

Law (1921) Department.
(Education)
Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No.

1516

DATED

8-X-21

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

State scholarship---Mis. O.K. Meenakshi Devi-medical
study in England-Refused

PAPERS PUT UP WITH CURRENT No. _____

Papers of the department to which the current belongs.

Number.	Date.	Original (= O) or spare copy (= S.O.).	Remarks. (In this column such of the papers as have been removed for copying, printing, etc., should be marked with a cross.)	Initials of Referencer with date in token of return to Reference department

Papers of other departments.

Department.	Number	Date.	Original (= O.) or spare copy (= S. C.).	Initials with date of (1) Referencer acknowledging returns of the paper concerned or (2) Despatcher to denote the return of the papers to the department concerned.

L a w (Education)

DEPARTMENT.

O.F.—20

Received 191 . Registered 27903 191 .
20-9-21

Subject.

Submitting for favourable consideration, the
application of Miss O.K.Minakshi Devi for a Government of
India scholarship received from the Secretary to the High
Commissioner.

ENCLOSURES

No.
Spare copies

No. 1274 WB/21.

Station Madras, Dated the 17th September 1911.
19

From (Name) R.Littlehales, Esq., M.A.,

(Designation) Director of Public Instruction, ...

Madras.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

L a w (Education)

Department.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the enclosed letter
received from the Secretary to the High Commissioner for
India (with enclosures) forwarding the application of
Miss O.K.Minakshi Devi for a Government of India scholarship
and to recommend that it be forwarded to the Government of
India for favourable consideration.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

M. A. Shrinivas

For Director of Public Instruction.

T R 17/9
1215

Please quote the under-mentioned reference, and
address any further communication to—
Joint Secretary to the
High Commissioner for India,
(Indian Students Dept.),
42, Grosvenor Gardens,
London, S.W. 1.
Reference I.S.813.

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR INDIA,
42, GROSVENOR GARDENS,
LONDON, S.W. 1.

11th AUGUST, 1921.

FROM:

The Joint Secretary to the High Commissioner.

TO:

The Director of Public Instruction, MADRAS.

Sir,

Enclosures:

Letter from
Miss Devi,
dated, 3.8.21.
Copy of
Recommendation
from J.A. Richley,
Esq.,
dated, 23.9.21.
Copies of
Testimonials.

I am directed to forward herewith, for the
consideration of the Government of India, the
enclosed application (in original) from
Miss O.K. MINAKSHI DEVI for a Government of India
Scholarship.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

ncs
JOINT SECRETARY.

11 St. Mary's Road

Highbury

London N. 6

3 8 1921

Through The Office of the High Commissioner for India

To, The Director of Public Instruction
Madras

Dear Sir, I have the honour to submit that my application for a Govt. of India State Scholarship for Indian women enable in the United Kingdom to enable me to complete the study of Medicine in England.

I passed the Intermediate Arts Examination of the Madras University in 1916 and the F. Sc. of the Punjab University the following year. During 1917-18 I completed a year's Medical Study in the Lady Hardinge College, Delhi.

As the rules require that candidates for the State Scholarship be graduates, I interrupted my medical studies and obtained permission from the Punjab University to appear privately for the B. A. degree which I took in 1919 obtaining Honours in English in Dutch subject Second

stood 2nd in the University -

I am a native of Cannanore in the Malabar District and the first Hindu woman from Malabar to study Medicine. At present I am preparing privately for the first Medical examination for which the London University regulations permit me to appear as an external student. As a regular student I could have taken my examination sooner & so saved time but financial considerations have prevented my joining a college hitherto.

This is my third application for the Govt. of India Scholarship. I have good testimonials from the Principals & Professors of the different schools & Colleges. I have attended recommending me for this scholarship. Before I left India I saw the Director of Public Instruction of the Punjab to whom I submitted my first application. He considered me a deserving candidate, but as a native of the Madras Presidency, I could not be nominated by the Punjab Govt. (Copy of D.O. no 944 G.I. S. to the D.P.I. Madras enclosed).

I am most anxious to complete my Medical studies in England. I am in receipt of no Scholarship. I did apply for one to a native state, but being a British subject, I was declared ineligible for any of their Scholarships. I am therefore entirely dependant on my own resources. My family has some.

Some claim for consideration from the British Government - because of the services of my grandfather Mr. Indian Ambro in connection with the Indian settlement and the Moplah outbreak very soon after the Indian Mutiny. The Government then promised to help his family "as opportunity offers." (Please vide Malabar Collector's letter of the 16th April 1867, No. 74 as embodied in Board Proceedings dated 20th May 1867, No. 3092 & L. O. of 31st May 1867 No. 1229).

In view of all these
circumstances I pray that this my
third application for a Govt. of India
State Scholarship may now meet
with your able consideration.

Yours obedient servant,
W. R. Murakami Doro

8
D.O.No. 944 G. S.

(COPY)

S I M L A.

Dated 23rd September, 1919.

Dear Littlehailles,

Miss O.K. Minakshi of Malabar came to see me about a special scholarship for the study of medicine in England. She has been studying two years in the Punjab at the Lady Knardinge College and privately taking the B.A. of this University.

She struck^{me}/as an exceptionally good candidate and I should have been glad to recommend her for the scholarship; but I find that as a native of Madras she cannot be recommended by the Punjab Government.

Perhaps your Government could do something for her. I understand she has applied direct to you.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) J.A. RICHLEY.

The Hon'ble Mr. R. Littlehailles,
Director of Public Instruction,
M A D R A S.

No. 945 G.S. dated 23/9/19.

Copy forwarded to Miss O.K. Minakshi Devi, Young Women's Christian Association, Bombay, for information.

(Sgd) J.A. RICHLEY.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, PUNJAB.
M. KHAN.

Copies of Testimonials.

(1)

I have no hesitation in certifying that I consider O. K. Minakshi Devi who was a student of mine for the Intermediate classes, one of the most educated ladies of Malabar, most of whom she far excels, not only by her sound knowledge, acute intelligence and remarkable quickness of comprehension, but by her sterling character and good conduct as well. I have to state with particular pleasure that she attained remarkable proficiency in Sanskrit within the short space of two years for which she deserves an honoured place among scholars.

I sincerely wish her every success in her future career.

(Sd.) VIDWAN M. NEELAKANDA MOOSAD,

Senior Sanskrit Pandit,

5th March 1919.

Brennen College, Tellicherry, Malabar.

(2)

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL,

Brennen College, Tellicherry.

11th February, 1919.

Miss O. K. Minakshi was a student of this college for two years and passed the Intermediate Examination in Arts of the Madras University in the year 1916, with ancient History, Logic and Sanskrit as her optional subjects.

She was a very intelligent, well-behaved and hard-working student, with abilities far above the average, and her conduct and character were excellent.

I have much pleasure in recommending her for a scholarship.

(Sd.) K. KRISHNAN NAYAR, B.A. L. T.,

Principal,

Brennen College,

Tellicherry, Malabar.

(3)

I have known Miss O. K. Minakshi since childhood and she was my pupil in the Government Girls' High School, Cannanore. I do not hesitate to say that she was by far the most brilliant student I ever had, and I have much pleasure in recommending her for the State scholarship for which I understand she is going to apply.

Miss Minakshi belongs to one of the oldest and most respected (Hindoo) families in Malabar. An orphan at the age of seven, besides being the first girl in her community to decide on taking a doctor's course, the diff-

culties she had to contend against were many and often seemed insurmountable. But she overcame them all, and her strength of mind, cheerful endurance and the unflinching courage she displayed throughout, even under the most trying circumstances, won the admiration and respect of all.

She passed the Intermediate Arts of Madras University in 1916, one of her optionals being Sanskrit Text and Grammar with Translation, (which she only began with the Alphabet from the Junior Intermediate Class) and the following year passed the Inter-science of the Punjab University, when she was registered as a medical student of the Punjab; and later I understand, in England. She has done a year's medical work in the Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi. She has interrupted her medical studies this year, as she has been granted permission by the Punjab University to appear as a private student for the B. A. examination to be held in April 1919, in order to be eligible for Government of India State scholarship, her idea being, provided she gets this scholarship, to complete her medical studies in England.

I think Miss Minakshi has shown characteristic foresight and wisdom in the choice of a profession. She has, besides that high sense of duty which distinguished her even as a child, and a striking personality, a deeply sympathetic nature, a healthy influence on those around her and that sensitive regard for others which are, in my opinion, among some of the most essential attributes of a good doctor; while her intellectual qualities alone are sufficient to give her a foremost place among the leading women of the day.

I consider it not so much Miss Minakshi's misfortune as that of her community as a whole that pecuniary circumstances should have stood in the way of her taking advantage of an English training sooner; and I sincerely hope that her many shining qualities will find the recognition and encouragement they so well merit.

I wish her every success in her future career.

(Sd.) C. K. KAUSALYA, B.A. L.T.,

PRINCIPAL,

CANNANORE,
1st March 1919.

Govt. Girl's High School,
Cannanore, Malabar.

(4)

Miss O. K. Minakshi was a student of mine in Chemistry and Physics for the session 1916-1917 and at the end of it passed the Intermediate Science of the Punjab University.

During the time she worked under me, I formed a very high opinion of Miss Minakshi's intelligence and of her abilities as a student, and I feel certain she will do well in the duties needed for a medical woman.

I wish her every success in the future.

(Sd.) A. M. BAIN, M.A., B. SC.,

Professor of Chemistry and Physics,
Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi.

8th May 1918.

(5)

I have much pleasure in giving a testimonial to Miss O. K. Minakshi. She is a young lady of very high character and an excellent disposition. She possesses brilliant abilities and I feel certain that if she is given the opportunity, her ability, and conscientiousness in work and her general bearing towards the professors of the college will thoroughly commend her to them all.

She has done her work here most satisfactorily. She did all her practical work with great application and zeal. She is very intelligent and she has a great future before her.

I wish her every success in life.

15th May 1918.

(Sd.) Miss M. MEHTA, M.A., B. SC.,
Asst. Professor of Physics and Chemistry,
Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi.

(6)

Miss O. K. Minakshi was my student in the Brennen College, Tellicherry during the years 1914-16, and at the end of her two years' college course passed the Intermediate Examination in Arts. She was undoubtedly one of the best students of the college, if not the very best, and would have taken a high First Class, but for the fact that she had to devote the greater portion of her time to the study of Sanskrit which she commenced only in the First College class and in which she made remarkable progress in two years. She did brilliantly in my English and Logic Classes, standing high in all the periodical examinations.

Her abilities are far above the ordinary; she has read widely and possesses a perfect command of the English language which she speaks and writes with marked fluency and elegance. She also highly impressed me with her aptitude for Logic, a subject for which, to my knowledge, the generality of the fair sex evince little interest. Intelligent and industrious, versatile and enterprising she will, I know, find it easy to follow any line of studies, or any profession almost, with credit to herself and advantage to others.

Her character and conduct are excellent, and her refined amiable manners and cultured conversation are sufficient to make her a general favourite. I sincerely wish her the brilliant career of which her qualities of head and heart make her so amply deserving.

15th January 1919.

(Sd.) K. NARAYANA MENON, M.A., L.T.,
Professor of Logic and English,
Brennen College, Tellicherry, Malabar.

(7)

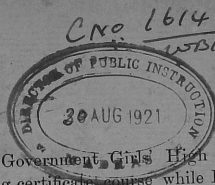
Miss O. K. Minakshi is a student of this college; she passed the science group of the Punjab University and Science Examination and was registered as a Mechanical student in September 1917. She is an intelligent and hard-working student and should make a good doctor.

DELHI,
12th November 1917.

(Sd.) K. A. PLATT, M.D., B.S. (London.)

Principal,
Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi.

P. T. 01



Miss O. K. Minakshi attended the Government Girls High School, Cannanore, for her secondary school leaving certificate course while I was in charge of the school. She gave me entire satisfaction as a student and her conduct throughout the period was uniformly good.

(Sd.) M. VERKI, B.A., L.T.,
Head Mistress,
Govt. Secondary School, Triplicane.

MADRAS,
5th December 1918.

(9)

I have known Miss O. K. Minakshi for some years now and during this time I have formed the highest opinion of her character and abilities.

I have had several opportunities of closely observing her work etc. and apart from her bright intellect and high moral worth, I have been greatly impressed by her wide knowledge, quick comprehension and decision, remarkably neat dexterous figures and a fine capacity for work - some of those qualities most essential for a successful medical woman. In addition to these she has a frank refined nature at once kind and open, a fine personality and very pleasing, taking manners about her - a lady-like well-bred girl every way.

I would strongly recommend her as a most deserving candidate for the Government of India State Scholarship for which she is going to apply; for, apart from the fact that she has in her the makings of a splendid medical woman, I consider her among the few Indian ladies that I know on whom the influence of a Western training will have the most beneficial results.

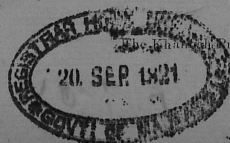
I wish her every success in life.

(Sd.) H. G. MARCHANT, M.B., B.S.,
Professor of Anatomy,
Women Medical College, Ludhiana

LUDHIANA,
8th March 1919.

I have known Miss O. K. Minakshi
Sri. I can certify that she is of
good character & that she deserves
a Scholarship
(Sd.) C. Sankararam Nair
Education Member
of Council
Delhi

Nov. 9/18.



NOTES.

13

Law (LAW) Sept 14

State Scholarship, Miss O. K. Meenakshi

[Enc 2790B]
pref

The Govt of India State

Scholarship, available during the current year for an Indian woman graduate has already been awarded to a candidate

nominated by the Bombay Govt. vide India's letter on page 105 of G.O. No. 163, Law (LAW), D. 4-8-21.

The Madras Govt have since accepted a suggestion of the Govt. of India for the

provincialization of State Scholarships in terms of letter No. 1085 (Law), D. 26-7-21. Final

orders have not yet been passed by that Govt. on this question. In the circumstances

it is doubtful whether the Govt. of India will grant any special scholarship to the

applicant, and there seems to be, therefore, no use in forwarding the application to India as suggested by M.C.P.D.

For orders whether the applicant may be informed that the scholarship available during the current year has already been awarded.

A draft order is submitted for approval, which may go to L.S.G. (P.W.) for acceptance.

Miss Meenakshi seems to be a deserving candidate

supervised by
for 196 R
28-21

(K)

(S. for Law)
(2790B)

28-21

No doubt the ~~inadvisable~~ cannot get the post. of India Scholarship as it has already been awarded. It is unlikely that the Govt. of India will grant any Special Scholarship to her. They will expect the Local Govt. to do so if any special treatment is considered necessary. It is for consideration whether any Special Scholarship should be sanctioned for her. The cost in that case will be debited to Prov. revenues. In the case of W. C. D. Sahasramania Chettiar, Financial objected to the deputation charges being incurred in the current year even though the D.P. & promised out of a source in the E. budget from which the amount needed could be re-appropriated. The matter has, however, been subsequently accepted as a Special Case and it is being investigated. (under ref. to the Accountant Genl.) Financial difficulties may therefore stand in the way in the present case. This lady is already now in England. ~~to be~~ If any special treatment is to be accorded, the matter should be examined by the

D.P. & further as to what further length of time she should be in England. What amount should be paid to her as Scholarship, whether any incidental ~~costs~~ to serve Govt. should be secured from her. The English funeral will also have to be considered. G. S. & may first be consulted.

At
26.9.21

She is already in England. Is Scholarship payable to persons already there? Will she never apply to the Govt. of India? It appears she did. Why was that application rejected? ~~She is already in England.~~

State Scholarships may be awarded to candidates already resident in England. Vide rule (iv) on page 2 of the pamphlet put up.

- Miss Meenakshi submitted an application for the grant of one of the State Scholarships in 1919 and the application was forwarded to the Govt. of India vide No. 1529-30 Home (S.D.) 2 11-12-19. The Govt. of India in reply stated that her application would be considered in 1920. India's letter of 1920, 29.8.1920.
- (I) to the Govt. of India vide No. 1529-30 Home (S.D.) 2 11-12-19. The Govt. of India in reply stated that her application would be considered in 1920. India's letter of 1920, 29.8.1920.
- (C) considered in 1920. India's letter of 1920, 29.8.1920.

4
The Scholarship available in 1920 was,
however, awarded to Miss Pichamutha
another nominee of this Govt. — go.

10. 8. 22 & 3. 8. 20. The reasons of the
Govt. of India in rejecting her appli-
cation are not known here.

DA
30. 9. 21
The grant of the Scholarship
30. 9. 21 is the result of the examina-
tion of the applications
received from the various
Princelings, the best candidate being
selected.

DA
30. 9. 21
The ^{same} Another file has been sent to
the Leg in which proposals have
been made to regulate the grant
of Special Scholarships to Indian
Students by the High Commissioners
in England. In that connection a
list of those Students to whom
the aid has already been given
by the Leg of State ^{has} ~~has~~ been
sent. That list does not
contain the name of Manakshi
Dev. It is not known why her case
was not considered by the High
Comm. or by the Leg of State, but
sent to the local D. P. I. for
consideration.

2. 10. 21.

File in the Finance

p. 2 24

9/10



14 5
I think this is a case where for her
payment of ^{the} grant which the High
Comm awards to deserving students
already in Europe than for her
award of a scholarship from
this country. The lady is already
in England & has already been
there for some time. If she has
been getting on well with her
studies and if the requisite help
from public funds for her further
protection & her studies, it is
for the High Comm to render her
necessary pecuniary aid after
suitable investigation in her case.
We know he does render such
help. The D. P. I. may be ^{to} ~~to~~
informed so.

143
It seems true Miss Manakshi
Dev's case is a fit one for
State aid. I wonder why her
case was overlooked on two
previous occasions. I wish we
could do something for her. The
British Finance cannot ~~not~~
help the case.

6/10

H₃ apparently does not wish that a special scholarship should be granted from Provincial funds. The Govt. of India ~~are~~ not also likely to grant any. For orders whether the S^d may be informed as proposed by the Secretary on page 5 ante. Draft submitted.

11.10.21

I am doubtful if M3 means that we must tell the DOI that the only way off is thru High Comm. as only panel by the H.C. will be a check on the provincial finances & M3 says that no help can be given thru loans from the provincial funds. The draft order as amended is submitted to M3 for approval.

121071

M3

Drift is the

Don't know

Seott. II-10 (a)-26,596-11-4-21.

Date.	Initials
-------	----------

When received for Fair-copying.

When copied . . .

When examined

When signed

When despatched

State Scholarship

Miss G.K. Maenakshi Devi —
medical student in England. ~~Directed to~~
~~apply to the High Commissioner.~~
- Refused

READ AGAIN G.O. No., dated 192

" " " " "

192

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 24903, From the *SPD*, No. 1074 WB dated 17/9-9. 1921

[illegible]

9. 9. 192

ORDER.

No. 1516, dated 19-10-192

Don't

The R.T.D. is requested to inform the applicant, Mrs G.K. Meenakshi Devi, that the Govt. of India have ^{in the current year} already awarded the State Scholarship ⁱⁿ ~~available during the current year~~ ^{available} for an Indian woman graduate to a nominee of the Govt. of Bombay, ^{and} ~~and that no help can be rendered~~ ^{that if she requires help from} ~~to Mrs Meenakshi Devi from the public funds for further~~ ^{criminal funds} ~~prosecution of her studies~~ she should apply to the High Commissioner for India for the necessary pecuniary aid. The High Commissioner is giving such aid to Indian students in England.

19.10.24

DESPATCHE
20 OCT 1921
M. 1.

To the D.P.D. (92)

9
11. com

1202

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____ } 192 .
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

READ AGAIN G.O. No. _____ DATED _____
 192 .

○
 CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.
 ○

STATEMENT WITH DETO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DEBATE
 IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

- A = Copy in full.
- B = Not to be copied.
- P = Copy abstract only.
- Q = Copy heading only.