

Law (Gen) (1926) Department.

His SERIES.

G.O. No. 587

DATED 10. 11. 26

3

[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Council - Budget Motion
Number of Sanskrit Schools and
depressed classes pupils in them
notes recorded

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DEMAND---NIX---Education (Transferred).

Mr. R. Veerian:-

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86. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,600 for Superintendent of Sanskrit Schools by Rs. 100/-

(To elicit information as to the number of existing Sanskrit schools and colleges and the number of depressed class students that are receiving instructions in Sanskrit).

Law (Education) Department.

It is observed from Volume II of the Public Instruction Report for 1924-25 that, on the 31st March 1925, there were 16 Sanskrit Colleges and 243 Sanskrit schools, out of which 13 colleges and 103 schools were aided. The total number of pupils in all these institutions on the same date was 6,405, of which 35 were members of the depressed classes.

2. The policy adopted in the case of these institutions is indicated in the following extract from the Honble the Minister's speech in the Legislative Council in March 1922 in connection with a similar budget motion:--

"The system obtaining in these schools and colleges is non-sectarian. One college is specialising in Grammar, another in Vedanta and a third in another school of Philosophy, and in that way the colleges are maintained. The schools also include a general culture of studies and are not run on sectarian lines."

3. The question as to what purpose is served by these Sanskrit schools and colleges and what their final aim is has been raised separately and is under investigation. Attention is invited to the following extracts from a note written by the Superintendent of

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Sanskrit schools in that connection:--

"* * Thus both from the cultural and utilitarian
"points of view, the promotion of Sanskrit learning is
"not only a privilege but is also ^{an} imperative duty
"of the State. I can think of only one conceivable
"objection--to wit, its alleged sectarian character.
"Sanskrit is now studied in aided and recognised schools
"by Brahmins, non-Brahmins, members of the Depressed
"classes, untouchables and even Christians--in fact by
"all alike under same facilities, irrespective of caste,
"creed or religion"

4. The file may be submitted to M₂

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Leg. Council - Pending
motion - Number
Sanskrit sch.
depressed classes
pupils in them
records.

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READ AGAIN G.O. No.
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DATED

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STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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