

Home (1918) Department.

(Edl)

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 852

DATED 1-7-18

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council Resolution.

Recording papers relating to the resolution moved by the Hon'ble Mr. A. Suryanarayana Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th April 1918 regarding the opening of a weaving school for Telugu districts.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Resolns XXXIV + XXXVIII
X XVII + XXVI

NOTES CONNECTED WITH RESOLUTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

[For the Meeting of the 3rd April 1918.]

[SUBJECT.—Opening of weaving schools.]

The Hon'ble Mr. B. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—

XXVII ~~XXXIV~~. This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to be pleased to open a weaving school either at Rajam or Pondur (Vizagapatam district) for the training and education of weaving classes.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. SURYANARAYANA RAO PANTULU :—

XXVI ~~XXXVIII~~. This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that a weaving school be started at some convenient centre in the Telugu districts, preferably at Pondur, Chipurupalli taluk, Vizagapatam district.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

In its resolution No. 33 the Industrial Conference held at Ootacamund in 1908, recommended that six weaving institutions should be established at Vizagapatam, Masulipatam, Jammalamadugu, Conjeeveram, Coimbatore and Madura. The Government considered that action should at once be taken with reference to the above resolution. Mr. Chatterton who was then the Director of Industries considered that one high class technical school where men could be trained to become managers of weaving factories and in which work would be turned out solely with the object of affording practical training to the students should be established at Madura and that in the remaining five places weaving factories for the training of workmen on the lines of the one then working at Salem should be opened. He further stated that, if the Madura weaving school proved a success, one of the factories might later on be raised to the same standard so as to provide similar facilities for the northern half of the Presidency. On the Government approving of these suggestions, proposals were at first submitted for the establishment of a separate weaving school at Madura, which were however subsequently embodied in the larger proposals for the reorganization of the Madura Technical Institute approved in G.O. No. 647, Educational, dated the 18th July 1912, and G.O. No. 725, Educational, dated the 8th August 1913. As regards weaving factories proposals were made for opening two factories, one at Jammalamadugu and the other at Conjeeveram. The proposal relating to the former place was dropped owing mainly to the fact that it was an out-of-the-way place and inaccessible in the rainy season, while that relating to the latter was abandoned in view of the orders of the Secretary of State debarring the establishment of Government factories—G.O. No. 3355, Revenue, dated 17th October 1910, on page 2 of G.O. No. 3966, Revenue, dated 14th December 1910.

2. Request for the opening of a weaving school in the Vizagapatam district has been made on various occasions by the people of the district. In 1909 a deputation at Waltair which waited on His Excellency Sir Arthur Lawley urged the opening of industrial schools in the district and mentioned weaving as one of the principal

217 of Report relating to the Conference

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industries which needed improvement. Mr. C. W. E. Cotton, the then acting Director of Industries, who was asked to report on the matter, stated that the two most important weaving centres in the district were Razam and Pondur and that the weavers there were able to turn out very fine cloths. He proposed however that the question of the establishment of a weaving school in the district might be deferred until the general question whether schools or factories should be opened in the terms of Resolution No. 33 of the Ootacamund Industrial Conference and their relation to the weaving institute at Madura had been definitely settled. But as stated in paragraph 1 above, in view of Lord Morley's orders received in 1910, the question of establishing weaving factories was subsequently dropped.

3. Again in 1912 when His Excellency Sir Murray Hammick visited the Vizagapatam district, a deputation from the District Association waited on him and requested among other things that a weaving school might be opened at Pondur on the ground that thousands of weaving families who in older days had done work inferior only to that of Dacca had given up weaving and taken to agriculture. Sir Murray Hammick remarked that "the question of establishing weaving schools had been discussed by the Ootacamund Conference and had also been carefully considered by Government", that "they had arrived at the conclusion that it would be better, so far as the establishment of schools was concerned, to have a proper school for weaving at Madura for the south and await its results and to confine their work so far as the northern portion of the Presidency was concerned to trying to encourage improved looms by having a peripatetic establishment to go to weavers and demonstrate to them the advantages of better and improved looms." He added that, if that "experiment succeeded, very likely in a few years the Government would start a weaving school in the north", but that until "they had started one in Madura and seen the results of its working he did not think that there was any chance of opening a second one in the Presidency."

4. The Hon'ble Mr. B. Venkatapati Raju, the mover of one of the two resolutions now brought forward, also asked a question at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 21st November 1916 whether the Government would be pleased to consider the advisability of opening a weaving school in the Vizagapatam district. The following reply was given to him:—

"The Government have sanctioned the opening of weaving classes in the Madura Technical Institute and have decided to await the results of their working before considering the question of opening a second weaving school. In the meanwhile they have organized a peripatetic weaving party to tour in the northern districts to demonstrate to weavers the advantages of improved methods and appliances. This party is now in the Gōdāvari district and the question of its moving to Vizagapatam is being considered."

5. The peripatetic weaving party touring in the northern districts has since P. R[AJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR]—26-3-18. visited the Vizagapatam district. In his administration report of the Department of Industries for 1916-17 Mr. Innes stated as follows:—

"In January last the party moved on to the Vizagapatam district and until the close of the year it was engaged in working in the Vizagapatam and Chipurupalli taluks. The weavers in the Vizagapatam district are less progressive than in Gōdāvari. Many of the looms were idle owing to the high price of yarn and the scarcity of dyes, and it was reported that many of the weavers were deserting their hereditary occupation and migrating to Burma. They were not enthusiastic about improved appliances, but about a dozen fly shuttle slays and a few dobbies were introduced."

It is not known whether the party has since finished the other taluk of the district. Mr. Innes may be consulted u.o.

6. As has been decided on previous occasions, the question of opening a weaving school for the northern districts may be considered after the weaving section of the Madura Technical Institute has been opened and experience has been gained of its working. The new building for that Institute have almost been completed. Mr. Innes recently stated that a weaving expert should be appointed and that he should

spend some time in studying the hand loom industry up and down the Presidency before submitting proposals for the organization of the weaving section of the Madura Institute. The Secretary of State has been requested to send out a suitable man for the post of weaving expert in this Presidency. No reply has yet been received from the India Office on the subject. If an expert cannot be recruited from England Mr. Innes has proposed that an Indian may be tried.

7. Orders are solicited as to who should be in charge of the resolutions and whether the resolutions should be discussed in the Executive Council. The file may be sent to Mr. Innes unofficially for remarks.

S.K.—23-3-18.

T.K.—23-3-18.

May go to Mr. Innes first.

C. H. BROWN—23-3-18.

L. D. SWAMIKANNU—23-3-18.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIES.

The experience of the Peripatetic Weaving party in Vizagapatam district, was not encouraging and not such as to make one feel any confidence in the success of a weaving school. The party was not doing much good in the district, so under my orders it moved on to the Ceded districts, after spending five months in Vizagapatam. It is now back in Peddapuram, Gōdāvari district, in response to a round robin from the Peddapuram weavers and in consequence of the plague in the Ceded districts.

2. Weaving schools have never done much good in Madras and I think that Sir Murray Hammick's remarks in paragraph 3 of the office note still hold good. Let us get out a weaving expert, and try to make the Madura school a success before starting other schools.

P.R.—26-3-18.

C. A. INNES—24-3-18.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Orders are solicited as to who will be in charge of the resolutions and whether they should be discussed in the Executive Council.

S.K.—26-3-18.

N.K.—26-3-18.

C.H.B.—26-3-18.

L.D.S.—26-3-18.

I agree with Mr. Innes and shall oppose the resolutions.

P. R[AJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR]—26-3-18.

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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 Friday, the 5th day of April 1918.

RESOLUTION RE WEAVING SCHOOL FOR TELUGU DISTRICTS.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT :—"We will take the resolution of the Hon'ble Mr. Suryanarayana Rao and also that of Mr. Venkatapati Raju. They will not take a long time."

The Hon'ble Mr. A. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—"The resolution which I have the honour to move runs thus :—

'XXVI. This Council recommends to His Excellency the Governor in Council that a weaving school be started at some convenient centre in the Telugu districts, preferably at Pondur, Chipurupalli taluk, Vizagapatam district.'

"It was a rather agreeable surprise to me that the Hon'ble Mr. Venkatapati Raju also sent in the same resolution * without knowing that I have sent up this resolution. That only shows that the Vizagapatam district people are very keen on having a weaving school at Vizagapatam. The weaving population of Vizagapatam district in 1911 was 61,228 on the plains, besides 14,875 in the Agency. Vizagapatam district also contains a population of 76,100 weavers. That is the highest population in the Telugu districts. In the Telugu districts and Vizagapatam especially this weaving industry is languishing for want of capital and encouragement. I specially bring the Vizagapatam district to the notice of the Government, because in Vizagapatam district a special yarn is produced. That is called home-spun yarn. It is manufactured with hand and it is so lasting and it is special to Pondur in Chipurupalli and also partly to Narasaraopet in Ganjam. These articles are generally taken to Chicacole and sometimes to Vizagapatam for sale. It is called pattu salai. No doubt the price is higher than that of ordinary cloth, but it will last longer. I have got a cloth which I bought forty-five years ago and it still maintains its texture. Those who have worked in the Vizagapatam district know the value of this cloth. The Coimbatore Conference in 1908 recommended that a weaving school should be established in the northern parts but nothing has been done though one is working in the south at Madura. About ten years ago an attempt was made to start a sort of weaving industry, a weaving company at Rajam. A weaving company was floated, but unfortunately it became a one-gentleman's concern, and the gentleman who took most interest in that died, and for want of further encouragement and support the company died. We are not so much interested in the company, but the company also started a school and instruction was given in that school in weaving. With the death of that company the industry also died at Rajam. Rajam and also other places are chiefly weaving centres; in fact the villages are practically inhabited only by the weavers and the other classes are very few and all these people are obliged to give up their occupation on account of want of encouragement and they are now taking to coolie work and several of them have migrated to other places. Still there are a sufficient number who are ready to take up work if only some encouragement is given by way of capital and instruction. I read in the recent Government Order of 1916 that the Government contemplated the opening of a weaving school at Berhampur. I do not know if Berhampur has been noted for cotton cloth. No doubt Berhampur has been noted for its silk cloth and the indigenous manufacture is gradually dying down. Berhampur has now been supplanted by Rajahmundry which is now sending out silk cloths. I am particular about the cotton cloth industry. No serious attempt has been made to impart any education in these matters. In the course of conversation I learned from the Hon'ble Mr. Swamikannu Pillai that there was some school at Calicut and some attempt was made for five months. I do not know whether sufficient encouragement was given and whether any of the boys really knew that instruction was being imparted. I do not think these temporary steps would take us very far. I think we want a regular school where education in this direction can be imparted. I beg your Excellency to understand that I do not want a big building on a grand scale with several teachers employed in them and money being spent lavishly. My suggestion is that a modest attempt might be made to start a school. We may take a building on rent, or the building constructed at Rajam by the company may be again taken up for this purpose. As soon as the company came to an end, the building was put to auction and it was purchased by the Maharaja of Bobbili and he has given it over to a reading room. I think the Raja is willing to place it at the disposal of the members of the bar and I am sure that the members of the bar will place it at our disposal for a school. My humble request is that a serious attempt should be made in this direction and the pattu salai industry should not be allowed to die out, because

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As much as has been

* The Hon'ble Mr. B. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—

XXVII. This Council recommends to the Governor in Council to be pleased to open a weaving school either at Rajam or Pondur (Vizagapatam district) for the training and education of weaving classes.

RESOLUTION RE WEAVING SCHOOL FOR TELUGU DISTRICTS.

(Mr. Suryanarayana Rao; Mr. Venkatapati Raju; [5TH APRIL 1918
Mr. Swamikannu Pillai.]

it is special only for these two taluks and not in any other districts. My resolution is generally worded; specially for the Telugu districts. My other friends might say that the experiment might be tried in other taluks or districts; there is no reason why my request should be confined to Vizagapatam. My reason is that the other districts are taking care of themselves and are faring very well. In Gōdāvari the business is getting on very well and the people are taking care of themselves; they have got capital to spend and they are an enterprising people. But unfortunately among these weavers there is no encouragement given to them by way of capital and by way of instruction. It is only fair that encouragement should be given in places where the business is languishing. There is no use of giving support to places where there is already a lot of capital and sufficient encouragement. That is why I suggest Vizagapatam. The Hon'ble Mr. Venkatapati Raju recommends Rajam; it is all the same as they are very near each other and they are both weaving centres. I therefore pray that your Excellency's Government will consider these two resolutions together sympathetically and see that something is done."

The Hon'ble Mr. B. VENKATAPATI RAJU:—"In seconding this resolution, I need not add much to what has been said because there is not much difficulty on the part of the Government to accept the resolution. The other day on the motion of the Hon'ble Mr. Sarma in the Imperial Legislative Council, the Government of India sanctioned a recurring grant of Rs. 30 lakhs for opening technical and agricultural schools, and naturally we would get five or six lakhs for our Presidency. We can start some schools at some places with that money. Instead of keeping that money idle, we can open some institutions. A weaving school is a necessary institution. Therefore I expect that the Government would cheerfully fall in with the view of starting the school when the funds are ready and are given by the Government of India."

The Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur L. D. SWAMIKANNU PILLAI:—"Your Excellency, the question of providing some form of technical education in weaving has engaged the attention of the Government for a pretty long time—starting with the recommendation of the Industrial Conference held at Ootacamund in 1908 that weaving schools should be opened at six places in the Presidency, of which Vizagapatam was to be one. There have been frequent representations made to Government since then by the people of Vizagapatam in order to carry this recommendation into effect. In 1909, Sir Arthur Lawley was approached by the people of Vizagapatam at Waltair and in 1912 a representation was made to Sir Murray Hammick when he was acting as Governor; so that the Government have had this matter before them for a pretty long time with special reference to Vizagapatam. In 1916 a question was asked on this subject in the Legislative Council by the Hon'ble Mr. Venkatapati Raju and the reply then given was 'the Government have sanctioned the opening of a weaving class in the Madura Technical Institute and have decided to await the results of its working before considering the question of opening a second weaving school. In the meanwhile they have organized a peripatetic weaving party to tour in the Northern districts to demonstrate to weavers the advantages of improved methods and appliances. This party is now in the Gōdāvari district and the question of its moving to Vizagapatam is being considered.'

"In 1917 we learn from Mr. Innes' report that the peripatetic weaving party had actually visited Vizagapatam and stayed there for nearly five months. He says of this visit: 'In January last the party moved on to the Vizagapatam district and until the close of the year it was engaged in working in the Vizagapatam and Chipurupalli taluks. The weavers in the Vizagapatam district are less progressive than in Gōdāvari. Many of the looms were idle owing to the high price of yarn and the scarcity of dyes, and it was reported that many of the weavers were deserting their hereditary occupation and migrating to Burma. They were not enthusiastic about improved appliances, but about a dozen fly shuttle slays and a few dobbies were introduced.'

"That is the history, till the year 1917, of the endeavours made to promote instruction in weaving in Vizagapatam. The Government are not in a position to give any further assurance in this matter than was given in 1916. The Madura Technical Institute is approaching completion; and owing to conditions which are well known to Honourable Members we have not been able to secure a weaving expert as yet. When the expert is secured, it is hoped that the weaving section of the school will be opened at Madura and then it will be time enough to think of extending it to other places.

"The Honourable Member who moved the resolution pleaded for a small school and pointed out that the organization would not cost the Government a large sum of money. It has to be remembered that the whole difficulty lies in the word organization. If weaving instruction is to be carried on it should be carried on at a large number of places in the Presidency. It has to be done systematically and that means expense. The Government having started this experiment at Madura, are anxious to give the experiment a fair trial and then extend it to other places.

"Again, in the matter of instruction in weaving, it is probably known to Honourable Members that it is of two kinds. Starting a school is not the only way in which weavers at any centre can be instructed. The more common method adopted in this Presidency has been to send out peripatetic weaving parties. They visit the district for long periods of five or six months

RESOLUTION RE WEAVING SCHOOL FOR TELUGU DISTRICTS.

5TH APRIL 1918.] (Mr. Swamikannu Pillai; the President; Mr. Suryanarayana Rao; Mr. Rama Ayyangar.)

or longer and if there is encouragement, the interest of the weavers is enlisted in the improvements they present to them in a practical form. This perhaps is more suitable to the circumstances of many weaving centres than the starting of a school. The fact was recognized long ago by Sir Murray Hammick, when he had to deal with another representation in Vizagapatam. The difficulty with a school is that the weavers employ their children at their own work rather than send them to the school. There is no town or centre of weaving greater in importance than Conjeeveram. A weaving school has been working there for some years in connexion with the local cooperative weaving union. It is looked after by an enthusiast: nevertheless in such a large weaving centre as Conjeeveram, it has not been possible to draw more than a few children to work at the factory or attend the school which is maintained in connexion with the union. Therefore, the Honourable Member should allow the Government to go on with the experiment in Madura. It is probable that the time will soon come when Vizagapatam equally with other districts in the Presidency will receive its share of this experiment. Weaving is second only to agriculture as an industry of the people, and it is necessary that any attempt to impart instruction in weaving should be organized and that necessarily on a large scale. I hope that the Honourable Mover will see fit to withdraw the resolution, considering the fact that the Government have been actively engaged in considering the question and that the time will soon come to do something for the Vizagapatam district."

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:—"If the debate is to continue, the Honourable Member would be very brief."

The Hon'ble Mr. A. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"I will only take two or three minutes."

The Hon'ble K. RAMA AYYANGAR:—"It was only eight years,—"

His Excellency the PRESIDENT (interrupting):—"Probably we shall adjourn for lunch. It is now 2-15 p.m."

The Council adjourned for a short interval.

The Council re-assembled at 3 p.m. and the discussion on resolutions was continued.

The Hon'ble Mr. K. RAMA AYYANGAR:—"Your Excellency, we have had the history of eight or nine years and what I was going to say was that that period was very long for the improvement of the weaving industry in this Province where we have lots of centres with a very large population, having recourse to this industry. The real difficulty seems to be that weavers would not ordinarily allow the people to go into a training school like this or encourage them to do so. To adopt a really sound policy it will be necessary—that is the view that, I submit, the Government may be pleased to consider—to constitute these schools into factories also. The boys trained there will have to produce for Government for some time on pay and that will enable them to lay by something for themselves and to start the industry properly on the methods taught to them by the Government school. Even though the Government have decided to start a school in Madura, it has not been able to start one till now; because the building is not finished, we have not commenced work, and we have started peripatetic parties, I made inquiries and I found really that the capitalists who were having weaving concerns were inclined to keep these people from the schools and under their control so that they may not be away from them and they may not start a trade in opposition to them."

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:—"I hope the Honourable Gentleman will understand that we are merely discussing the starting of a weaving school at Vizagapatam. We are not discussing the general question on this occasion."

The Hon'ble Mr. K. RAMA AYYANGAR:—"I would only submit that a weaving school when started may be of such use that the money expended on it will be fruitful. Those are the words that I wanted to say on this resolution, because it is only proper that we should encourage poor people and help them to maintain the industry and improve the position of those people who are now going away to foreign parts for want of proper encouragement."

The Hon'ble Mr. A. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"Your Excellency, I have heard the Hon'ble Mr. Swamikannu Pillai very carefully and he seems to think that we should either have a school on a high scale or none at all. Probably, he thinks that I am asking for an expenditure of some lakhs for buildings, as in the case of the Madura institution, and probably he thinks that the Government are not in a position to spend so much now. On the other hand, I earnestly requested that a small beginning may be made and gradually it will develop itself into a big school if sufficient encouragement is given by the people and the Government. I already suggested to the Council that we might even have a building without laying out any amount, if we only request the Raja of Bobbili and the Members of the Bar at Rajam, the building where instruction was given till a few years ago in weaving. I do not mind, we could even have a thatched building; but to say that it is the policy of the Government to spend either large amounts or otherwise that no beginning would be made I submit, is not sound policy. As regards the peripatetic parties, to speak the truth, it was only yesterday in the course of conversation that I heard that such a party went to Vizagapatam. Till yesterday I never heard of it. I do not know what that party consisted of or how many of them went there

RESOLUTION RE WEAVING SCHOOL FOR TELUGU DISTRICTS.

(Mr. Surayanarayana Rao; the President.)

[5TH APRIL 1918.]

and what work they did. I do not know what they reported. At any rate, the Collector did not give notice to any important people who might give him any help in the matter. I have not heard from people in the taluks. I do not think these parties will be of any use. As I stated at the outset, when the people are in a very backward condition, I do not think that these temporary parties will be of any use. It has been casually suggested that something might be done with the co-operative societies, and there again with regard to the co-operative societies, I do not think that anything can be done by the co-operative director or assistant director or registrar, because they do not go to the actual centres, but simply convene meetings at head-quarter stations. People are in a backward condition and that is the reason why more serious steps have to be taken for giving encouragement. I am sorry that the industry, the *pattu salai* industry is dying out and, even for ordinary wear, we are not able to get our cloth; but we have to depend upon the mill-made industry. These people can manufacture cloth at the same rate as mills are now producing. I am, therefore, anxious that the Government should do something and that the Government might start a school at once and I do not think that we can afford to wait any longer. If the Government will be pleased to consider the question favourably and if the Hon'ble Mr. Swamikannu Pillai on behalf of Government gives us an assurance that the question will be taken up as early as possible, I do not want to divide the Council. My only earnest request is that something must be done for Vizagapatam, at an early date. I am not anxious to divide the Council.

His Excellency the PRESIDENT:—"The Honourable Gentleman, I think I am right in saying, may rest assured that as soon as we can get our weaving expert and set the Madura institute going—that must be begun and as soon as we can do that we will develop this organization further. I quite understand the Honourable Gentleman's earnestness in the matter of the proper claims of Vizagapatam and they will not be forgotten."

With the permission of His Excellency the President, the resolution was then withdrawn.

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

Home (204) Dept.

Please see extract from Council proceedings on pages 4 to 7 *supra*.
No further action seems to be called for on these papers at present.
They may be ^{Order No 85281.7.18.} *Recorded*.

Please despatch for the Home Dept. file.

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Copy to the Officer in charge of the Dept. of Industries (with extract from Council proceedings)

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Home (172) de
Please see extract from
processes on pages 1 to 7
No further action to be
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