

Law (1925) Department.
Education

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O. No.

787

DATED

13/5/25

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council Meeting Budget motion - Compulsory elementary
education - Depressed classes - production of poverty certificates - notes
recorded.

BACK PAPERS.

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Demand XVII.

Education Transferred.

Mr. P. Shagaram :-

762. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 131.11 lakhs for Education Transferred - by Rupee 1.

(Poverty Certificates -Compulsory Education to *untouchables* etc.).



Demand XVII.

Education Transferred.

Mr. N. Devendrudu :-

355. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 131.11 lakhs for Education - by Rs. 100.

(To impart universal free and compulsory education to all Adi-andhras and Adi-dravidas in all villages and towns).

Law (Education) Department.

A.S.

The Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, empowers local bodies to levy an education tax and to introduce compulsory education for children of school-age in their areas. So far only 78 out of 127 taluk boards and 20 out of 81 Municipal Councils have obtained the sanction of Government to levy the education tax. Elementary education has been made compulsory only in the areas of 16 Municipal Councils. The Labour Department is providing

Special facilities for the education of the

depressed classes. There has been considerable increase in the number of elementary schools for depressed classes and in the strength of the pupils, as will be seen from the following figures:-

	No. of schools	No. of pupils
1919-20	6348	1,28,719
1923-24	8045	1,79,548

Before elementary education can be made compulsory, the necessary school places should first be provided. The opening of schools is dependent on the funds available ^{with the local bodies} and the state of the Provincial finances. The Government have issued instructions to local bodies to exempt from pay-

ment of fees pupils of the depressed classes in elementary schools, ^{under their control} unless there is reasonable doubt as

to the poverty of the parents. It is left to the local body to require the production of such proofs of poverty as it may determine.

The provision for certificates of poverty was introduced for the first time in 1920 and the

certifying authorities then consisted of officers of the Revenue Deptt. of not lower in rank than a Sub-Magistrate or a Deputy Tahsildar. In 1922, several resolutions were moved in the Legislative Council urging that other authorities should also be empowered to grant these certificates. In pursuance of an undertaking given on that occasion, Honorary Magistrates, Presidents of local boards and Chairmen of Municipal Councils were added to the list of certifying authorities. Recently, Presidents of District Educational Councils and Secondary Education Boards have also been authorised to grant the certificates in question. It will thus be seen that the list of certifying authorities is sufficiently wide, and there does not appear to be any real need to enlarge the list further. Several suggestions have been received from individual local bodies asking that members of municipal councils and taluk boards might be authorised to issue these certificates. These suggestions have been rejected.



A.S.

The motion was not discussed. The notes may be

Legislative Council, Madras,

March 1925 - Budget motion

Allocation - Reduction

Education (transfers)

Compulsory Education

Depressed classes - Provisions

to unreachables - notes

of poverty certificates - Notes recorded.

Order 781

13-5-25

Recorded.

P.V.M.
11-5-25

11/5

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