

V.H. 1900
Local & Munl. (189) Department.

① Plague. Educational

PRINTED.

Letter 321-A/a
G.O., No. 321-A

DATED 31st July 1900



INDEXED.

Diagrams - 5 -

[Despatch Abstract.]

Inspecting staff in the Madras Pres.

Submitting to the Govt of India a
report on the adequacy of the —

Read also:- letter from the Director of Public
Instruction, Madras, dt 25th June 1900, No. 6091.

Order No 28 dt July 1900.

Ordered that the following letter be sent to the Govt of
India.

[Here enter letter No 28 dt July 1900]

(True Extract)

M. Hammick

Ag. Secretary to Govt.

Docket

Inspecting Staff in the Madras Presy.
Ordering that the Govt of India
with ref. to Res. No. 495 dt 28-10-29,
be addressed regarding the —.

Educational Department.

ORDER.

No 321-A dt 31-7-00

Ordered that the following letter
be sent to the Govt. of India.

LETTER.

To

The Secy. to the Govt. of India,
Home Department.

Sir,

the 4th paragraph of
In Home Dept. Resolution No. 495,

dated 28th of October last, the Madras
Govt. were desired to report separately
in regard to the inspecting staff in
this Presy., showing how far it was ade-
quate and how it was proposed to improve
it.

A comparative statement of the
inspecting staff in the several provinces
of India was given. It was observed that
in Madras the inspection work could not,
in view of the prevalence of the grant-
in-aid system, be regarded as adequately
provided for. It was ^{also} remarked that the
objectionable plan of committing
inspection work to schoolmasters was
apparently growing in favour in this
Presy., although directly contrary to
the views of the Education Commission
which had been accepted by the Govt.
of India.

That Commission had in para. 141 of
their report drawn attention to the
prevalence

prevalence of aided schools in the South of India, and had recommended that ^{while} native and other local energy should be relied upon to foster and manage all education as far as possible, ~~the~~ ^{the} results ~~should~~ ^{should} be tested by departmental agency, and that therefore the inspecting staff should be increased so as to be adequate to the requirements of the province.

2. I am ^{directed} to observe that H.E. the Governor in Council entirely concurs in the remarks which have been made by the Govt. of India in the Resolution now under reply, but that in this instance both Mr. Cotton and the Govt. of India have been misled by the designation of "inspecting schoolmasters," which is a misnomer. ~~These persons were probably so called because most of them were originally schoolmasters. They are not attached to any school and no inspection work properly so termed is entrusted to them. Their duties mainly consist in travelling constantly through their ranges, in supervising work done in primary schools, in examining the registers, in helping teachers in the organisation of their schools, in holding central classes and giving model lessons, and in taking such other steps as may be necessary to develop elementary education. They are virtually supervisors of primary schools, and in order to remove any misapprehension as to their functions and duties, the Madras Govt. propose in future to designate~~

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them accordingly. It is true that in order to test the work of the teachers, the services of these supervisors have been utilised in examining in a general way the pupils of the schools which they visit. No grant, however, has ever been given on the results of such examinations, and it has been an invariable rule that the progress of education shall be tested by no inspecting officer of lower rank than that of sub assistant Inspector.

3. I am to add that, with three exceptions, all these supervisors are paid from local funds. In para 676(16) of the Education Commission's report the provincialisation of this agency appears to be recommended, and the Madras Government are now considering certain proposals to this effect. In view, however, of the numerous and more pressing calls upon provincial funds, it is feared that this change cannot be introduced for some time to come.

4. As regards the adequacy of the existing staff for inspection, the Governor in Council considers that the agency is on the whole sufficiently strong. I am to quote below from a report on the subject which has been received from the Director of Public Instruction:-

"(1) The inspection and examination of

Note
* The H.M. ordered that the papers should lie over until the report now under consideration was received. It is linked with this case for reference and will be formally re-submitted to the H.M. when the present letter to the Govt. of India has been despatched. The remarks in this paragraph have been worded in a guarded way, & are perhaps unobjectionable. Govt. cannot proceed pari passu in any direction, & while it is admitted that the "Supervisors" rank is not of high value, they are not without use even ~~at present~~ at present. 24.7.1900 H.P. M.A.

of all institutions in Madras, whether under public or under private management, is entrusted to officers of the rank of Inspectors or Inspectresses, assistant Inspectors and sub-assistant Inspectors; and the inspection code embodies the detailed regulations of the department as to the classes of the institutions to be ordinarily inspected and examined by each class of the above mentioned officers, and as to the scope and character of their work.

(ii) There are four Inspectors of schools, each being in charge of a "circle". A circle contains from five to seven revenue districts, the Central and Western circles having in addition the schools in Bangalore and Coorg respectively. The inspection of second-grade colleges and upper secondary, training and European schools devolves on Inspectors, and the total number of such institutions being less than 200, the staff of Inspectors is fully sufficient for the work. Inspectors also occasionally visit and cursorily inspect primary and lower secondary schools in the course of their tours; but this does not interfere with their ordinary inspection or administrative duties.

(iii) There are nine assistant Inspectors of schools, each being in charge of a "division", comprising from two to four revenue districts. The inspection of lower secondary schools and of all primary schools in municipalities

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municipalities (Madras excepted), and at the headquarter stations of Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars and Sub Magistrates, devolves on assistant Inspectors. These officers are expected to be on tour 180 days in the year, and they have to examine about 250 schools each. No addition to this branch of the inspecting agency is necessary at present

(iv) There are 62 sub-assistant Inspectors of schools, of whom six are employed in connection with girls' schools and five in connection with Muhammadan and Mappilla schools. The charge of a sub-assistant Inspector is called a "range". The inspection of primary schools other than those taken up by the assistant Inspectors devolves on sub-Assistants. These officers are expected to be on tour 190 days in the year and they have to examine about 290 schools each."

It is ^{regarded} ~~undoubtedly~~ desirable to strengthen the ^{last mentioned} agency as the work in some ranges is unduly heavy; and the Government will take the matter into consideration in connection with the budget estimate for Education for 1901-02.

5. In conclusion, I am to observe that in the Resolution under reply no reference has been made to the Inspectresses of girls' schools, two of whom are now employed in this Presidency, while proposals for adding a third are

now

Correspondence ending with
letter from Home Department
No. 14, dated 17th January
last.

now before the Government of India.
The Governor in Council trusts that it
may now be found feasible to pass or-
ders on those proposals as the early
appointment of another Inspectress is
very necessary.

11A
25/00

24.7.1900

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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