouncement about what ought to be done for women teachers in this direction in paragraph 5 of their letter printed in G.O. No. 551, Home (Education), dated 30th April 1917, and it is clear therefrom that they are in favour of rent free quarters being provided for schoolmistresses irrespective of any service, such as supervision of a hostel, rendered in return. My idea is that Government should aim at providing rent free quarters for all women teachers, of course, where possible actually in the school premises. It is not now practicable to formulate a general scheme for housing women teachers, but wherever opportunity presents itself as in this case I think it should be seized. It is very undesirable that women teachers, often young and inexperienced, should be left to find residences where they can, but this must be the case when, as must often happen, they are employed away from the place where their families reside. This is presumably why in non-Government institutions with which Government girls' schools have to compete quarters are invariably provided. A similar provision in Government schools would greatly help in making Government service attractive to qualified and competent mistresses, who as often pointed out by me, do not value pensionary privileges to the same degree as male teachers. In the present case, if any teacher whose residence in this building is considered desirable on public grounds were unwilling to reside and pay rent, there would arise a difficulty.

2. The provision of quarters is commonly regarded as a concession, but this is only one aspect of the matter. It tends in a marked degree to the satisfactory development of female education and may be expected to play a not unimportant part in preventing the development in girls' schools of the less satisfactory features of the work of boys' schools. I mean the want of co-operation between members of the staffs and the limitation of their interest in their pupils to the class room. It cannot but be that the teachers of a school living together in the school premises develop a community of interest in their work and a sense of comradeship which must be of great advantage to the school. Moreover, in such conditions the school building and compound are much better looked after and kept as attractive and homelike as possible. This helps much towards the ideal of a school as an educational influence. In the case of Cannanore particular care was taken that the school building should not only be convenient but beautiful and in the Malabar style of architecture, the idea being to make the school in every respect as good as possible. The residence of the teachers on the premises is certainly an essential part of this idea and their doing so free of rent is therefore justifiable in the public interest.

Order—No. 1251, Home (Education), dated 20th September 1918.

In the circumstances now stated by the Director of Public Instruction, the Government are pleased, in modification of G.O. No. 671, Home (Education), dated 27th May 1918, to permit the headmistress and the two assistant mistresses of the Government Secondary School for Girls, Cannanore, to occupy the quarters provided for them free of rent.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
" Accountant-General (through Financial).
" Public Works Department.
" Financial Department.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 1251, HOME (EDUCATION),
DATED 20TH SEPTEMBER 1918.

[SUBJECT.—*Provision of free quarters for teachers in the Government Girls' school, Cannanore.*]

Previous papers :

G.O.	392, Education,	5th June 1906	G.O. Mss. 1186, Education,	12th Dec. 1913
"	25 "	15th Jan. 1909	" 941 W.,	17th May 1915
"	683-84 "	26th July 1912	" 1860 "	12th Dec. 1916
"	930 "	18th Oct. "	" 551, Home (Edn.),	30th Apr. 1917
"	1073 "	5th Dec. "	" 1164 "	10th Sep. "
"	1959 W,	16th "	" 1265 "	4th Oct. "
"	324 "	11th Feb. 1913	" 671 "	27th May 1918
"	625, Education,	2nd July "	" 886 W.,	26th July "
" Mss. 1108 "	"	12th Nov. "		

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated the 29th July 1918, R.C. No. 2919.

Please see G.O. No. 941 W., dated the 17th May 1915, and the notes connected therewith, especially His Excellency the Governor's note, dated the 17th April 1914, on pages 2 and 3 and Sir Harold Stuart's note, dated the 29th October 1914 on page 6. Though His Excellency considered that free quarters were not only desirable but necessary for mistresses, Sir Harold Stuart suggested that the levy of rent should be tried at least to begin with, in the Government Girls' school, Cannanore. His Excellency did not then press his views and it was decided to levy rent at the usual rate from the headmistress and the two assistant mistresses of that school—G.O. No. 671, Home (Education), 27th May 1918. The Director of Public Instruction now requests that the orders may be reconsidered and the mistresses allowed to occupy the quarters free of rent.

2. Since the decision above referred to, free quarters were allowed to the headmistress of the Kumbakonam school and to the superintendent and a teacher of the Coimbatore school—vide G.Os. No. 1860 W., dated 12th December 1916 and No. 1164, Home (Education), dated the 10th September 1917. The Government of India have also recommended the grant of free quarters, at the discretion of Government, not merely for mistresses but to others also—paragraph 5 of Government of India letter on page 3 of G.O. No. 551, dated 30th April 1917. This Government, however, did not pass any general orders in the matter but decided to consider each case on its merits—cf. paragraph 5 of Director of Public Instruction's letter on page 1 of G.O. No. 1265, Home (Education), dated the 4th October 1917. In this connexion attention is also solicited to the Director of Public Instruction's note on pages 3-4 and the Financial Department note on page 5 of notes to G.O. No. 1164, Home (Education), dated the 10th September 1917, and to the Director of Public Instruction's note on pages 7-8 of notes to G.O. No. 886 W., dated 26th July 1918.

3. The Director of Public Instruction appears to have made out a case for the grant of free quarters to the headmistress and the two assistants of the Cannanore school in his current letter. The file may be forwarded to the Financial Department for remarks.

P.R.—14-8-18.
T.K.—20-8-18.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—22-8-18.
R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—28-8-18.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

In G.O. No. 941 W., dated 17th May 1915, the Government sanctioned the construction at a cost of Rs. 7,600 of quarters for the headmistress and two assistant mistresses of the Government Girls' school, Cannanore; and in G.O. No. 671, Home (Education), dated 27th May 1918, the Director of Public Instruction was informed that the quarters were *not* intended to be occupied free of rent. This latter decision was based on Sir Harold Stuart's note, dated 29th October 1914, on page 6 of notes to G.O. No. 241 W., dated 17th May 1915.

2. In his present letter the Director of Public Instruction asks for a reconsideration of the above order and requests that the headmistress and two assistant mistresses (Government Girls' High school, Cannanore) should be permitted to occupy the quarters free of rent.

3. The Director of Public Instruction has quoted precedents in which free quarters have been allowed in certain cases to women teachers. He also alludes to the letter from the Government of India, dated 16th March 1917 (paragraph 5 on page 3 of G.O. No. 551, Education, dated 30th April 1917), in which they have approved the policy of giving free quarters to mistresses employed in Government Girls' schools wherever local circumstances may indicate the desirability of this course.

The Director of Public Instruction also remarks that Government should aim at providing rent-free quarters for all women teachers. He does not, however, press for the acceptance of this general scheme now, but considers it necessary that the three mistresses (including the headmistress) in the Government Girls' school, Cannanore, should be provided with rent-free quarters.

4. Submitted that the proposal may be accepted.

V.U.K.N.—2-9-18.

V.G.K.—2-9-18.

J. M. HOOPER—7-9-18.

Of course this proposal is tantamount to an addition to salary; and there is the risk that, if accepted, it will form a take-off point for similar claims elsewhere. We have had abundant evidence for some time past of the way in which women teachers press for, and secure, increases in emoluments, and Financial is bound to point out the risk of creating precedents. Honourable Member (Financial) should see.

L. DAVIDSON—4-9-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Submitted for orders as to circulation to His Excellency the Governor and Honourable Member (Financial).

P.R.—5-9-18.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—6-9-18.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—7-9-18.

The fact is—as has been pointed out before now—that our women teachers, speaking generally, are underpaid: there are also the considerations referred by the Director of Public Instruction as to residential quarters for women teachers specially.

Whether the cases cited by him represent a sound principle, or whether it would on the whole have been wiser to charge 'rent' in all cases, leaving salaries 'direct' is another matter.

I would certainly agree to the Director of Public Instruction's recommendation in this case.

P[ENTLAND]—9-9-18.

On the general question of providing Government quarters for European and Indian schoolmistresses at or close to their schools, I feel no doubt that the Director of Public Instruction is quite correct. The same reasons as he brings forward have

been found to apply in the case of women-doctors for whom the provision of quarters close to their hospitals is generally desirable in upcountry stations and I am, therefore, quite in favour of carrying out the Director's policy in this respect.

2. As to the question of rent for these quarters, the general principle is that, when an officer is required to live in Government quarters at or near his work, the quarters shall be occupied rent-free as a set off against the loss of freedom involved. In the case of schoolmistresses, it may be contended that, as the quarters are provided very much for the benefit of the women themselves, there is no reason why they should be exempted from paying house-rent. On the other hand, as the Director points out, there is considerable advantage to the public interests in having these teachers living together on the school premises developing community of interest in their work and a sense of comradeship. On the whole, therefore, it seems to me that, in view of these advantages to the State, it would be quite reasonable to exempt them from payment of rent at any rate in such cases as the present where several women are to live together on the school premises.

A. G. C[ARDEW]—11-9-18.

A draft order is submitted. If approved, it may be sent to Financial and Public Works Department, for perusal before issue.

P.R.—11-9-18.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—12-9-18.

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Submitted that the case may be returned to Home (Education) after perusal.

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A.S.—19-9-18.

P.Rao.—19-9-18

D. MARSHALL—19-9-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

May issue.

C.R.—19-9-18.

R.R.—20-9-18.

[G.O. No. 1251, Home (Education), dated 20th September 1918.]

Good girls' school, Cannanore

Permitting the headmistress and the two assistant mistresses of the — to occupy the quarters provided for them free of rent.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 671 Home, dated the 27th 5 1918

191

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 1601 B, From the 279 P.C. No. 2919/18, dated the 29-7-1918.

191

ORDER.

No. 1257, dated 20-9-1918

(Notes to be ^{RS} printed)

In the circumstances now stated
by the S.P.O. the Govt. are pleased,
in modification of G.O. No. 671 Home (S.O.)
of the 24. 5. 18, to permit the head-
mistress and the two assistant misters
of the Govt. Secondary School for
girls, Cannanore, to occupy the
quarters provided for them free of
rent.

11-9-18

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12-9.18

May 13/94

To, The xmo
A.G. through Financial

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of index

(Not for E.T.)

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8 OCT 1918
MADRAS
For approval
Ms
Shoja
5/10/18

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HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT

May issue.

C.R.—19-9-18.

R.R.—20-9-18.

[G.O. No. 1251, Home (Education), dated 20th September 1918.]

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(b) For rules regarding printing of notes, see rule 315 of the office Manual.

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(d) In the absence of special instructions to the Press to keep matter standing for a specified period, ordinary papers of 8 pages and under will be kept standing for one week, and larger papers for two weeks only. The type of notes and of all confidential papers is distributed immediately after striking.

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(b) Unless a note to the contrary is made against the matter, pencil entries should not be printed. The Superintendent of the Press may bring to the notice of the Registrar any instance of incomplete or careless editing.

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B

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