

Law (1925) Department.
Education

Boeing SERIES.

G.O. No. 1149
1149

DATED

3/7/25

[Despatch Abstract.]

District Educational Council - Duties of Secretary - defined.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

C.F. 30-5,452-8-8-23.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

L. En 1560 A
4/5/25

Received.....192 . Registered.....192



Subject.

Law (Education) Dept

Enclt. No 1560 A-1 of 82-25
Referred to the Director of Public
Instruction for remarks.

P.R. 1/5-25

(By Order)

Mananayachan
Asst. Secretary

ENCLOSURES.

No.....

No.

Spare copies.....

Station 118 Armenian Street, Dated the 3rd May 1925.
Madras.

From (Name) *Dr. S. Swaminadhan,*

(Designation) *President, Madras District Educational Council.*

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Law (Education) Department.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that a question of some practical difficulty has arisen ever since March last when Mr. Govindarajulu Mudaliar became Secretary to the Madras District Educational Council and I request a ruling on the point by Government.

2. In the case of aided schools in a large City like Madras, a few of them occasionally become inefficient for one reason or another. His predecessor Mr. Venkatram Ayyar was of great help to the Council by making surprise visits at my request to such schools but Mr. Govindarajulu Mudaliar has been evading the rendering of any such help.

3. The reason why the Secretary's help is necessary in this direction is this:-- If an inspection is required as to the exact condition of a school the average duration

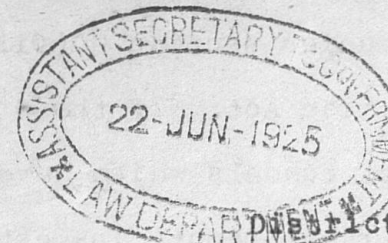
President, Madras District
Educational Council.

A. Goundarajah
3. 5. 25
Secretary to the
District Educational
Officer
Madras.

Law (Education)

DEPARTMENT.

Received 192 . Registered 192



Subject.

District Educational Council, Madras- duties of
the Secretary.

ENCLOSURES.

No.

Spare copies

R. C. No. 1072 B/25

Station Madras , Dated the 17- 6- 1925 192

From (Name) R.G.Grieve Esq., M.A.,

(Designation) Ag. Director of Public Instruction
Madras.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Law (Education) Department.

Sir,

Law (Education) Endorsement No. 1560 A-1 dated
8- 5- 1925 on letter dated 3- 5- 25 from the President,
District Educational Council, Madras.

**

Resubmitted to Government with a copy of the

page 6-15-27 District Educational Officers report on the subject,

2. Although the duties of the Secretaries are not
defined anywhere, their function as Secretaries seems to
be to assist the Presidents in carrying on the Council's
office work. The inspection of schools must be done by
the range Deputy Inspectors and if the council is not
satisfied



5

satisfied with the inspection reports of the range Deputy Inspectors, it may depute the ^{members} numbers of the council to do inspection work under section 20(vii) of the Madras Elementary Education Act. If the Secretaries are asked to inspect schools which have already been inspected by the range Deputy Inspectors there may be clash of views and it will not conduce to smooth working.

A Rama Ray
18/6
for Director of Public Instruction

A.R. 18/6/25

File
1916

6

Copy of letter R.C.No.358/25 dated 1-6- 1925 from the District Educational Officer, Madras to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

5

Subject:- Surprise visits to schools by Secretary to the District Educational Council, Madras. Your endorsement N.R.O.C.No.1072 B/25 dated 14- 5- 25 forwarding for remarks the President's letter to the Government asking for a ruling regarding the.

I have the honour to resubmit herewith the file of papers received with your endorsement quoted above regarding paying of surprised visits to Elementary schools, by the Secretary to the District Educational council, and to offer the following remarks:-

2. The President, District Educational Council, Madras says that:-

1) if an inspection is required as to the exact condition of a school, the average duration of correspondence through the District Educational Officer is not less than 6 months and the Manager gets information before the visit is actually paid thus rendering the belated report practically useless.

2) Mr.S.Venkatarama Ayyar the former Secretary was of great help to the council by making surprise visits at his request.

3) Mr.A.Govindarajulu Mudaliar the present Secretary is evading the rendering of such help saying that his pay, promotion, prospects and pension, all under Government service, depend upon his official superior, the District Educational Officer, and that superior has told him it is none of his business to inspect, if a mere President of a District Educational Council requests him to do so, and

4) this District of Madras which is a compact

black with

compact block with facilities for travel, the schools can be visited in less than 20 minutes, and the Secretary can render the council much help in the efficient working of the Act if he visits schools at his request. He therefore solicits the Government that the pay and prospects of the Secretary need not necessarily suffer if he occasionally complies with a request for an inspection made to him in his capacity as Secretary to the council. He quotes as an instance for the delay in correspondence the case of a school which was inspected on 24- 11- 24, the report of which came up for the consideration of the council on 6- 5- 25. He complains that in connection with ~~xx~~ the school mentioned above and with one other school Madrasa Sambdia Night school, Triplicane, the Secretary was requested for a report and he refused to comply with the request.

3 The Presidents statement the average duration of correspondence with the District Educational Officer, is six months is a gross exaggeration and an utter misrepresentation, and the case cited, though irrelevant, will only turn the tables on him. The school referred to is the K. Ratnavelu Mudaliar Elementary school, III/6 in the printed list. The details of the case are as follow:-

The Deputy Inspector of schools, George Town Range submitted a special report on the school on 15- 7- 24 stating that:-

1) at his annual inspection on 24- 11- 23 the total number on rolls and the number of pupils present were respectively 147 and 95 and the school was held in a building measuring 440 sq.ft. The insufficiency of accommodation had been pointed out to the manager and he had been asked to provide more spare

2) he visited the school on 17- 12- 23 and

and 12- 6- 24 found the strength had increased and the accommodation continued the same the manager had been again told of the urgent need for the improvement of accommodation. and

iii) the manager had not paid any attention to increase the accommodation even though this defect was pointed out by the District Educational Officer, himself during his visit on 4- 7- 24 and recommended that if adequate accommodation was not provided within 6 months from 1- 7- 24 recognition should be withdrawn and till then the admission should be restricted. This report was forwarded by me to the District Educational council on 23- 7- 24. A meeting of the District Educational Council was held on 30- 7. 24 for which the agenda was issued on 22- 7- 24. Had the President wished ~~xx~~ to take action on the report of this school he might have put it in supplementally on the Agenda. As no meeting was held in August, the report came up for consideration at the meeting held on 29- 9- 24, and the council resolved that action on the report might be deferred until receipt of the annual inspection report on the school. The school was put down for annual inspection during the 3rd week of November 24 by the Deputy Inspector of schools it was inspected on 7- 11- 24 and the report received in this office about the 3rd week of December 1924. The Deputy Inspector of schools reported that the strength of the school had been reduced from 147 to 73 but the accommodation of 440 sq.ft remained unaltered. I forwarded the report to the President, District Educational council on 6- 1- 25, with my recommendation that unless the manager improved the accommodation or reduced the strength to 60, the recognition and aid should be withdrawn. After the receipt of this report in the council's office two meetings were held one on 26- 2- 25 and the other on 26- 3- 25, and in none of these meetings

4-
meetings was the case of this school taken up. So I reminded the President on 6-4-25, to pass early orders on the reference relating to the school. On 2-5-25 nearly a month after the reminder the President writes to me to say that between the dates of my ~~communication~~ communication of 6-1-25 and 6-4-25 no inspection seems to have been made with the result the sub committee is not in a position to make any definite recommendations and he asked me to furnish a report on the actual condition of the school at present. Of the two dates mentioned the former is the date of transmission of the annual inspection report with my recommendation, and the latter is the date of the reminder. Thus the delay in taking action against this inefficient school is not due to any delay on the part of the inspecting officers either in inspection or in the transmission of the reports. The council itself is responsible for not having taken immediate action on the reports. The President's action is most curious. He delays taking action for three months, during which time two council meetings are held, and then wants an up to date report. At this rate every delay on his part will be followed by ~~requisition~~ ~~ment~~ requisitions for further inspections and up to date reports, thus leading to unnecessary work on the part of the inspecting officers.

4. Mr.S.Venkatarama Ayyar took up the Secretaryship on 12-2-25 and continued to discharge the duties till 23-2-25, the date of his retirement. Within this short period he was asked to visit one school by the President considering the fact that he had to retire soon he seemed to have complied with the request of the President without demur. This fact was taken to your notice and you were pleased to order that the matter need not be pursued and the visit treated as one form improvement as the Deputy Inspector of schools had not

15- 7
not asked for instructions prior to his visit.
Vide Proceedings R.O.C.No.104-B/25 dated 6-3-25.

5. When the President requested Mr.Govindarajulu Mudaliar to inspect the Madras Sambdia Night school Triplicane, No.XXIV/4 M the latter asked for a written request which he submitted to me for my orders. On this, I pointed out to the President that by asking the Secretary to inspect a school already inspected and reported on by an officer of equal status whose report with the necessary recommendation has been forwarded to him by me his official superior, he would be placing the Secretary in an awkward position and this procedure will not conduce to harmonious working between the Deputy Inspector and myself and among the Deputy Inspectors of schools, themselves. Copies of the President's written request, and the Deputy Inspectors' letter and my letter to the President are submitted herewith for your perusal. It would appear that the President has agreed with the arguments in my letter for at the council meeting held on the 6th May action was taken on the original report on this school without any further confidential report from the Secretary. Mr Govindarajulu Mudaliar denies having said to the President that his pay, promotion, prospects, and pension all under Government depended on his official superior the District Educational Officer- vide copy of his D.O submitted herewith. The Deputy Inspector's reasons for hesitating to comply with the President's request are of a loftier, sounder and more honourable character than those attributed to him by the President. It looks as if the President with a view to give force to his argument, has put into Mr.A.Govindarajulu Mudaliar's mouth words which he has not uttered.

6. As regards the request proper that the Deputy Inspector of schools in his capacity as Secretary

6-
Secretary might be permitted to inspect schools at the instance of the President, I am not at all in favour of the proposal. My view is in concord with the principle enunciated by you in Rule 138 of the Madras Inspection Code which runs as follows:- "Whenever an inspecting officer has reason to believe that his views on any matter are more or less not in accord with those of his superior officer state what the views of his superior officer are and advise the Board to obtain the opinion of his superior officer" The position of the Secretary so far as his inspection work is concerned is much the same in the District Educational Council as in a Local Board and the principle laid down in Rule 138 Madras Inspection Code will, I think, be applicable with equal force in the case of a Deputy Inspector who is called upon by the President to inspect and furnish a confidential report on a school which has been reported on by a co-officer and whose report has been commented on by his official superior.

The Secretary is not an executive of the council he has only to render clerical assistance and to help in the running of the office. As for getting confidential information about a school, it is open to the President to request me to furnish him with an urgent confidential report on it, or depute a member to do that, for which provision has been made in the Elementary Education Act, Section 20(vii) and of which the President is not unaware as he has on many occasions deputed the members to inspect the schools and send further reports. The President's argument about Madras being a compact block etc will apply with equal force to the procedure I have indicated. In a mofussil District, a President would not dream of sending the Head quarters Deputy Inspector's Secretary all over the District to inspect and furnish reports and there is not the slightest reason for a

8
a variation from this in Madras.

7. In the above circumstances I beg to submit that the Government may be moved to pass a rule to the effect that the Deputy Inspector-Secretaries of the District Educational Councils should not be asked by the Presidents or councils to pay surprise visits to schools and the Secretaries should render only clerical assistance to the council.

Copy of D.O. dated 23rd May 1925, from the

Deputy Inspector of schools, George Town range to the District Educational Officer, Madras.

Your D.O. dated 21st May 1925, I enclose herein a copy of my letter dated 3-5-1925 written in reply to the memo dated 2-5-25 of the President, District Educational Council, Madras, requesting me to visit a Muhammadan school. From this it will be clear that I did not use the language quoted by the President in my reply to him.

2. The District Educational Officer knows me very well. It is for the District Educational Officer to consider whether I am capable of using such a language either in talk or in writing to the President, District Educational Council.

Copy of letter dated 2nd May 1925 from the President, Madras District Educational Council to the Secretary District Educational Council.

**

The Secretary is requested to visit this evening school No. XXIV/4 M Madrasa Sambdia Night school Walaja Mosque, Triplicane and send me a confidential report by tomorrow morning as to the exact condition

13
-8-
condition, of the school, to decide whether the District Educational Council would be justified in paying any teaching grant for the last year.

Copy of letter dated 3rd May 1925 from the Deputy Inspector of schools, Georgetown Range, to the District Educational Officer, Madras.

Submitted to the District Educational Officer, Madras for favour of orders.

2. It is highly desirable that it should be clearly settled whether it is within the province of the Secretary of the District Educational Council to visit Elementary schools and to send up confidential reports thereon when desired to do so by the President, District Educational Council without the knowledge of the District Educational Officer so that the Secretary who, as the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Georgetown range, is chiefly the subordinate of the District Educational Officer, may not be placed in an awkward position.

3. The Secretary is not a member of the District Educational Council, since the Secretaryship was not contemplated in the Madras Elementary Education Act of 1920. He is not therefore permitted to take part in any discussion of the council or to vote on any proposition considered at the meeting of the council.

At the beginning the Government were pleased to direct purely as a temporary measure, the Deputy Inspectors of schools at the Headquarters of each District to help as Secretary to the President in his office work. It is therefore evident that the Secretary is not expected to do any executive work. This was the view of the President, District Educational Council, North Arcot who never asked me as the Secretary to visit any

9
-9-
any Elementary school and send up a confidential report thereon though I was a Secretary continuously for about four years under him. Whenever there was an occasion to call for a special report on the condition of any Elementary school, the Deputy Inspector of schools concerned was generally called on, through the District Educational Officer, and not directly by the President, to visit it and send up a report thereon or a member of the District Educational Council was asked to do so.

4. In this matter, the Deputy Inspector of schools, Madras Muhammadan Range has inspected the school in question and recommended the withdrawal of the recognition and aid from the school for the year 24-25, and the District Educational Officer, Madras, has endorsed his recommendation. If I were, as Secretary to visit the above school and to submit a confidential report as desired by the President without the knowledge of the District Educational Officer, my report may be quite in accord with those already sent up by the Deputy Inspector of Muhammadan schools and the District Educational Officer or may not be. In case mine differs materially from theirs and the District Educational council decides the matter accepting mine, my position will be really awkward, since great care should under the rules of the Madras Inspection Code, be taken by the Deputy Inspector of schools, to avoid any appearance of conflict of opinions as between himself and his superior inspecting officers and to act in accordance with the instruction or advice given by that officer. Further, the procedure adopted by the President will gradually undermine the harmony and good will that exists between the Deputy Inspector of schools who is the Secretary and the District Educational Officer, his superior and eventually lead the Secretary into unnecessary and unexpected troubles

^ VIII

17
Elementary Education Act, 1920.

MM
29/6/25

28.6.25

V.TK
30.6

The P.D.E.C., Madras
The D.P.I.
Copy to other P.D.E.Cs. (para 1
of order only)

DESPATCHED

4 JUL 1925

As pointed out by the D

When given for copying—
When copied—
When examined—
When signed—

192

READ AGAIN G.O. No.
192

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES to G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED OF, BRING WANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

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