

Home (191 9) Department.
(Education)

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 323

DATED 17-3-4

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

University Professorship of Indian Economics.-

Informing the Syndicate, University of Madras that the Government are prepared to consider the question of the retention of the----- on a permanent basis provided the University can meet the cost of the Professorship out of its own funds.

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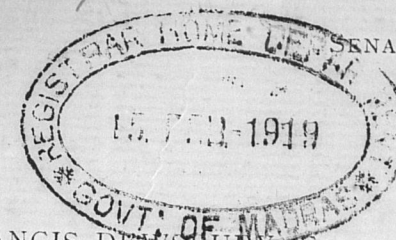
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UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS

No. 1107

Enclosures.



15 FEB 1919

FROM

FRANCIS DEWSBURY, ESQ., B.A., LL.B.,

Registrar, University of Madras,

To

The Secretary to Government,

Home (Education) Department.

Sir,

With reference to G.O. No.1576, Home (Education), dated 10th December 1918, sanctioning the continuance of the post of the University Professor of Indian Economics for a further period of five years from December 1920, I am directed by the Syndicate to address the Government on the desirability of establishing the Professorship of Indian Economics on a permanent and not a temporary basis.

The desirability of a Professorship in Economics for a period of at least five years was pointed out to the Syndicate by the Government in Memorandum No.1314-3, Education, dated 2nd September 1912, commenting upon the Syndicate's proposals for the utilization of the grants from the Government of India. Sanction was accorded in July 1913 to a scheme under which such a Professorship was to be created, but it was not till December 1915 that the chair was first occupied. The delay in obtaining a suitable Professor was due principally to the fact that the inducements which the University was able to offer to economists of position were not sufficient to attract them to India. The original salary of £666 had to be increased to £1,000 per annum, mainly because the appointment was for a definite term of five years only and no prospects could be held out to any Professor appointed of continuity of service either in the University of Madras or in India. Since that Professorship was created, partly with Government funds and partly with University funds, the claims of Economics in the University of

para 7 of
the memo
at pp 4-5
Done
565
14.6.19

6

Madras have been steadily increasing. Dr. Slater, the present Professor of Economics, is not, it is understood, prepared to accept reappointment though he might be prevailed upon to consent to a short extension of his term if the Syndicate is unable to find immediately a successor. In these circumstances, the Syndicate is very desirous of avoiding the difficulties previously experienced in securing a competent economist to fill the chair - difficulties which, as stated above, relate primarily to the salary offered and the lack of prospects.

That a successor to Dr. Slater will be required would appear evident from the fact that this year the University has inaugurated a course and examination for a Diploma in Economics. This course, in the case of part time students, extends for three years and will be completed by the first batch of students some considerable time after the date of the termination of Dr. Slater's appointment. Arrangements are now being completed for a second batch of part time students to enter upon this 3 years' course in July next. Further, the time cannot be far off when degrees in Economics, which Dr. Slater advocates, will be instituted in this University. In the year 1917 the Syndicate appointed a representative committee to consider the best means of encouraging the study of Economics in the University, and proposals were laid before this Committee not only but also for the separation of Economics for the institution of the present Diploma in Economics from the study of History as a separate subject with separate courses for Bachelor's and Doctor's degrees. The Committee recommended in the first instance a thorough trial of the course for the Diploma. If the Diploma proves a success, there can be little doubt that an irrefutable demand will be made for the institution of higher degrees in the same subject. The organisation of studies and examinations in Economics for the Diploma and degrees requires the expert advice of a permanent Professor of the subject, and such organisation should be ready in advance of the actual supply of candidates. It will be impossible for the University either to conduct its own Diploma courses when these are in full operation or to provide adequate assistance to the affiliated colleges to enable them to train students in the courses for degrees in Economics unless it creates

and maintains a highly qualified staff with a Professor of standing and teaching experience at its head. With the experience Dr. Slater has already gained of Indian conditions it is quite possible that he might render the Syndicate very valuable assistance in selecting a suitable person to succeed him on the expiration of his own appointment.

The Syndicate is therefore most anxious to obtain from the Government a definite statement of its acceptance of the principle of a permanent Professorship in Economics and also of the amount of financial assistance which might be expected from the Government to meet the cost of such an appointment. The Syndicate notes that the Government proposes that the temporary Professorship suggested should be paid for from accumulated balances of the recurring grant from the Government of India. It may be observed that these balances will be largely drawn upon to meet the cost of the present Professorship of Economics; the contribution under this head from the non-recurring grant from the Government of India will be practically exhausted by the end of the current financial year. From the same balances of the recurring grant has to be met, in all probability, a considerable sum to supplement the grant of one lakh made by the Government of Madras to the expense of the compilation of a Tamil Lexicon. Further the Syndicate has consistently had in view the utilization of these balances to supplement the original grants which were allocated to the cost of the new University buildings, the erection of which, it is hoped, will not be much longer delayed. What the ultimate cost of these buildings will be the Syndicate has no means of estimating but undoubtedly for many years to come building materials and equipment will remain at a much higher price than before the War when the original estimates for the building were prepared and approved.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Francis Brough

Registrar.

le. 321 B - From the Registrar, University of Madras No 1107 d 14.2.19 4

Subject: — University Professorship of Indian Economics.

Please see the notes and orders in G.O. no 1576, Home (Edu) d 10.12.18 in which the Govt declined to approve the Syndicate proposal to place the Professorship of Indian Economics on a permanent footing but sanctioned the ^{temporary} continuance of the Professorship for another five years. The Syndicate reopens the question and desires to obtain from Govt a definite statement of its acceptance of the principle of ^{permanent} Professorship in Economics and of amount of financial assistance which to be expected of Govt to meet the cost of the Professorship.

2. So far as the permanent retention of the Professorship is concerned, Govt have already recognised the necessity of such a Professorship. — Vide ~~affairs~~ ^{the notes} of office note at p. 20 of G.O. no 1576 d 11.6.13 and also the portions marked at 'B' of the notes at pp. 9 and 10 of G.O. no 1576, Home (Edu) dated 10.12.18 —

(M)

para 4 of the
Reg's letter p. 3 of

(R)

(M)

it was only because of financial restriction that the Govt had to veto the Syndicate's proposal to place the Professorship on a permanent basis.

3. The Syndicate states that the

non-recurring grant of Rs 50,000 sanctioned by the Govt of India towards the institution of a temporary Professorship of Economics will be practically exhausted by the end of the current financial year and that the ^{savings in} ~~balances from~~ the recurring grant of Rs 65,000 will be largely utilised in meeting the cost of the present Professors and in supplementing the Provincial grant of Rs 1 lakh towards the cost of the Tamil Lexicon as well as the ~~Imperial~~ ^{sanctioned} non-recurring grant ~~of Rs 50,000~~ towards the erection of the University buildings. It therefore considers that the temporary Professorship sanctioned in Gov. no 1576 Edn D 10.12.18 cannot be maintained from the accumulated balance of the recurring grant from the Govt of India, as suggested by Govt. It may be observed that these balances amounted to over Rs 3 lakhs at the beginning of the current financial year. The amount required to supplement the Imperial grant of Rs 50,000 towards

para 4 of the Reg's letter

item 2 under non-recurring grant at p. 1 of letter no 566 Edn D 14.6.13 (X)

letter no 566 Edn D 14.6.13 (X)

Gov. no 991 Edn D 11.11.12 (E)

letter no 566 Edn D 14.6.13 (X)

para 4 of the Reg's letter p. 3 of

(M)

Vide office note at p. 10 of Gov. no

1576 Edn D 10.12.18 (M)

item 2 under non-recurring grant at p. 1 of letter no 566 Edn D 14.6.13 (X)

para

35-66

Act

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para 4 of the Regis
letter - p. 3 of

Letter no 566 Est (x)
14.6.13

*225,000

(6)

Please see office note
at p. 3 of Geo. no 963 Est
15.8.14

(6)

Vide p. 7 of Geo. no 203 Est
16.2.14

(6)

¶ amounting to Rs 25,000

The Cost of the Professorship of Economics is Rs 25,000
and the Syndicate states that this is met
from the balances of the recurring grant of
Rs 65,000 sanctioned by the Govt of India.
It may be mentioned in this connection that,
when the Syndicate proposed an increase of
salary for the Professorship in August, 1914;
it stated that the extra cost involved in
the proposal would be met from the University
funds. - Vide Registrar's letter at pp. 1-2 of Geo.
no 963 Est d. 15.8.14 - The Syndicate
did not then specify the source from
which the extra cost would be met. It was
however thought that it would be met fr
the balances of the University fee fund, which
on the 31st March, 1913 amounted to nearly
Rs 1,67,000. It is not clear why these balances
could not be utilised in meeting the ^{extra} cost of
incurred in connection with
the present Professorship. But even allowing
the cost to be met from the ^{savings in} balances of the
recurring grant of Rs 65,000, there would
remain a balance of Rs 2,75,000 out of
the savings amounting to Rs 3 lakhs, re-
ferred to on p. 2 ante. This can be drawn
upon to meet the cost of the Professorship
for a period of five years from December, 192
amounting to a sum of Rs 75,000. This would
leave a balance of Rs 2 lakhs.

As

para 6 of the Regr's letter
at p. 4 of G.O. no 19822n
16-2-18

(U)

2,00,000 - p. 3 ante
67,000
1,33,000

1.50 from Provincial + 2 from
Imperial fund
2.50 lakhs already sanctioned
1 lakh provided in the
next year's budget

para 2 of the Registrar's
letter at p. 6 of G.O. no 15762n
10-12-18

(M)

para. 2 of letter no.
566 SE (X)
14.6.13

As regard the Tamil lexicon, the Syndicate estimated in January, 1918, that a sum of nearly Rs 67,000 would be required to supplement the Provincial grant of 1 lakh. There would therefore be a balance of over 1 lakh, which could be used to supplement the non-recurring grant of Rs 3,50,000 ^{sanctioned for the erection of the University building}. If any additional funds are required for this purpose, it is a question to be considered separately, later on. There seems therefore to be no insuperable difficulty in continuing the temporary tenure of the Professorship for a period of five years from December 1920, from the savings in the recurring grant of Rs 65,000.

4. The Syndicate has already stated that the University has no funds ^{from which} it could meet a recurring annual charge in connection with the establishment of a permanent Professorship of Economics. If therefore the Professorship of Economics is to be retained permanently, Govt would have to provide a sum of Rs 15,000 from Provincial funds. The alternative to this ^{seems to} be to utilise (a portion of the assignment of Rs 36,000, out of ~~the recurring~~ ^{set apart} the recurring Imperial grant of Rs 36,000, ~~sanctioned~~ for the development of the study of vernaculars on modern lines. The D.P.I (Mr. J. H. Stone) who was consulted on this point

para 2 of the D.P.I.L

note - p. 14 of

Geo. no 1576, Home (Econ)

10-12-18

(M)

point on the last occasion observed as follows:

"I do not agree with the note above that
"the surplus of the Rs 36,000 will, after the
"completion of the dictionary, be available,
"because, unless the scheme for the univer-
"ty fostering the study of the Dravidian
"languages is to be given up, the University
"must devise some better scheme than that
"of the readers."

The Syndicate has not so far submitted any
scheme for the utilisation of the ^{provision} ~~income~~ of Rs 36,000 referred to
above. It is for consideration whether
it may be asked ^{to state} ~~if it is~~ ~~Rs 36,000~~ ~~is~~
~~required for the development of the study~~
~~of the languages of the South~~
~~of the languages of the South~~
~~whether it has any definite scheme~~
~~for the development of the study of the languages~~
~~in view of the fact that the study of the~~
~~languages of the South is a very important~~
~~it is likely to cost.~~

25.2.19 As pointed out above the
Syndicate has not shown
how the proposal of
foot. made in fo. no. 1576, of
10.12.18 cannot be carried
out. Before further considering
the matter, the file may be sent to the
D.P.I. for any remarks he may wish to
make.

(M)

Home (Econ) no. 1576
R.O. 321 B-1
27-2-19

26.2.19 SP/uo 27/2/19

NO. 94 8/3/19

N. S.

Page 6

The Syndicate is, I believe, sitting on the fence; if it can persuade Govt. to give it a recurring grant for the retention on a permanent basis of the Professorship of Economics, it will have funds for recurring expenditure on some other object - e.g. on an extended provision for the study of vernaculars, and it will proceed to produce schemes for vernacular study and submit them to Govt. for approval; if it cannot persuade Govt. to make a recurring grant for the Professorship of Economics it will have to meet this charge from the funds already at its disposal and this will leave little if any thing for the furtherance of the study of the Vernaculars. The institution of the Professorship in Economics has been a distinct success and has met an obvious need; the experiments of the University in the institution of Readers in the Vernaculars and in the appointment of a Professor of Comparative Philology have not been very successful. The first claim on the University funds should be for the continuation and development of an experiment which has proved successful. Further experiments in the advancement of the study of the vernaculars may be given a trial so far as University funds permit and if funds are insufficient it is always open to the University to apply to Govt. for additional help when it has a scheme ready for application, though I do not think that Govt. should throw out any hopes of additional help.

In my opinion

I feel constrained to advise that: to inform the Unisurf that it is prepared to consider the retention of the chair in Ecuador on a permanent basis provided the Unisurf can meet the cost out of its own funds.

3.3.19



Home (Edm) Sept

Submitted for orders as to whether the Syndicate may be informed as suggested by the D.P.I. at 'K' above.

7.3.19

8.3.19

11/3/19

7.8.19

11.3

12.3.19

12/3/19

A draft order is submitted for approval

13.3.19

14.3.19

15/3/19

17.3.19

B 44
C. 11.3
A 142

17.3.19

Informing the Syndicate, University of Madras that the Govt are prepared to consider the retention of the _____ on a permanent basis, provided the university can meet the cost of the Professorship out of its own funds.

.. .. . 191 .

II

” ” ” ” ” ” 191

” ” ” ” ” ” 191

No. 323, dated 17-3- 1919

Miss

The Govt. are prepared to
Consider the ^(question of) retention of the
Professorship of ^{Indian} Economics
on a permanent basis,
provided the University can
meet the cost of the Professor-
ship out of its own
funds.

13.3.19

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14.39

May 07 3/4

Jul.
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Registrar, University of Madras

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191

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH LITTO.

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