

N. P.

ORIGINAL

Government of Madras

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT

FOR RECORD ONLY.

G.O. No. 635, 17th May 1919

Elementary education

Communicating to the Director of Public Instruction letter from the Government of India
regarding a copy of despatch No. 92, Public, dated the 8th November 1918, from the Secretary
regarding legislation for compulsory primary education and the supply of trained teachers
in primary schools.

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Government of Madras

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT

MISCELLANEOUS
FOR RECORD ONLY.

G.O. No. 635, 17th May 1919

Elementary education

Communicating to the Director of Public Instruction letter from the Government of India forwarding a copy of despatch No. 92, Public, dated the 8th November 1918, from the Secretary of State regarding legislation for compulsory primary education and the supply of trained teachers for elementary schools.

READ—the following paper;—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. H. SHARP, C.S.I., C.I.E., Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education (Education).

To--the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—Delhi, the 10th February 1919.

No.—154.

I am directed to enclose a copy of a despatch No. 92-Public, dated the 8th November 1916, from the Secretary of State. In inviting the attention of all Local Governments to its terms, the Government of India desire once more to emphasize the extreme importance which they attach to the subject of the training of teachers. They are supplying the information asked for by the Secretary of State in the last paragraph of his despatch, including copies of the answers which have been received in reply to this Department circular letter No. 813, dated the 30th August 1916.

ENCLOSURE

Despatch—from His Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

Despatch—From His Majesty's Secretary of State for India,
To—His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in
 Council.

Dated—India Office, London, the 8th November 1918.

No.—92—Public.

I have observed with interest the evidence which recent proceedings of the Legislative Councils in India afford of the growth of a demand for legislation enabling the introduction of schemes for compulsory primary education. Apart from the Bombay Primary Education (District Municipalities) Act, 1918, which was left to its operation by my Legislative Despatch No. 7, dated the 12th April last, I observe that similar Bills are now before the Legislative Councils of the Governor of Bengal and of the Lieutenant-Governors of Bihar and Orissa and of the Punjab. These measures are the outcome of the policy announced by the Member in charge of the Education Department of Your Excellency's Government on the 13th March last when speaking in the Indian Legislative Council, on a resolution with reference to the general introduction of compulsory primary education, that policy being, briefly, to encourage and enable, by means of provincial legislation, local bodies to compel attendance at primary schools to be provided by those bodies, and to resort to local taxation for the maintenance of such schools. I need hardly assure you that this policy has my fullest sympathy and support, and that in my view these are the only lines on which success can be anticipated in grappling with the urgent problem of the wider diffusion of primary education. The activity, therefore, with which Provincial Governments are forwarding the development of this policy is a matter for congratulation.

2. There is, however, one aspect of this question which I trust is receiving the attention which its great importance requires. In opposing a resolution in the Indian Legislative Council on the 28th February 1917, which recommended the framing and sanctioning of a scheme for the introduction of universal compulsory free education within a period of fifteen years, Sir Sankaran drew attention to the necessity, as the first steps towards the expansion of primary education, of improving the quality and increasing the supply of trained teachers. But apart from Sir

Sankaran Nair's somewhat brief remarks on that occasion, I have failed to find evidence in the discussions of the two Resolutions in the Indian Legislative Council to which I have referred or of the various Bills introduced in Provincial Councils, that the fundamental importance of this question of improving the supply of teachers is generally recognised. I have not overlooked the fact that the pending Bills, and the Bombay Act, contain provisions requiring local authorities to make 'adequate provision,' which is to be defined by rules, for free and compulsory primary education, the terms of the Punjab Bill (clause 12) being, in fact, somewhat more precise. But provisions of this nature will not create an adequate supply of properly trained teachers, and I question even whether they will be found sufficiently strong to withstand pressure in the direction of expansion which may be exercised despite the absence of such a supply.

3. The latest annual report on Indian education in my possession (that for 1915-16) gives little information on this point, and the Quinquennial Review for 1907-1912 is not sufficiently recent to be of value. The statement exhibiting the moral and material progress and condition of India during the year 1916-17 indicates that in every province the inadequacy of the supply of trained teachers is the main obstacle in the path of the expansion of primary education, and that while in some provinces practical steps are being taken to remedy this difficulty, a considerable time is likely to elapse before substantial improvement can be anticipated. The information contained in this statement is, however, necessarily scanty, and I should be glad, therefore, to be informed more precisely what steps have been recently and are now being taken with a view to improving the supply of trained primary school teachers, and in particular, what are the prospects for the immediate future in this respect in those provinces where compulsory primary education has been, or is about to be, legalised. I trust that this information may prove that Provincial Governments are alive to the necessities of the case, as emphasized to them in paragraph 51 of the Resolution of Lord Hardinge's Government of the 21st February 1913, and in your circular letter to Local Governments, No. 813, dated the 30th August 1916. But in any case I feel confident that Your Excellency's Government will agree with me that it is impossible to exaggerate the importance of providing, *pari passu* with the expansion of education, an adequate teaching agency, and that the mere opening of schools to larger numbers without such provision cannot fail to bring disaster in its train.

Order—No. 635, Home (Education), dated 17th May 1919.

Communicated to the Director of Public Instruction for information and guidance.

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 635, HOME (EDUCATION),
DATED 17TH MAY 1919

[SUBJECT.—*Expansion of elementary education.*]

From the Government of India, dated 10th February 1919, No. 154.

Both the Government of India and the Secretary of State emphasize the need for an increase in the output of trained teachers for elementary schools. Steps are being taken in this Presidency to increase the number of such teachers. There is however still a large number of untrained teachers in those schools. The following statement shows the increase in the number of teachers and pupils in elementary schools during recent years :—

Elementary schools for boys. *

	Total number of pupils.	Total number of teachers.	Number of trained teachers.	Percentage of trained teachers to total number.
1911-12	940,084	38,773	12,956	33
1916-17	1,231,108	49,060	16,631	33
1917-18	1,259,041	50,903	17,992	35

Elementary schools for girls. †

	Total number of pupils.	Total number of teachers.	Number of trained teachers.	Percentage of trained teachers to total number.
1911-12	87,916	3,796	2,354	62
1916-17	132,214	5,421	3,077	56
1917-18	141,308	5,819	3,373	57

* Page 44 of Volume II of Public Instruction report for 1916-17 and page 38 of Report for 1917-18 (Volume II).
† Page 67 of Public Instruction report, 1916-17, and page 66 of Report for 1917-18 (Volume II).

From the above, it will be seen that, though there has been an increase in the number of trained teachers, the percentage of the number of such teachers to the total number of teachers in elementary schools has not shown any appreciable increase.

2. In 1916, the Government of India desired that Local Governments should estimate the number of trained teachers required in the next five years to meet the wastage in the number of such teachers and also the demand on account of expansion of education (page 1 of G.O. No. 470, dated 11th April 1918). An estimate was framed and forwarded to the Government of India with letter No. 471, dated the 11th April 1918 (stitched with G.O. No. 470, dated 11th April 1918). The scheme for the training of teachers was estimated to result in an *ultimate* expenditure of Rs. 26·85 lakhs, recurring, and 105 lakhs, non-recurring. The Government of India were informed that under the present Provincial settlement, it would be impossible rapidly to advance the development of the scheme for the training of teachers and for the improvement of their pay without liberal grants from that Government.

3. In the year 1917-18, the Government of India sanctioned a recurring grant of Rs. 4 lakhs for the improvement of the training and pay of teachers; in the current year that Government sanctioned a further grant of Rs. 5·5 lakhs for the development of elementary education. A portion of these grants has been utilized for the opening of additional training schools (pages 5 and 6 of G.O. No. 1433, dated 15th November 1917). The raising of the status of the training schools at Trichinopoly, Chittoor,

Coimbatore and Tanjore to the higher elementary grade was sanctioned in 1917 as well as the opening of a new higher elementary training school at Bhadrachalam and Manamadura. Recently the Government have sanctioned the opening of an elementary training school at Amalapur as a temporary measure and have also approved the proposal to open a higher elementary class at Chicacole (G.O. No. 835, dated 25th June 1918). In the next year's budget, provision is made for the opening of four additional elementary training schools. The opening of more schools is largely a question of funds. When the Elementary Education Bill becomes law, there will be a large demand for trained teachers and large funds will have to be provided by Government for the purpose—paragraph 7 of letter No. 1640, dated 19th December 1918. Under the Bill as at present framed, no part of the Education Fund is intended to be utilized for the training of teachers [cf. section 24 (10) of the Bill and notes on pages 96 and 106 of the notes to G.O. No. 1639, Home (Education), dated 19th December 1918]. The file may be sent to the Director of Public Instruction and the Financial Department u.o. for perusal. The Director of Public Instruction may be asked to state (i) whether any *immediate* increase in the number of training schools for elementary teachers is feasible, (ii) what will be the cost of such arrangements and (iii) whether any adjustment of the allotments in the next year's budget is possible to find the amount required.

S.K.—8-3-19.

N.K.—8-3-19.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARI—10-3-19.

Also generally to offer remarks on the file.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—12-3-19.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION'S OFFICE.

I have retained this file for some time, and think it better to return it now with an incomplete statement of what can be done rather than await until details, which require considerable correspondence with the local inspecting officers, have been worked out. I may say that I agree entirely with the views expressed by the Secretary of State and the Government of India that an ample supply of trained teachers is an essential preliminary to any wide extension of facilities for elementary education, and this is a matter which is now receiving my special attention. I reply now to the queries above: (i) an immediate increase in the number of training schools for elementary teachers is feasible. (ii) The cost of maintaining each higher elementary training school was estimated by Sir Henry Stone (vide his letter R.C. No. 7828/16, dated 9th January 1917—page 5 of G.O. No. 470, dated 11th April 1918) at Rs. 8,200 per annum. I estimate the cost of maintaining each lower elementary school at Rs. 6,600 per annum. Now the current year's budget (1919-20) contains as much as we can usefully spend on training schools, both in amounts specifically earmarked for this purpose and in probable savings—in particular we are bound to have savings under 22-B. Inspection, as also under the lump provision made for taking over the management of four secondary schools and the revision of establishment of other four secondary schools. Administrative approval has not yet been obtained for some of the items under 22-F. e.g., for the lump provision for opening new elementary training schools. I hope to submit to Government next month details for the utilization of these amounts and before July I trust that I shall have ready proposals for the administrative sanction of Government for further expenditure on this account to be included in the budget for 1920-21. Indeed I shall endeavour to formulate a long period programme for the training of teachers. (iii) Whatever adjustments in the budget allotments made for the current year are found necessary will be submitted to Government in due course.

R. LITTLEHAILES—27-4-19.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

No further action has to be taken on this file at present. The file may be sent to Financial for perusal before circulation to the Honourable Member.

S.K.—3-5-19.

N.K.—5-5-19.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARI—6-5-19.

A copy of the letter should be communicated to the Director of Public Instruction for information and guidance.

Financial u.o. for perusal.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—7-5-19.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

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

V.U.K.N.—8-5-19.

V. GOPALAKRISHNA AYYAR—9-5-19.

J. M. HOOPER—9-5-19.

N. E. MARJORIBANKS—11-5-19.

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R.R.—13-5-19.

L. D[AVIDSON]—14-5-19.

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R.R.—15-5-19.

A draft order is submitted for approval.

S.K.—15-5-19.

N.K.—15-5-19.

C.R.—16-5-19.

[G.O. No. 635, Home (Education), dated 17th May 1919.]

communicating to the D.P. & letter from
the Govt of India forwarding a copy
of despatch No. 92 Public, dated the 8th Nov
1918, from the Secretary of State regarding legisla-
tion for compulsory primary education & the supply
of trained teachers for elementary schools.

READ ALSO:—

READ ALSO:-
C. No. 510A, From the Govt. of India, No. 154, dated 10/7 2/1919

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ORDER.

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No. 635, dated 17/57 1919

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To
 The D.P. I (a)
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[SUBJECT—*Expansion of elementary education.*]

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GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE
30 MAY 1919
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2 NOTES TO G.O. No. 635, HOME (EDUCATION), 17TH MAY 1919
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C.R.—6-5-19.

to Ep. No. 1639
Home (Education)
dated 19th Dec 1918

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sketch

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Notes to G.O. No. 635, Home (Education), 17th May 1919

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Financial u.o. for perusal.

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[G.O. No. 635, Home (Education), dated 17th May 1919.]

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