

Law (Education) (1926) Department.

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G.O. No. 514

DATED 31-3-1926.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Elementary education - Compulsory

Report on the — Municipal Council
Kumbhakuram of Mayavaram —
Communicated to the Council.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

CF. 30-41,000-8-9-24.

Law (Education) DEPARTMENT.

Received Registered 192



Subject.

Education-Primary-Compulsion-working of the scheme. Municipal Councils, Kumbakonam and Mayavaram.

ENCLOSURES.

No.

R.C. No. 119 B/26

Spare copies

Station Madras, Dated the 19th March 1926 192

From (Name) R. Littlehailes Esquire, M.A.,

(Designation) Director of Public Instruction

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Law (Education) Department.

Sir,

In submitting herewith copies of reports on the working of the scheme of Compulsory Elementary Education in Kumbakonam and Mayavaram Municipalities, I have the honour to offer the following remarks.

Kumbakonam Municipality.

(1) The percentage of boys of school age receiving instruction in recognised institutions works up to nearly 92 which appears to be fairly satisfactory. There are still 290 (3619--3329) boys of school age to be still brought under instruction in recognised schools. It is reported that 70 boys were reading in unaided and unrecognised schools. The boys of school age who are reported to be in unrecognised schools cannot be considered to be under instruction unless

they have been exempted under Section 50 (iii) of the Madras Elementary Education Act of 1920.

(2) A reference has been made to the Chairman, Municipal Council, Kumbakonam, in regard to the formulation of a building programme spread over a few years and it is being considered separately.

(3) In view of the fact that the work of the ^{Education} standing committee which functions the duties of the Attendance committee, has not been quite satisfactory, it is advisable to constitute separate attendance committee or committees for each ward. The members of the attendance committee can assist a great deal in regard to the ^{bringing} ~~beginning~~ under instruction of the boys of school age, remaining outside the fold of compulsion.

(4) As regards the suggestions made in the report by the Deputy Inspector of Schools, I may point out that the Chairman Municipal Council (prescribed officer) may decide whether the instructions imparted in the pial and unaided schools is satisfactory, but if he decides that it is not satisfactory there is no other option to the parents and guardians of the boys studying in those schools except to send their boys to some recognised schools. The other suggestion involves an amendment of the Madras Elementary Education Act of 1920. According to the provisions of the Madras Elementary Education Act of 1920 the entire responsibility for making adequate provision for the instruction of the children of school age, in an area where compulsion is introduced, is laid on the local authority concerned. Since the amount of compensation is very meagre and as no compensation is to be paid after a lapse of 5 years, teacher-managers will not like any stringent measures.

(ii) The suggestion ^{on p 8 infra} in regard to the registration of the children of school age may be commended to the consideration of the Council as it would much facilitate the work of the attendance committee. It is not practicable to place any restrictions on the free movements of parents or guardians from one locality to another or to compel them to send their

boys to the schools of a particular ward.

(iii) The penalising of the employment of children of school-age is not supported as it requires fresh legislation. The Council may be advised to consider the advisability of starting night schools and continuation classes for the benefit of the labouring classes.

(5)- Mayavaram Municipality. The Council may be advised to expedite the formulation of the building programme referred to in the report. ^{on p 9-10 infra}

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. Rama Rao
20.13
for Director of Public Instruction

S.V. 20-3.

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(A)

Copy of communication R C No. 427/25 dated 17-12-25 of the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Kumbakonam Range, to the District Educational Officer, Tanjore.

.....

Kumbakonam Municipality:- With reference to your endorsement R C No. 539/24 dated 13-11-25, I have the honour to submit herewith the report on the working of the scheme of compulsion in the Kumbakonam Municipality for the year 1924-25.

2. No. of boys of school-age under instruction: There was a slight increase in the number of boys of school-age under instruction. The total number of such boys in all the boys' schools in the Municipal area was 3430 and excluding 101 boys coming from the outside the Municipality, there were 3329 boys of school age receiving recognised instruction as against 3280 at the close of 1923-24. This increase was shared solely by the Municipal ^{Schools} ~~Councils~~. The total strength of school age boys in them rose from 2135 to 2197 the proportion of such boys to the number in all the schools being 65 per cent and 66 percent respectively for 1923-24 and 1924-25. The estimated number of boys of school age in the Municipal area being 3619 according to the last statistics, there were 290 more such boys to be provided for at the close of 1924-25 as against 339 at the end of 1923-24. Of these 290 boys, 70 boys were reading in an unaided school and the rest in pial schools. The unaided school under reference was a long standing aided school till the date of introduction of compulsory education and now continues as an unaided and unrecognised school not willing to comply with the provisions of the Compulsory Education Scheme. Efforts are being made to bring these 290 boys under recognised institutions and notices have already been issued by the Chairman to their parents. It is also proposed to take a revised general cens^us of the number of school age boys in the course of the current official year.

3. Number of schools for boys and their strength:- There were 40 schools for boys at the close of 1924-25 of which 25 were managed by the Council and 15 were under private management. Of these 25 Municipal schools, four were night schools, one was intended solely for Adi Dravida pupils and three were Muhammadan Schools. One has the eighth as the highest standard seventeen teach up to standard five and seven

up to standard four. The Higher grade Elementary school is becoming more popular, the strength at the close of the year being 312. Of the fifteen aided schools, four were managed by Mission bodies (three for Adi Dravida pupils and one for all classes), four (two day schools and two night schools all for depressed classes) by the Theosophical society and seven by private managers, one of them being a night school. The total strength in all the Municipal schools for boys was 2809 and the average attendance to the total strength being 72.6 against 62.4 during 1923-24. The total strength of all the fifteen aided schools at the close of 1924-25 was 930 and the average attendance 663.

4. The proportion of pupils in each standard to total strength in the Municipal Boys' schools is shown below.

Standards.	Boys' percentage.	
	1923-24.	1924-25.
I	42.7	41.4
II	18.7	20.3
III	16.2	15.2
IV	12.6	12.5
V and above	9.8	10.5

5. Provision of school houses-Programme of new buildings:- Of the twenty five municipal boys' schools, only four are held in buildings of their own, the remaining buildings being rented ones, the majority of which continue to be unsuitable and require to be improved. The Council has provided in the current year's Educational Budget Rs.20,000/- for expenditure on capital works and steps are being taken to utilise this provision on the acquisition of sites and buildings for four of the schools. A rough programme of buildings has recently been sanctioned by the Educational Committee with a view to acquire buildings and improve them for eighteen of the schools under the Council's management. The estimated cost is roughly Rs.65,000/- and the programme is to be spread over a period of four to five years. The accommodation in the case of aided schools was generally fair.

6. Distribution and location of school places:- The school places are so distributed as to cause no inconvenience to children

7. Supply of trained teachers:- There were 108 teachers in Municipal Boys' schools and with the exception of 15 men who were untrained, others were trained men. 14 of these held certificates of the secondary grade, 44 of the Elementary Higher grade and 35 of the

lower grade. The services of these 15 untrained men were retained when the respective schools were taken over by the Council in view of their long service. Besides these teachers, there were six common instructors two for teaching drill, two for drawing, one for vocational instruction and one for instruction in music (music for all the Girls' schools and two of the Boys' schools). The total number of the teachers in the 15 aided schools for boys was 34 of whom only 12 were trained teachers. Of these 12 trained teachers 4 held Trained Teachers' Certificates of the Secondary grade, 7 of the Elementary Higher grade and one of the elementary lower grade. Of the 20 two untrained teachers five were secondary men, four higher elementary and thirteen lower elementary

8. Maintenance of the register of children of school age that should attend school:- This register and a few other registers are maintained. Corresponding to these, separate registers are maintained by the Headmasters of all the Municipal Boys' schools and aided schools who submit monthly returns relating to strength, attendance and absentees.

9. The constitution and working of attendance committee:- There was no separate attendance committee and the Education Standing Committee constituted in December 1924 discharged the functions also of an attendance committee. The Education Standing Committee met thrice during the year 1924-25 but transacted no business relating to attendance.

10. Exemptions from attendance at schools:- No exemptions were granted during the year.

11. Effect of the scheme on aided schools:- There were 30 aided elementary schools on the eve of the introduction of the scheme of compulsion with a total strength of 2324. After the introduction of the scheme, 14 were taken over by the Council and two were closed the cause being mainly the abolition of fees and the inadequate compensation paid to the managers. There are now 15 aided schools including the Native Primary School, the last being the result of the conversion of the Primary Department of the Native High School, Kumbakonam into an elementary school on the introduction of the scheme. The strength of these 15 schools has not been much affected but on the other hand in the case of a number of schools there has been

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a distinct rise in strength. Compensation is now being paid by the Municipality to only 6 schools, the others having worked as free schools even before the introduction of the scheme as they are intended for backward classes and Adi-Dravida pupils. The total amount of compensation paid is Rs.233-8-0 per annum. The managers still complain that the compensation now paid is inadequate

12. Some difficulties in connection with the working of the scheme of compulsion:-

(a) Pial schools and unaided schools:- The Education Standing Committee has not recognised attendance of pupils at pial schools as attendance that can be approved under the provisions of the Act. There is also the single unaided school already referred to with a strength of 70 pupils. The instruction ^{imparted} in this school cannot be declared unsatisfactory. The manager refuses to come up for aid and recognition nor is he willing to hand over the school to the management of the Municipality. The school persists in levying fees as also the other pial schools. Parents somehow prefer to send their children to such schools in spite of the levy of fees and the explanation that they always give is that these schools impart the very kind of instruction that they want. They argue that all that they need, is, that their children should learn to read, write and calculate and these they learn ⁱⁿ indigenous schools. Of course, notices have been issued to the parents of these pupils requiring them to send their children to recognised schools. In this connection, two points arise for consideration (1) whether the instruction in these schools cannot be declared to be satisfactory under section 50(iii) of the Elementary Education Act since the parents persist in sending their children to these schools and say that they are quite satisfied with such kind of instruction. Of course, there is the danger of other similar schools springing up if such a declaration is made (2) whether it is not desirable to introduce some provision in the Act by which such schools could be prevented from being run (applicable at least ^{to} ~~two~~ Municipalities where compulsory education has been introduced.) Now the Act provides for action being taken against parents and guardians but not against the teacher-managers and teachers of such schools. Something of the nature of a Teachers'

(3) 8. (b)
Registration Bill may be introduced which may tend to discourage such schools.

(b) Registration of children of school going age:- The Municipal School Headmasters and Assistants frequently visit their respective school wards to check the absence of pupils and note the fluctuations in the number of school age boys in the concerned school areas. They represent that they experience considerable difficulty in this connection since the pupils constantly migrate from one ward to the other and that they are not able to get correct information about the change of residence of parents or the schools that their children attend and so on. In these circumstances, it is also worth consideration whether it may ^{not} be made obligatory on the part of the parents and guardians to register children of school going age and to intimate to the authorities concerned changes of their residence or of schools. As regards frequent migrations, it has to be considered whether it would not be desirable to insist on the pupils residing in a particular school area joining any of the concerned ward schools only. The parents however, will seriously complain.

(c) The children of the labouring classes and of the weaving classes, even those of school age, find it difficult to attend schools as they are employed in some manner or other during the day earning small wages. Some of them, of course, attend night schools. It seems desirable to make some provision by which such employment of school age children could be made penal.

(copy)

9 ⑦

Copy of communication dated 24-11-25 of the Superintendent of
Municipal Elementary Schools, Mayavaram.

...
Mayavaram Municipality:- With reference to your C.No. 277 H
dated 22-11-1925 I beg to submit the following report on the working
of the scheme of Free and Compulsory Elementary Education in the
Mayavaram Municipality.

(D) The scheme of Free and compulsory Elementary Education was en-
forced as per G.O.No. 850 Law (Education) Department dated 21st June
1923 from 1st July 1923 when 1550 boys of school age resident within
Municipal limits were at school. As a result of the operation of the
scheme the number of boys of school going age attending recognised
elementary schools rose to 1708 all residing within Municipal limits
out of a total of 1828 according to the cens^us of school age boys
taken for the year 1923-24 thus leaving 120 boys outside the operation
of the scheme, though 65 boys were attending pial schools that were
then in existence. These schools died out, the admissions of boys
being diverted to the recognised schools still leaving 55 boys to be
brought under instruction, the parents of whom were served with
notices under the Act as a result of which 25 boys were brought within
the fold of compulsion thus having the remaining 30 boys completely
unprovided for all of whom were found going to labour during day time.

Then as a result of the following actions, namely elimination
of boys of above school age and withdrawal of boys that have left the
place for ever, admissions of boys attaining school age for the first
time and admissions of new settlers, it is now found 1252 boys are
attending 13 Municipal day elementary schools including boys attending
night schools their admissions having been made in consideration of
their attendance at day labour for their livelihood and 417 boys
attending schools other than Municipal including boys of school age
attending the 3 secondary schools in the Municipality residing within
Municipal area thus making up 1669 boys of school age attending
recognised institutions with the exception of one Saraswathi
Patasalai at Kaveri street which is likely to be brought under the
recognised list from within Municipal limits out of a total number of

It is therefore now seen that 59 pupils are yet to be brought under instruction among whom many are found admitted once or twice in day schools and then removed from the register for their long and continued absence. Hence their admissions are to be had only in night schools considering ^{their} engagements in day labour for livelihood.

(Copy)

for Director of Public Instruction

S.V. 20-3.

Date.	Initials.
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Law & Engr, DEPARTMENT

Element Education - Compulsory

Report on the —

M. C. Kumbhakant Margwaran-
Communicate to the Council.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. _____, dated _____ 192

” ” ” ” ” 192

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 116711 From the _____, No. _____, dated _____ 192

[illegible]

" " " "" "

192

ORDER

No. 974, dated 31. 3. 1926

A copy of the letter from the
D.P.D. no. 119 B/26 of 19.3.26 is commu-
nicated to the C.M.C, Kumbakonam
~~and the~~ C.M.C. Mayavaram. The Sug-
gestions made by the Director are
commended to the Municipal Council
for consideration.

The Chief Commissioner

de Magvarau

.. D P D / with ref to his letter 119 D/280/19 $\frac{3}{26}$

$$\dots \Sigma \frac{v}{\beta} \frac{L}{\lambda} F A$$

P.D.E.C. Jauja

- Inspector Singh

.. 212 0 ✓

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DP's letter &
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192

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