

Edn and P.H.

(194⁶) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No.

1565 Edn.

Dated

13.8.46.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Madras Educational Rules Rule 9 - inclusion of common prayer -

Provision of conscience clause - Proposal deferred.

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Back Papers:

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	
G.O.	89	Leav (Edn)	21-1-22				
G.O.	1716	Edn	6.9.26.				
"	86	Edn	17-1-42				

Further Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Ms.	1444	Edn	7-7-47				

CE 32 (a).

EDUCATION Department

From (Name) G.L. Lobo Esq.,
B.A., (Hons.) Cantab,
Designation Deputy Director of Public
Instruction in-charge.
Station Office of the Director of
Public Instruction, MADRAS.

Received..... Register.....

To

The Secretary to Government
Education and Public Health Department
MADRAS.



Enclosures :

R.C. No. 106--E/45. dated 10th June 1946.

Sir,

Sub: Madras Educational Rules - Rule 9 - Inclusion of Common
Prayer under - Provision of conscience clause.

31255

I have been receiving complaints from parents that
managements of certain private school non-mission schools are
compelling their children directly or indirectly to attend
"the common prayer" held before the morning session. These
prayer meetings are mostly religious in character and conse-
quently certain parents object to their children attending
such gatherings. Rule 9 of the Madras Educational Rules cannot
be applied even if the school is under a public management
since the management may quibble and say that "a common prayer
does not come within the definition of Religious Instruction".
Certain managements resort to indirect compulsion by taking the
attendance for the morning session before "the common prayer".

2. I do not see why a pupil should be forced to join even
in a "common prayer" if he or his parent object to it. I am of

the opinion

Edn and P.H. Dept
G. No. 3125501. From the D.P.S. Re No. 106-12/45 D. 10. 6.

Madras Edl. Rules - Rule 9. Inclusion of
Common Prayer - Provision of conscience
clauses.

Please see the D.P.S.'s letter in the ef. Rule
9 of the M.E.R. contains the instructions to be
observed in imparting religious instruction
in schools ~~and~~ colleges under public manage-
ment. These instructions do not apply to institutions
under private management. In the latter it
is left to the management concerned to provide
any form of religious instruction and the
Govt do not interfere in the matter. The Grant-
in-aid Code says that grant to institutions
under private management will be given
without reference to any religious instruction
imparted in them. The question has often
been discussed in the past whether the
Dept should interfere when the management
of an institution makes religious instruction
of a particular denomination ^{or} faith compulsory
for pupils of other faiths attending the school
and whether a rule (commonly called "conscience
clauses") should be introduced into the Grant-in-
aid Code to the effect that no grant would
be paid to an institution that compels any
student to attend a religious class without
the consent of the parent or guardian.
The attitude so far taken by Govt has been
that the matter being a contentious one may be
left alone - please see notes on pages 4-8
of G.O. No. 86 Edn D. 17.1.42. The notes set
out the present position at length.

(P)

It may be mentioned in this connection
that H. M. (Edu) proposes to convene a ^{Conference} ~~meeting~~
of educationalists to discuss important ^{subjects} ~~problems~~
connected with education. As the point raised
by the D. P. S. is a content in the subject-
may appropriately be discussed at the conference.

B. J. C.

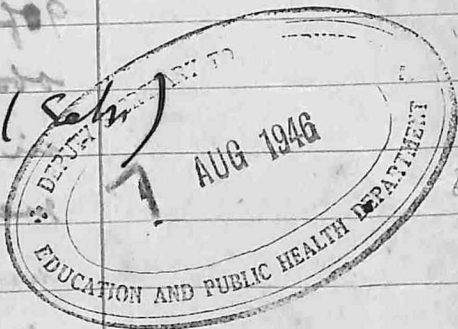
For orders.

10m
24/7/46.

OSM
26/7/46 \$ B. J. C.

This matter can wait.

H. M. (Schr)



A draft order is in hand

10m
3/8/46. OSM
9/8/46