

Home (1919) Department.
(Education)

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 892

DATED 18-7-1919

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Address.

Recording notes on the address presented to His
Excellency the Governor by the Cuddapah District Board.

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HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S TOUR--JUNE 1919.

Extract from the address to be presented by the District Board of Cuddapah to His Excellency the Governor.

"While we fully appreciate the generous intentions of the Government in the matter of spreading education and thankfully acknowledge with gratitude the consequent advance in education among all classes in the district since the visit of Your Excellency's august predecessor in office, we still beg to express to Your Excellency our long-felt desire to secure for the district free primary education and to make it compulsory in some selected areas. The future benevolent policy of His Majesty's Government towards India to lead its people on to the goal of self-government by gradual steps and to give them gradually greater share in the Government of the country makes it almost imperative to give better facilities for education to the people. In the matter of higher education our district is one of the most backward in the Presidency. The Government have been pleased lately to sanction the opening of a high school at Nandalur and two incomplete secondary schools at Badvel and Rayachoti. The schools have accordingly been opened with the help of the Government but are badly wanting in accommodation. We pray and hope that Your Excellency's Government will find their way to make a liberal grant towards the provision of suitable accommodation for the schools that have been newly started. In this connexion we may submit that one more incomplete secondary school to be located at Pulivendla is badly wanted for this district and we hope that when opportunity occurs the Government will be pleased to make suitable provision for this."

Collector's note thereon.

2. *Free and compulsory primary education.*—There is no provision in law allowing the District Board to make primary education compulsory in any area. Even if there were, it is doubtful if the finances of the District Board would allow of this reform.

3. *Provision of accommodation for the newly opened secondary school at Nandalur and the secondary schools at Rayachoti and*

Badvel.—A representation was made by the District Board asking for a grant of Rs. 22,500 for the construction of a building for the high school at Nandalur. The Government in their Order Mis. No. 133 L., dated 4th February 1919, said that the question will be considered after the necessary plans and estimates for the work are prepared. The District Board Engineer has been requested to prepare the necessary plans and estimates. No representation has been made to Government for grants for the construction of buildings at Rayachoti and Badvel. The secondary school at Nandalur is proposed to be located for the present in a rented building.

4. *To sanction an incomplete secondary school for Pulivendla.*—In 1917 the Director called for proposals from the District Board for the opening of new incomplete secondary schools in the district and for converting the incomplete secondary schools into complete secondary schools. It was required that the proposal should be confined only to one complete secondary school and two incomplete secondary schools for each district. Accordingly, proposals were submitted and the opening of two incomplete secondary schools, one at Rayachoti and the other at Badvel, and one secondary school at Nandalur was sanctioned. The opening of an incomplete secondary school at Pulivendla was not included in the above proposals. I shall be glad if this request of the District Board is viewed favourably by His Excellency. Pulivendla is about 22 miles from the nearest railway station and the taluk presents some administrative difficulty on account of its population being ignorant, rude and given to factional fights. It is one of the richest taluks in the district, the soil being mostly black cotton and producing groundnut and cotton. The wealth of some of the richest people is used at present in promoting factional troubles of a serious nature. If the civilizing influence of education is carried into this part of the district, it may in course of time help in reducing the evil and will perhaps turn what is now a source of trouble and a field for crime into a prosperous and peaceful part of the district helping its general advancement.

Secretariat Note.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Introduction of free and compulsory primary education.—The Elementary Education Bill, which is now under the

Paragraph 10, page 5 of G.O. No. 394, dated
1st May 1913.

G.O. No. 680, dated 17th May 1917.

consideration of Government, provides for the introduction of compulsory primary education by local bodies in the areas administered by them with the previous sanction of the Local Government. The Bill, however, does not provide for free primary education. In 1913, the Government of India considered that the time had not yet come for making elementary education *entirely* free as such a step would retard the provision of schools in villages without them. They, however, desired Local Governments to extend the application of the principle of free elementary education amongst the poorer and more backward sections of the population. Subsequently in reply to a question asked at the Imperial Legislative Council on the 7th March 1917, that Government stated that they had no scheme for making elementary education free after the war, but that they did not wish to interfere in the discretion already possessed by Local Governments and local bodies to take such steps in respect of particular areas and classes when these might be considered educationally and financially desirable.

2. A few local bodies in the Presidency have recently applied to Government for sanction to the total or partial abolition of fees in elementary schools under public management on the ground that the income now derived from fees is small and that the abolition or reduction will tend to popularize education among the poor. The Government have decided, in that connexion, that the general question of the abolition of fees in elementary schools should be examined in its various aspects. The Director of Public Instruction has been asked to submit a note on the subject and this is awaited.

3. It may, however, be mentioned in this connexion that, under the existing rules, children belonging to the castes and classes which have been declared by Government to be backward are admitted in elementary schools under public management without payment of fees and Muhammadans are required to pay only half-fees. Before compulsion is introduced in any area under the proposed legislation, the question of levy of fees or their abolition would obviously receive due consideration and whatever arrangement that may be necessary to suit the conditions of the poorer classes will no doubt be made.

Rule 55 of Rules.

G.O. No. 757, dated 11th June 1918.

Paragraph 22 (2) on page 8 of G.O. No. 394,
dated 1st May 1913.

G.O. No. 757, dated 11th June 1918.

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4. *Accommodation for the high school at Nandalur and the middle schools at Badvel and Rayachoti.*—These schools were opened last year with the aid of subsidies from Provincial funds. As stated by the Collector, plans and estimates have not yet been submitted to Government for buildings for these schools. When these are prepared and approved by competent authority, the question of a grant from Provincial funds may be considered. There is a provision of Rs. 2.50 lakhs in the current year's budget estimate for subsidies to local bodies towards the construction of buildings for secondary schools and the Director of Public Instruction has been asked to submit proposals for the distribution of the amount before the 31st July next. If the Cuddapah District Board gets plans and estimates ready in time a grant may perhaps be sanctioned from the above provision. Except in special circumstances, the grant will be limited to 50 per cent of the estimated cost.

5. *Opening of an incomplete secondary school at Pulivendla.*—The policy of the Government in regard to the opening of secondary schools is to rely mainly on aided agency. During the last year, however, the Government sanctioned subsidies to local bodies towards the opening of 17 new high schools and 49 middle schools. (Of these, Cuddapah got one high school and two middle schools.) The object of taking this special step was to provide additional facilities for secondary education and to relieve congestion in existing schools. The Government have, however, no intention of opening similar schools in large numbers in future with Provincial subsidies and thus replacing other agencies in the field of secondary education. The policy remains the same as before, viz., of relying largely on private agencies. If a secondary school is needed at Pulivendla, it is open to the local boards or private agencies to take the initiative in the matter. The Director of Public Instruction will then consider the question of making a suitable subsidy or grant-in-aid and address Government if necessary.

S.K.—15-6-19.

N.K.—16-6-19.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAN—16-6-19.

Regarding Pulivendla, the Department will consider the question when it is put before Government.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—16-6-19.

L. D[AVIDSON]—17-6-19.

CM-1442A

(Future notes will
be sent by post)

Home (ES) Dept.
Three copies of a note on the positions
of the address to be presented to H.E.
the Governor by the Cuddapah District
Board, which relate to this Dept.
are placed below. They may be
forwarded to the P.S.G.

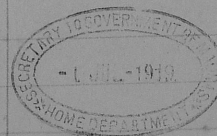
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CR
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P.S.G. no

Returned with thanks. I have kept
copies of the note.

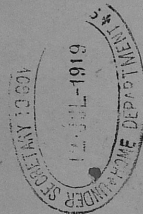
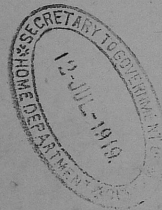
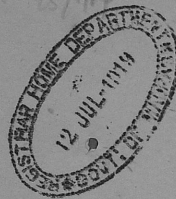
CR
B.O.
29-6-19.



Returned with the following extract from the
Excellency's reply:

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"As lately as January 1919 Government accepted the recommendations of the Educational Conference held in 1916 for the abolition of the system of appropriation of fees by headmasters of lower elementary schools and the adoption of a common scale of fees in all elementary schools under public management. The result of this decision has been that the total monthly fee payable by a boy for the whole course in higher elementary schools is 8 annas less than that paid under the old scale, while in lower elementary schools the rate has been raised only by six pies a month in the first and fourth standards. Moreover under present rules Panchamas and pupils of castes and classes declared to be backward are admitted in schools under public management without payment of fees and fees at half rates may be levied from Muhammadans. But it is open to any local body to modify the scale in consultation with the Inspector of Schools and it therefore seems hardly necessary at present to consider any modification of the scale so lately approved. Government has however asked the Director of Public Instruction to examine the general question of the abolition of fees in elementary schools and the Elementary Education Bill which is now under the consideration of Government provides for the introduction of compulsory education by local bodies with the previous sanction of Government. The Bill does not provide for free primary education but before compulsion is introduced this question of the levy of fees or their abolition will receive very careful consideration.

The High School at Nandalur and the two middle schools at Badvel and Rayachoti were opened last year with the aid of subsidies from Provincial funds. In February of this year Government undertook to consider the question of a grant for a building at Nandalur as soon as the necessary plans and estimates were prepared.



Similar consideration will be given to applicants for grants for buildings at Badvel and Rayachoti when estimates are submitted. If the District Board is able to prepare these plans and estimates in time, the Director of Public Instruction will be able to consider your 8 claims when he puts before Government his proposals for the distribution of the 2½ lakhs provided in the current year's budget for subsidies to local bodies towards the construction of buildings for secondary schools.

It is the primary duty of local boards or private agencies to take the initiative in starting new secondary schools and whenever such initiative is taken the Educational Department will always sympathetically consider the question of giving grants-in-aid."

Wm

P.S.G.
10-7-19.

Home (25th) Dept

*Submitted that the papers may be
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