

Law (1921) Department.
(Education)

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No. 1633

DATED 15 - 11 - 1921

[Despatch Abstract.]

T O U R.

His Excellency the Governor's---note on addresses
presented by the District Educational Council, Trichino/poly-
subsidy for elementary schools---recorded.

BACK PAPERS.

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

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

Madras,

16th September 1921

My dear Dutt,

I am to send you the enclosed copy of an address to be presented to His Excellency by the Michinopoly District Educational Council during his tour next month and to ask you to be so good as to let me have a brief note on the various points raised therein by the 1st October next.

Yours sincerely,

P.C. Dutt, Esq., I.C.S.,

Secretary to Government,

Law (Education) Department,

Fort St. George.

To

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble

Baron Willingdon, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.C.B.,

May it please Your Excellency,

1 We the members of the Trichinopoly District Educational Council beg to offer Your Excellency and Lady Willingdon a most hearty welcome to this city of ancient historic fame and modern educational ideals.

2 Although our Council is but an infant five months old, we beg to assure Your Excellency that our welcome is in no way less cordial or less sincere than that of any Council or Board of longer existence.

3 Your Excellency is aware that the Council is a product of the Elementary Education Act of 1920 which marks indeed an epoch in the History of Education in South India. Education under the Reforms Act has become a transferred subject in charge of an Indian Minister and the duty of shaping Elementary Education to suit the needs and local conditions of each district has been vested in the hands of a Council.

4 As the Council has just started on its career, it has no record of progress made nor any great achievement worthy of chronicling here, but it may be observed that six meetings have been held and much business of the nature of spade work transacted, and the attendance and the discussions at those meetings have proved that the members are deeply interested in the work of the Council and have determined to do their level best for the education of the masses.

5 The work that lies before us is both extensive and intensive. At present there are in this district 1288 schools for boys and 78 schools for girls, thus making a total of 1366 schools giving instruction to 42357 boys

This is according
to the census of 1911
before the transfer of
Namakkal taluk
to Salem. According
to the census of 1921
the population is
19 lakhs.)

2.

and 8718 girls. The population of the district is nearly 22 lakhs, and while pupils of school-going age number about 3 lakhs, only about half a lakh are attending Elementary Schools in our District. This is a state of affairs that calls for immediate action. We feel that as in England where each village can boast of either a Parish school or a Provided school, each of our villages should have an Elementary school maintained by a Local Board or a private body, and until we have realised that ideal, we cannot say that our work of extensive is complete. That Primary Education has a predominant claim upon public funds has become an accepted policy no longer open to discussion. We trust that the Minister for Education will be able to allot a larger share of the Budget for the widest possible extension of Primary Education on a voluntary basis.

6 We feel that no institution can be efficient and do real Educational work without a better trained and better paid teaching staff. Needless to say that it is most undesirable to carry on a system of Elementary Education with a body of discontented men, and we therefore plead for a higher scale of salary to teachers in Elementary schools.

7 Another point to which we intend directing our attention is the improvement of school buildings. Most of the school houses, being mean, squalid, and insanitary are thoroughly unsuitable for the purpose of imparting instruction and they will have to be replaced as funds permit by airy, commodious buildings designed upon sanitary lines.

8 Vocational training or purposeful education is already in the air and classes for manual training and weaving will in course of time have to be opened in Higher Grade Elementary schools as the first step in that direction. We may be permitted to emphasise that so long as the foundation of popular education is weak

3. and not well-laid, higher University education cannot flourish and prosper. We are looking forward to a time in the near future when Trichinopoly may be able to boast of a University of its own founded upon a strong and well matured system of primary education. Trichinopoly with its healthy climatic conditions, with its three large Colleges and several High Schools, with the sacred river Cauvery flowing in its vicinity, and its central position giving it the immense advantage of railway communication, is in our opinion eminently fitted to be the seat of University of learning and activities.

9 His Most Gracious Imperial Majesty the King Emperor in replying to the address of the Calcutta University in 1912 said:-

"It is my wish that there may be spread over the ~~land~~ land a network of schools and colleges from which will go forth loyal and manly and useful citizens, able to hold their own in industries and agriculture and all the vocations in life". The above noble words are still ringing in our ears and they constitute our ideal. In carrying out such an ideal Your Excellency's Government, we feel sure, will give us all the necessary support and guidance. We request Your Excellency to help us with your suggestions, and to confer your benediction on our humble efforts in carrying out the high ideals foreshadowed by His Majesty the King Emperor.

10 We beg to assure Your Excellency of our deep loyalty to the British Throne and to thank Lady Willingdon and Your Excellency for your kind visit to our city. We hope you will be able to carry with you most pleasant memories of a happy visit.

We beg to remain,
Your Excellency's most obedient servants

The members of the Trichinopoly District
Educational Council.



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GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

Ootacamund,

26th September 1921.

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28.9.21.

My dear Dutt,

In continuation of my letter of the 16th September enclosing a copy of the address to be presented to His Excellency by the District Educational Council, Trichinopoly, I send herewith the Collector's note on it.

Yours sincerely,

W. M. M.

P. C. Dutt Esq., I.C.S.,

Secretary to Government,

Law Department.

Is

Please see that there is no avoidable delay in getting the note ready

*Don't not
with the
Secretary
this morning
to see him
Please
at once*

28974



8 Note on the District Education Council Address.

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Paragraphs 2 to 4. The District Educational Council was formed under section 4 of Act VIII of 1920. The constitution of the Council is according to section 5 of the Act. Its duties are defined in section 24.

Paragraph 5. With reference to the extension of Elementary education and the larger provincial subsidy applied for for it than now alluded to in paragraph 5 of the address, a reference may be made to sections 34 and 37 of the Elementary Education Act. It is one of the duties of the District Educational Council to prepare in consultation with the authorities concerned schemes for the extension of Elementary Education within the reach of all children of school age.

Paragraph 6. The salaries committee recommended that assistance should be given to local bodies to enable them to raise the standard of qualifications and salaries of the teachers. The recommendations are enunciated in paragraphs 34 to 36 in the Salaries Committees report. Government have been granting an allowance of Rs.4 per mensem to Elementary school masters. It is not

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as the Salaries
and how can

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not known whether this will be continued. Under clause J of section 24 of the Act the District Educational-Council should prepare and submit - to the Director of Public Instruction proposals for increasing the - supply of trained and certified - teachers. The Government will have to consider such proposals when - received.

Paragraph 7. Provincial grants for Elementary school buildings have in some cases lapsed on account of - the delay in the acquisition of sites. The school buildings on the existing type-design are of doubtful utility in rural areas. The money spent in the construction of school houses in rural areas might in a measure be diverted for the purpose of training a better set of teachers and increasing their emoluments.

Paragraphs 8 and 9. Do not call for any remarks.

General Remarks. Elementary -- Education is now completely in the hands of the District Education --- Council. They could adopt any -- curricula they like, just as they could organise and expand elementary education and determine all questions relating to it.

B

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but some he placed by
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for visit to deuce
the design -
Fulehlesoneta is gain
to be in the matter
of building -
W. S. J.*

Funds for Primary education.

So far as funds permit, increased provision is being made every year for Primary education. In 1918-19 the total provision made in the Education budget for the grant of aid to private elementary schools and the grant of subsidies to local bodies for the maintenance of elementary schools under their management amounted to Rs42.48 lakhs. The figures for the following 3 years are.-

1919-20	-----	52.32 lakhs.
1920-21	-----	56.38 ,,
1921-22	-----	62.80 ,,

(The above figures do not take into account the special subsidy of Rs9 lakhs sanctioned last year towards the payment of an allowance of Rs4/- to teachers in elementary schools under the management of local bodies or to the grant placed at the disposal of the Commissioner of Labour for the opening of schools for depressed classes).

2. The amount sanctioned in 1920-21 as subsidies to local bodies for elementary schools under their management in the Trichinopoly district and the grants paid to private elementary schools in that district are compared ^{below} with similar grants sanctioned in respect of ^{certain} other districts in the Presidency.—

Districts.	Subsidies to local bodies.	D.P.I. figures	Grants to private schools.	2 P.L. figures
Trichinopoly. (1,902,476)	1.25 lakhs.	1.21	.70 lakhs.	.71
Tinnevely. (1,902,044)	1.10 ..	1.10	1.67 ..	1.67
Ganjam. (1,835,684)	1.36 ..	1.11	1.06 ..	1.06
Guntur. (1,808,104)	1.77 ..	1.50	1.63 ..	1.64
Madura. (2,007,179)	1.22 ..	1.11	.71 ..	.72
North Arcot. (2,056,008)	1.80 ..	1.70	.87 ..	.87

3. The Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, was passed with a view to secure ^{adequate funds for the} rapid spread of elementary education in the Presidency. Under section 34 of the Act, local bodies are empowered to levy an education tax for the purpose and the Govt. have also undertaken to contribute a sum not less than the proceeds of ^{the} education tax. Till now, only a few local bodies have applied for sanction to levy the tax, but no Taluk Board or Municipal Council in the Trichinopoly district has come forward with proposals for the levy of the education tax in its area. It may be pointed that under section 24 of the Act, it is ^{the} duty of the District Educational Council to frame schemes for the extension of elementary education in the district. ^{in consultation with local authorities}

4. Salaries of teachers in elementary schools. The Govt. have sanctioned increased rates of pay as shown in the margin for teachers in Govt. elementary schools, but the majority of elementary schools are either under the management of local bodies or under private management. As regards the former, the Govt. sanctioned in 1920-21 subsidies to local bodies towards the grant of an allowance of Rs4 per mensem to teachers in their employ. Those bodies were at the same time informed that the subsidies would not be continued in subsequent years and that the cost of any permanent enhancement of the pay of these teachers should be met from the increased revenue that might be collected by them under the new Local Self-Govt. Act. A few

R.
Lower elemen-
tary trained 20-1-30
Higher elemen-
tary trained 25-1-50.
Secondary 30-30-2
trained 50-1-60.

para 9 of
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local bodies have, however, asked that Govt. should continue in the current year the payment of the subsidy sanctioned last year for the grant of the allowance. The question is still under consideration.

5. As regards aided schools, proposals to increase the rates of grants could not be sanctioned for want of funds. The Hon'ble the Minister has ordered that the question should be re-examined. A note from the D.P.I. has been called for. The latter has stated that he is consulting District Educational Councils as to the increase that should be made in the rates of grants now paid on behalf of teachers in those schools and that he would submit detailed proposals on the subject in due course. The question will therefore come up for consideration shortly.

6. Provision of buildings for schools. The District Educational Council and the local bodies in the district should take the initiative in this matter. Funds from the grants voted by the Leg: Council will be placed at the disposal of the Council for sanctioning grants-in-aid for buildings for schools under private management. The amount provided in the budget for the current year for ^{such} grants is Rs 7,000. The amount to be placed at the disposal of the District Educational Council, Trichinopoly, has not yet been settled. Subsidies are ~~sanctioned~~ sanctioned to local bodies for the construction of school buildings when funds are available with Govt. In the years 1918-19 and 1919-20 a sum of Rs 7.85 lakhs and Rs 4.31 lakhs ^{respectively} was distributed among local bodies for the construction of school buildings. No allotment has been made for this purpose in the current year. The Hon'ble the Minister has had under his consideration the question of drawing up type designs for various classes of schools. He has just approved a proposal to appoint a small committee including the D.P.I. and the Consulting Architect to draw the

Reference shed
he will be to the full
descriptions given to
D.P.I. to adopt a
check design for
buildings suitable
to local needs - they
need not be placed
I called a committee
consisting of two
to be appointed to
draw up a check
design of substantial
designs 1/10/21

designs. He is generally averse to large and pretentious buildings for these elementary schools and is inclined to approve of cheaper but airy and well lighted schools. The D.P.I. may be consulted whether the statement made in the address that most of the school houses are mean, squalid and insanitary is correct.

7. Manual and vocational training. The Govt. have already expressed themselves in favour of manual and vocational training in elementary schools. In the draft rules under the Madras Elementary Education Act, ~~practical~~ which are now under consideration, 'practical instruction' is included in the list of optional subjects to be taught in elementary schools. When the rules are promulgated, it will be open to the District Educational Council to frame courses of study in suitable manual occupations and to take steps to introduce them in the elementary schools in the district.

8. A University for Tamil districts at Trichinopoly will not be against the policy of the Govt. The question is only of funds.

9. The file may be sent to the D.P.I. U.O.

~~for remarks~~
~~with reference to para 6 above~~

OK
23.9.21
MS
23.9.21

No. 533

U.O. Reply No.

I have little to add to the above note. I have, however, taken the liberty of placing side by side with the Secretariat figures contained in para 2 above the figures relating to subsidies and grants with reference to the actual payments made according to the records of my office.

The reception of the Trichinopoly District Educational Council appears to be a splendid opportunity for emphasis

the desirability

Page 3 Encl.

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of 1302
6.11.20

Page 30 of 80.
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11.5.21

Sub to the
locality

(The revised
under Secy's
instructions)

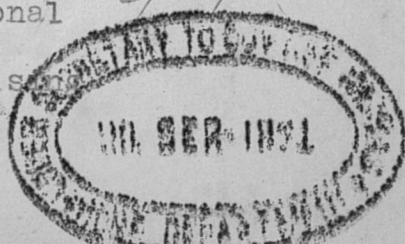
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the desirability of District Educational Councils cooperating with local bodies and with managers of aided schools for the extension of Elementary Education, ~~for~~ emphasising the need for local bodies to impose the Educational Cess for which Statutory provision is made in the Elementary Education Act of 1920 and for the continued necessity for the help of private agencies as well as of public agencies in the sphere of Education if the extension that is needed is to be made.

I agree that ~~the~~ elementary teachers should be better paid. Local bodies will be able to pay their teachers better provided that they levy the Educational Cess permitted under the Elementary Education Act. Government is statutorily obliged to give at least one rupee for every rupee collected under this Act so that the local bodies are not compelled to meet the full cost of an increase in salaries. Provincial funds meet at least one-half of the increased cost so far as the Cess raised under the Education Act is allocated for meeting such increased cost.

There is no possibility of having the pay of elementary school teachers under private management raised unless Government is prepared to enhance the rates of teaching grants paid to elementary schools. With the financial position as it is at present I see little hope of any immediate appreciable enhancement of this grant. I have, however, circularised all District Educational Councils asking for their suggestions in the matter of the enhancement of teaching grants. When these suggestions are received they will be examined and Government will be addressed with a view to sanctioning an increase, even if the increase

increase is only small.

So far as my information goes the school houses in the Trichinopoly District are not different from those in any other District. I fear that the District Educational Council has exaggerated the unsuitability of elementary school buildings. It has taken one of the worst buildings and considered it as typical of the whole District. Improvements are undoubtedly needed in buildings but it is better educational economy at the present time to build a less expensive type of building and to spend whatever excess money we have on increasing the pay of the teacher, making him more contented, and obtaining a higher class of recruit to the profession.

29.9.21

Law (E.S.) Dept.

HE thought

The file may now be submitted to the Hon'ble the Minister.

8th

29.9.21

29.9.21

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The note represents the position of elementary education under the Act.

What is needed for the success of the Act is the cooperation of local bodies by raising the Education Cells. The representatives of each body in the D.E.C. has to place before the Council a scheme of expenditure for the locality which will be considered by the Council and the local needs

will be met as far as possible.

Thus gradually the whole area will be dealt with.

The Act & the rules framed thereunder give full discretion in the matter of building.

The definition of 'School area' makes it clear that all that is insisted on is Sanitary & hygienic conditions should be satisfied - light & air - otherwise, a good thatched roof or wooden pillars or mud walls and a raised ground floor is quite satisfactory.

Manual training in Elementary Schools & Vocational training in higher Elementary is encouraged.

D.E. may prescribe the Courses suitable to the locality. Govt. will aid D.E. & the expert advice. Mr. Parrot on special duty will help the D.E. Council give advice & guidance.

If the local bodies raise cash & provide funds, the teachers who are local board servants

will receive higher salary -
 Govt. have guaranteed under the
 Act to subsidize local bodies
 with an amount not less than
 the Cess fund raised by them &
 thereby the Salaries of teachers who
 are doing service for local bodies
 could be raised

3. Govt. are examining the financial
 and other circumstances of some
 Municipalities to induce them to
 introduce free & compulsory elementary
 education. The question is being
 discussed - When a beginning
 is made in the case of Municipalities
 others will be ready to take up the
 responsibility -

Even in the case of free & compulsory
 elementary education the share of Govt. is
 the same, that is, an amount of contribution
 not less than the amount of Cess raised
 but some special aid will be given
 to such local bodies according to their
 local circumstances -

1/10/21

Maybe forwarded to the P.S.G. in
 1.10.21

Returned with a copy
 of His Excellency's
 reply.

S.S.

P.S.G.
 4.11.21.

14.

Gentlemen of the District Educational Council,

I feel this is a very
 important occasion, for the address to which I have
 just had the pleasure of listening is the first
 address of its kind delivered by an entirely new
 organization, - an organization which is very distinc-
 tively the product of the new era on which India is
 now entering. You compare yourselves to an infant of
 five months old and I congratulate you on having the
 vociferous lungs that every well nourished infant
 should possess, or like most infants you have not been
 long in announcing your wants. But, gentlemen, I
 think the analogy in your case has very strict limita-
 tions. The ancient Greeks believed that one of their
 goddesses sprang full grown from the head of Zeus and
 I think your entry into the active world has been
 rather more on those lines. It is the privilege of
 the infant to demand satisfaction of its wants: it is
 your function to consider at once how the wants of
 other infants can best be met. The presentation of
 addresses is always regarded as an opportunity for

communicating to Government through His Excellency the Governor a catalogue of local requirements by executive bodies. The task that lies before you, gentlemen, is to help Government so far as education is concerned in satisfying those wants: and it appears to me therefore that in the future District Educational Councils should feel themselves debarred from presenting addresses.

The problems that lie before your Council are many and difficult and they are likely to tax your brains to the utmost, but I realise from your address that you are already facing some of these problems and I am sure you will bring to them a ripe experience and a full knowledge of educational requirements. You have too, in the person of your President, Mr. Pethachi Chettiar, a true friend of education to whose benefactions the town of Karur already owes much. You have mentioned two or three of the chief problems which must engage your attention in the immediate future, - I mean the extension of primary education, the improvement of school buildings and the development of ^{vocational} ~~rehabilitation~~ training. I do not propose to discuss these matters now, but I will take this opportunity of impressing on

on you the desirability of co-operating with local bodies and the managers of aided schools with a view to extending elementary education. I would ask you to remember too the continued necessity for the help of private, as well as of public agencies in the sphere of education if that extension which we all desire is to take place in the near future. I must say again here what I have said so many times already during this tour, that if local bodies want more funds with which for example to increase the pay of elementary teachers,- they must give their very serious consideration to the possibility of levying the educational cess.

I think you are a little hard on elementary school buildings in your district. I cannot believe that they are all "mean, squalid and insanitary": no doubt many are,- and it is for you gentlemen to consider how they can be replaced by more sanitary accommodation. I know that type designs chosen by a committee of experts will shortly be laid before you for your consideration. I trust these designs will meet the requirements without involving a very heavy expenditure.

It only remains for me to thank you very heartily for your address and for your expressions of loyalty and to say how much I hope we shall soon see the fulfilment of that ideal so eloquently expressed in the message of His Imperial Majesty which you have quoted in your address.



The notes may be

When given for copying _____
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 When signed _____

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READ AGAIN G.O. No. _____
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DATED

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DISTO.

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