

Law (Edu)(1926) Department.

mis SERIES.

*Letter*  
G.O. No. 612

DATED 12-4-1926

14

[Despatch Abstract.]

Grant -

Institute for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb - Orders  
passed.



# BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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# FURTHER PAPERS.

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|      |     |             |       |      |     |             |       |

From



Canonesses of St. Augustine,

Mulagamudur (Travancore State),

To

The Secretary to Government,

Law & Education Departments,

Fort St. George.

Sir,

The Sisters whose Order I have the honor to represent in India and whose Mother House at Louvain in Belgium is well known in Europe, have heard, through His Grace the Archbishop of Madras, that your predecessor inquired of the Hon'ble the President of the Madras Legislative Council, Diwan Bahadur L.D. Swamikannu Pillai Avl., whether any Catholic Religious Order would undertake the training of teachers for the deaf and dumb in this Presidency, and if so, on what terms as to Government aid. The Sisters of my Order have been anxious to undertake work of this kind in Southern India, as they are already running establishments for the reception and education of Indian orphan children at Mulagamudur, at Nagercoil, at Cape Comorin etc; and they would be glad to undertake this branch of work for which several of the members of their Order in Europe have been specially trained. As a definite proposal, the Sisters are prepared, provided due encouragement from Government is forthcoming, to open and maintain a regular institution at Madras for the instruction of the deaf and dumb by the most modern methods and for the training of teachers for the deaf and dumb, irrespective of creed, community or caste. Later on, the Sisters would be prepared to open similar institutions for the blind also. There are actually two or three Sisters who are ready to undertake the teaching of the deaf and dumb in India and who may be expected to arrive in this country any time that they may be required either this year or the next.

*Infant Jesus Orphanage  
Mulagamudur 16-9-25  
H. C. 2534 B  
23/9/25-  
CIN*



(3) 22

It is their intention to purchase a suitable site with the help of the Government and to erect up to date buildings thereon for the various purposes named above, and until the buildings are ready, to carry on the work of instruction and training in suitable hired residences.

2. The Sisters who are ready to come out to India will be able to teach their pupils at once in the English Language with which, being Flemings, they are well acquainted. They will, in addition, entertain a sufficient number of teachers qualified in the vernaculars of Southern India, whom, if they are not already trained in the art of teaching the deaf and dumb, they will proceed to train first of all in English and thereafter, as soon as practicable, in the Vernaculars. They understand that at present, although the Government have given large grants for some years past for the purpose of training teachers of the deaf and dumb, there is hardly any person immediately available for appointment in a new school. The Sisters, recognising this lack of material, will make their best endeavour to supply it as soon as possible. They need hardly convey the assurance to Government that although they are a religious order, and although it is their duty to attend to the religious instruction of catholic pupils entrusted to their care, it is at the same time a well known principle of the Catholic Church not to force religious instruction upon any pupil or person who does not want to receive it; and they are therefore bound, quite apart from conscience clauses, to carry out this policy in their institutions.

3. The Sisters hope that the Government, in fulfilment of their obligation to provide free instruction for the deaf and dumb who cannot afford to pay for their education, will give a liberal grant to the proposed institution which will comprise two departments, one for teaching the deaf and another for training teachers of the deaf. It is estimated that the cost of maintaining 30 deaf children in the school will be about ----



343

Rs.6,000 a year, to which would have to be added the cost of maintenance of the Sisters in charge (about Rs.2,000 per annum), the pay of teachers (about Rs.2000 per annum) and house-rent (for the present about Rs.2,000 per annum). The Training department will be concerned with training about 10 teachers every year. The teachers will have to receive stipends of Rs.20 each per mensem and two assistants in the Vernacular for the Training department would cost Rs.50 each per mensem. The total cost of the Training department would thus be Rs.3,600 per annum, which the Sisters hope the Government will, in consideration of the urgency and importance of the work, defray in full. Should the Government desire it, the Sisters will submit as early as possible an estimate of the cost of land and buildings to be permanently erected. They are confident that His Grace the Archbishop of Madras, the Most Rev. Dr. J. Aelen, will be prepared to give the Government any guarantee that may be necessary to satisfy them that the amounts placed at the disposal of the Sisters, whether for maintenance, for training teachers or for building grants will be properly, carefully and economically spent.

4. I shall be glad to furnish the Government with any further information that may be required. I solicit an early reply. I am sending this application now, as I understand that the Government will determine in October or November next their commitments for the next year.

I remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

*DM Madeleine*

*Superior, Orphanage  
Muliyamudan*

*P.S.*  
The Correspondence on this Subject was started by R. Father Leblanc S.J. Principal S. Xavier College Palamcottah by letters dated 25-8-24 and 26-9-24. At my suggestion. I have now undertaken to write personally about the matter.  
*Dmm.*

*X of also pp.  
1+5-6 v  
8. 1898-8  
4-12-24*



Letter 2534/161 2/19X45

To

The Lady Superior,  
Infant Jesus Orphanage,  
Mulagamuday,  
Travancore State.

M a d a m,

Establishment of a Deaf and  
Dumb School, Madras - Your letter, dated  
16-9-25.

I am directed to acknowledge  
the receipt of your letter quoted above  
and to say that the Government will be  
prepared to consider the question of  
aid from Provincial funds towards the  
expenditure on the proposed school, on  
condition that Sisters are available  
who are not only trained in methods of  
dealing with defective children but  
also possess a knowledge of at least  
one South Indian vernacular, <sup>(preferably Tamil)</sup> in addi-  
tion to a knowledge of English. I am  
to add that the question of establish-  
ing the school at Madras may be decided  
in consultation with the President,  
Corporation of Madras, who has before  
him a proposal for opening a similar  
school, and that the Government may be  
addressed again <sup>(on the question of aid)</sup> after the school is  
established and has worked satisfactori-  
ly for sometime.

I have etc.

cur  
13.10.25  
SA  
15.10.25.

CR  
17.10.25  
V.TK  
18/10

PTD

DESPATCHED

20 OCT 1925

M. L. - 3 of

2 Drafts

20/10

20/10



Memo.

2554 B-7  
1926

Copy of the foregoing letter, together with a copy of the letter to which it is <sup>the</sup> reply, is forwarded to the President, Corporation of Madras, with reference to the correspondence ending with G.O. No. 1892, Law (Ed.), dated 4-12-24.

To

The President,  
Corporation of Madras  
(with copy of pages 1-3 c.f.  
and letter overleaf)

DESPATCHED

20 OCT 1925

Cor-7852  
1926

Madras.

16 March 1926.

From

The Lady Superior,

Institute for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb,  
Graems Road, Madras S.W.

To

M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur V.T. Krishnama Achariyar Avl.,  
Secretary to the Government of Madras.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No. 2554 B-7, I have the honour to inform you that on the 15th of January we opened our Institute for Blind, Deaf and Dumb.

There are at present 7 deaf mute and 3 blind children and more applications have been received.

Two of our Sisters are engaged in teaching, one the blind children and the other the deaf mutes, who is assisted by a lay teacher.

I beg to add that the three teachers are specially trained in methods of dealing with defective children. I further beg to bring to your kind notice that our expenses at present are very heavy: We have to pay Rs.200/- for house rent. Besides the support of the establishment viz. the children and the 4 Sisters, the additional teacher receives a salary of Rs.60/- a month. The initial expenses before we could start work amounted to a large sum.

We would appreciate it very much if Government were to give some help in order to overcome our first financial difficulties. A donation of Rs.3000. would be very much appreciated.

I beg to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Am. Arsin



Mount St Mary  
Kodalkanal  
Madura St.



Dear Mr. Krishnamochari, 48013

Some time ago, I wrote to you in connection with the establishment of a school for the Deaf & Dumb in Madras.

His Grace the Archbishop of Madras writes to me that he has got a fairly large house where the Sisters could hold their School. The question to be settled is whether the Corporation of Madras is ready to help them with a substantial grant. I am told Mr. Boy is on furlough. Will you kindly undertake to see his successor & ascertain if he is ready to help the Sisters.

From  
The Lady Superior,  
Institute for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb,  
Grama Road, Madras S.W.  
To  
M.R.L.V. Rao Bahadur V.T. Krishnamochari A.M.,  
Secretary to the Government of Madras.  
Sir,  
In reply to your letter No. 2584 B-1, I have the honor to inform you that on the 15th of January we opened our Institute for Blind, Deaf and Dumb.  
There are at present 7 deaf mute and 3 blind children and more applications have been received.  
Two of our Sisters are engaged in teaching one the blind children and the other the deaf mutes, who is assisted by a lay teacher.  
I beg to add that the three teachers are specially trained in methods of dealing with defective children. I further beg to bring to your kind notice that our expenses at present are very heavy. We have to pay Rs. 200/- for house rent. Besides the support of the establishment viz. the children and the 4 Sisters, the additional teacher receives a salary of Rs. 60/- a month. The initial expenses before we could start work amounted to a large sum.  
We would appreciate it very much if Government were to give some help in order to overcome our first financial difficulties. A donation of Rs. 2000. would be very much appreciated.  
I beg to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,  
The Lady Superior



I shall be much obliged to you,  
if you will let me have a  
reply.

with kind regards  
Yours sincerely  
A. Lebeau S.T.

In his letter on pages 1-2 ante Father A. Lebeau S.J.

refers : -

- (1) to his previous correspondence on the question of establishment of a school for the Deaf and Dumb in Madras, and
- (2) to the Govt. procuring a substantial grant from the Corporation of Madras to the opening, as suggested by the Archbishop of Madras, of a Deaf and Dumb school by the "sisters" at Madras in a building of theirs.

As regards (1) it is submitted that the ~~same~~ <sup>same</sup> have been looked up and no paper is readily traceable to show that Father Lebeau had corresponded with Govt. on the subject. Attention is however invited to the correspondence in G.O. No. 1898 Law (Education), dated 4th December 1924. It will be seen therefrom that in August 1924 Father Lebeau brought forward a proposal for the opening of a Deaf and Dumb school at Srivilliputtur to be conducted by two Belgian sisters. After a full consideration of the proposal, the Govt. informed Father Lebeau, Principal, St. Xavier's college, Palamcottah, that

"the Govt. are unable to consider the question of aid from Provincial funds to the proposed school till the two Belgian sisters learn both English and Tamil well and become available for work in the institution. The Principal may address the Govt. again after the school is established and has worked satisfactorily for some time".

Father Lebeau has not addressed Government since on the matter.

In regard to (2) it is not clear how Govt. can intervene to obtain a grant from the Corporation of Madras for the proposed school. Apparently the matter may be placed before it for its consideration.

It may be observed in this connection that in June 1924 the Corporation of Madras brought forward a proposal to open an institution in the City for the education of the blind and of the deaf ~~mut~~ at nonrecurring and

p.11 of G.O.No1898 L.E.  
4-12-24

Mr. 1-2 of G.O. 1892/400  
4.12.24



recurring cost of Rs. 24,000 and Rs. 11,200 respectively.

It stated that it may reasonably expect a grant of 2/3 from Govt. under both heads. The ground on which it relied for this demand was the undertakings given by Govt. on the subject of education of defective children, to render assistance to private agencies in starting such schools.

The passage referred to by the Corporation in the discussion in Legislative Council of 1920 on the Hon'ble Mr. P. Siva Rao's resolution for the opening of a Govt. institution for the blind and the deaf runs as follows :-

"The position of Govt. is that as at present advised they do not contemplate the establishment of any school of their own but will be quite ready to give assistance in the most liberal fashion to any private agency which follows the example of the schools at Palamcottah".

The Govt. scrutinised the proposal in consultation with the D.P.I. and on the advice of the Finance department issued the following order.

"The President, Corporation of Madras is informed at present that the Govt. are unable to make promise any grant from provincial funds towards the expenditure on the proposed schools for the blind and the deaf mutes, but that they will be prepared to consider the question of giving a grant of one half of the recurring charges of the schools, if trained teachers who will devote time and labour to the education of defectives are available for work in the schools. The President may address the Govt. on the question of aid to the schools after they have been started and have worked for some time."

It is not known whether the Corporation has proceeded with the scheme and whether it will be prepared to assist further when it has a scheme of its own to finance.

now  
18.6.25

20/6/25

Please put up a d.o to the Com asking for forwarding to him

143-5980

vide also paragraph  
8 of 2014 (S.M.)  
17.2.17

B  
17980 89 L (S.M.)  
19.1.21

Go 1892 L (S.M.)  
4.12.24



Copies of the papers explaining  
Fr Le Beau's proposals

V.T.  
22.6

Dray sub

now  
25.6.25

26.6.25  
V.T.  
9.6

PTO



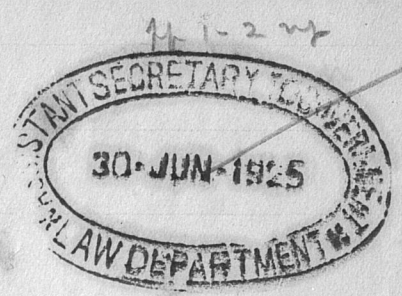
b/4/8 (10) Law (son) Dy.  
 D.O. N. 1480 B 1 & 29.6.25

Dear Bower

I am desired to  
 enclose for your consideration  
 copy of letter addressed to  
 me, at the instance of the  
 Archbishop of Madras, by  
 Father A. Lebar S.J.,  
 Principal St. Xavier's College,  
 Palamcottah regarding the  
 establishment of a school for  
 the deaf and dumb in  
 Madras. Any details you  
 may require for consideration  
 of this scheme may be obtained  
 direct from him.

A  
 26.6.25  
 VTK  
 29.6

(1) with fair  
 (2) encl. to be typed  
 at Madras  
 cut  
 29/6



2. As the Corporation has a ~~scheme~~ <sup>benefit proposal</sup>  
 for opening a school and  
 training teachers, ~~it may~~  
~~be~~ & ~~it~~ you will  
 probably be interested  
 in the Fr. Beau's scheme  
 and the sisters sent by  
 him ~~and~~ I understand,  
 that the sisters sent by him  
 have been trained in up-to-date  
 methods & will be prepared  
 to train teachers in  
 Madras, besides  
 being in charge of a school

E.H.M. Brown Esq.  
 B.A.L.B.

ag. Commissioner  
 Corporation of Madras

(with copy of H. 1-2 nfy)

1/9  
 Please note the  
 29/6

DESPATCHED  
 30 JUN 1925



7/7

[C. 2554 B] From the Lady Superior, Madras -  
pp. 1-3 CF

the letter in the CF. <sup>refer</sup>

to the question of the establishment of  
a deaf and dumb school <sup>at</sup> Madras.

From the foot-note on p. 3 CF, it  
will be seen that it is a continuation  
of the correspondence initiated on  
the subject by Father Debeau - pp.  
with 8. 1898 & 4. 12. 24 and letter  
on pp. 1-2 ante. The letter has  
been forwarded demi-officially  
to the comm., corporation of  
Madras, for consideration in  
connection with the correspondence  
ending with 8. 1892 & 4. 12. 24  
- vide D.O. on p. 6 ante. The  
present communication may be

sent to him in continuation  
and he may be asked to inti-  
mate to govt. in due course  
what action the corporation  
proposes to <sup>take</sup> ~~make~~ in the matter.

Draft D.O. subd. A draft

cur  
23.9.25

24.9.25

The whole correspondence  
Refer to D.P.1  
for remarks

V.T.F.  
25/9



8  
Secy. marginal order on p. 7 ante  
As the correspondence  
is partly demi-official (pp. 1-2 + 6  
ante) it is not possible to address  
the D.P. 2. officially. A draft D.O. to  
him is therefore submitted.

25.9.25  
no objection to the whole file  
going to him U.O.

V.T.  
D.P. 1 U.O. (9.10.25)  
U.O. Reply No. 1215 A/25.9/9.10.25

The Lady Superior in her letter does not really  
meet the points raised in Mr. Littlehailes's U.O. reply  
No. 2058 D/24 dated 17-10-1924. She states that the  
Sisters/are ready to come out to India will be able  
to teach their pupils at once in the English Language  
"with which, being Flemings, they are well acquainted."  
I do not understand what connection there is between  
the fact of being Flemings and a knowledge of English,  
still less a knowledge of English phonetics which is  
essential if the pupils to be taught are to be taught  
English. It is clear that they will not know Tamil and  
clearly we should aim at having the deaf mutes trained  
in their own vernacular and not in English. I should  
therefore only support a scheme if these Sisters come  
to this country and acquire a thorough knowledge of  
Tamil. Having acquired such knowledge they will then  
be in a position to train defective children and also  
teachers. I recommend that any promise of support or  
grant

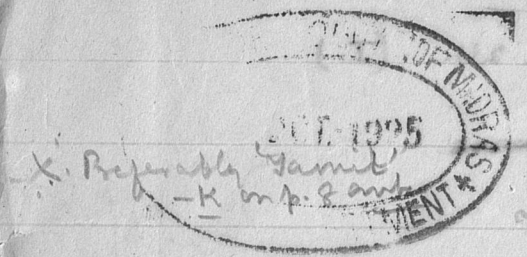


Law (Com) no 1480 B. 2  
28.9.25

Mp. 1-30F  
Mp. 16-17 28.1898 8  
4.12.24 (T)

p. 2 of

K



Refer to the proposal vetoed  
in G.O. 1210 22.8.23 (P)

LE 27103/101025

129  
There  
grant should be made conditional on their being  
available, Sisters not only trained in methods  
of dealing with defective children but also  
possessing a knowledge of at least one South  
Indian vernacular in addition to a knowledge of  
English. I may say also that I am in agreement  
with the opinion expressed by Mr. Littlehailes  
in the last paragraph of his u.o. reply referred  
to above.

B

9/10/25

Law (Ed.)

submitted that the Govt.

may agree with the Director's opinion  
at A above. A reply may be sent  
to the Lady Superior, generally on  
the lines of the Memo: on p. 11 of  
G.O. 1898 2, 4-12-24 and the order  
(U) in G.O. 1892 2, 4-12-24. The Lady  
Superior may also be asked to  
establish the school in consultation  
with the Corporation of Madras.  
A draft letter is submitted. A copy  
of this letter and of the communi-  
cation on pp. 1-3 cf. may also be  
sent to the Corporation. Draft memo  
subd.

2. At portion B of his  
note above, the D.P. 2. refers to the  
proposal vetoed by Govt. in G.O. 1210 2

Reputation of a Tamilian  
teacher from the Palamuttu  
School for training in  
England. (P)



10  
10  
of 28.8.1923. As regards this, please  
see the notes on #. 18 <sup>(+20)</sup> of 8.12.24. (I.)  
The matter need not be ~~reconsidered~~ <sup>reconsidered</sup>.

CV  
13.10.25  
SK  
15.10.25.

R  
17.10.25  
V.K.  
18/10



[Letter No. 2554 B-1 of 19-10-25] p. 4 CF

[Memo: No. 2554 B-2 of 19-10-25] p. 5 CF

[C. 785 B] From the Lady Superior, Institute for  
the Blind etc., Madras, of 16.3.26. p. 6 CF

Attention is invited to the letter  
on p. 4 CF in which the Govt., on the  
advice of the D.P.S., stated that they  
would consider the question of <sup>giving</sup> aid to  
the proposed school for defective  
children at Madras on certain  
conditions, and that the Govt. might  
be addressed on the question of aid  
after the school was established and  
had worked satisfactorily for some  
time. It is now reported that such  
a school was opened at Madras on  
15<sup>th</sup> January 1926 and that the teachers  
employed are specially trained in the  
methods of dealing with ~~defective~~ children.  
The Lady It is not stated whether the  
Sisters

⑤ H. P. - 9 date

p. 6 CF

13

11

Sisters possess a knowledge of any  
South Indian vernacular, such as  
Tamil. The Lady Superior <sup>asks</sup> ~~requests~~  
for a donation of Rs. 3,000 from Govt.  
to meet the expenses involved. ~~It is~~  
~~submitted that no such~~ ~~for a donation~~  
~~has been made~~. It appears to  
be too soon to consider the question  
of giving the school a grant under  
the grant-in-aid code, as the  
school has only just been opened  
and it remains to be seen whether it  
will be a success or not.

It is for orders whether  
the Lady Superior may be informed  
that the Govt. are unable to give any  
aid to the school at present. The  
remarks of the D.P.S. may perhaps  
be invited.

Emw. 1680 B-3  
24.3.26

CV  
20.3.26  
SK  
21.3.26.

R  
24/3/26

J. P. L. (cf. & hq)

P.T.O.

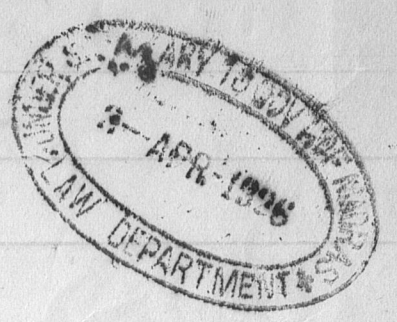


U.O. Reply No. 2058. of 9.4.26.

On receiving the above U.O. note I called for a report on the school from the D.E.O., Madras. He gives me the following information:-

"The language used is Tamil. There are three instructors one of whom knows Tamil, the other two know English and are trying to learn Tamil. The instructor who knows Tamil is a man who has been trained at Mysore in the methods of teaching Blind, Deaf and Dumb. The other two are ladies who have been trained in Belgium. At present there are 5 Deaf and Dumb and 3 Blind pupils. The building appears to be quite suitable and roomy; as the school has just been opened there is little equipment".

I suggest that Government inform the Lady Superior that they should apply to the D.P.I. for recognition and that the question of grant will be considered by the D.P.I. in the current year (15-27).



A  
h. Cu 938 B  
8/4/26

Law (Edy)

A draft letter to the Lady

Superior as at A above is sub.

8.4.26  
8/4  
9.4.26

CR  
10/4

VTK  
12/4

2-808 VTK  
3/5/26

Law (Edy)

174785

grant -  
Institute for the  
blind, deaf and  
dumb - order passed.

Letter 612 8/12. 4. 26  
Mis

The Lady Superior,  
Institute for the Blind,  
Deaf and Dumb,  
Graeme Road,  
Madras S.W.

Madam,

With reference to your letter dated the 16<sup>th</sup> March 1926, requesting a grant from Provincial funds towards the expenses of the Institute for the blind, deaf and dumb I am directed to say that an application may be made to the D.P.I. for recognition of the Institute and that the question of giving a grant will be considered favourably by the Director in the current year.

I have etc

8.4.26  
8/4  
9.4.26

CR  
10/4

VTK  
12/4



When given for copying \_\_\_\_\_  
 When copied \_\_\_\_\_  
 When examined \_\_\_\_\_  
 When signed \_\_\_\_\_

192

READ AGAIN G.O. No. \_\_\_\_\_, DATED \_\_\_\_\_  
 192

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED OF, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH  
 IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

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

(14)