Government of Madras

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTME

(Education)

① 2/47

G.O. No. 386, 3rd March 1947

Elementary education—Compulsory—Supply of midday meals to schools—Discontinued.

1) Letter No. 74879 B-2
6-12-48.

2)

C.No. 3162/E/50

பாதுகாப்பு பிரிவு-1

செப்பனிடுபவர் பெயர் ரா.ஜெயம்நாயக்

செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக்கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள் 7/2006

செப்பனிட்டு முடித்த நாள் 8/2006

3/11/06	3/11/06	3/11/06
சரிபார்க்கும் முதல் மு.நி.பா.எ. கையொப்பம்	சரிபார்க்கும் 2ம். நி.பா.எ. கையொப்பம்	ஆராய்ச்சி உதவியாளர் கையொப்பம்

Of. for approval.

Special ②

386

16/3 Pub.
193

Government of Madras

5-3-47

2

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(Education)

G.O. No. 386, 3rd March 1947

Elementary education—Compulsory—Supply of midday meals to schools—Discontinued.

Order—No. 386, Education, dated 3rd March 1947.

The Government sanctioned in 1945–46 a scheme of compulsory elementary education in selected villages in each district. The scheme was extended to a few more villages in each district in 1946–47. The Government approved also the supply of midday meals to poor children in the schools in these areas so as to give such children proper nourishment and also as an inducement to them to attend the schools regularly.

2. On a review of the general finances of the Province it has been found that it will not be possible, for the present, to continue the scheme of midday meals. The Government accordingly direct that the scheme be terminated with effect from 1st April 1947.

3. Special Officers of District Boards are requested to take the necessary measures to wind up the scheme by the end of March 1947 and to dispose of the stock of food stuffs, etc., on hand.

4. The utensils purchased for the supply of midday meals should be handed over to the District Educational Officers. The Director of Public Instruction is requested to instruct the District Educational Officers to collect the utensils, list them up and send the lists to the Director. On receipt of the lists the Director should examine how best the utensils can be distributed to hostels attached to Government institutions which are in need of them and make a report to Government.

(By order of His Excellency the Governor)

M. V. SUBRAMANIAM,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.
" Special Officers of the District Boards.
" Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
" Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.

~~To the Accountant-General through the Finance Department.~~
" Finance Department.
" Development Department.
" Public (F.D.) Department.

A.G.

Special

Sectt. II-22—7,506—6-II-36.

161/Bale 133

③

PRESS SLIP.

386

ORDINARY. PREFERENCE. ~~URGENT (a).~~

3 - MAR 1947

EDUCATION. ......DEPARTMENT.

3

Current No. 7339/B2/47, dated 28. 1. 47 ~~193~~ .

G.O. No. 386, dated 3. 3. 47 ~~193~~ .

Number of MS. pages sent {(b) ~~Correspondence~~ ......; (b¹) Notes...1......

Brief subject... Ele. Edn. Compulsory supply of midday meals to Schools - DISCONTINUED.

(c) Number of copies required when struck off (*not including copies for volumes and editors' table which are retained in the Press*).	E.T. copies to supply requisitions for purchase by the public.	Complete correspondence and orders.	Notes.
FOR RECORD.*			
Madras Records	4	6	
Ooty Records		3	
For filing with original		1	
Total ...		10.	

FOR ISSUE.†	Letter only.	Complete G.O.	(b) Special issue copies of G.O. — No.	Special issue copies of G.O. — Papers.	Notes.
Signature copies		6			
India Office					
Government of India ...Dept.					
Revenue Department					
Public Works Department					
Local and Municipal Department					
Educational Department					
......Dept.					
Public Dept., Judicial Dept., Political, Financial Dept., Marine Dept., Ecclesiastical Dept. — Total ...					
Total ...					
Spare copies. The D.P.I. Madras		60			
The Spl. Officers Dist. Bds		24			
The Exmr. L.F.A.		20			
The Inspector, Mo cls. and		5			
~~The~~ Local Boards					
The A.G. (Non Finance)					
The Finance Dept		1			
The Rev. Dept		1			
The Pub. (P.W.) Dept.		1			
The Call Book					
The					
The					
The Spare		52			
The					
The					
Total ...		170.			

* Copies distributed on Dpd 18 ......‡(Press Clerk).

† Copies distributed on ...... 18/3/47 ......‡(Press Despatcher).

‡ To be initialled and dated.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SECRETARIAT.

(*a*) If a paper is marked to be printed urgently the Superintendent of the section concerned should sign the Press slip. The Superintendent should exercise a careful discretion in the matter.

(*b*) Each letter, memorandum, or order, or set of orders, in the file of correspondence should be headed in succession with the Roman numeral I, II, III, etc., the number being written in red ink or blue chalk above the item. The particular papers to be printed in the special issue-copies should be indicated by the Roman numeral (I, II, etc.) by which that item had been headed in the correspondence file. All matter, including marginal remarks or references, to be printed should be written in ink and matter which should not be printed should be encircled. Initials and signatures that are not quite legible should be re-written distinctly.

(*b*¹) For rules regarding printing of notes, see rule 315 of the Office Manual.

(*c*) The number of copies and the details of distribution should be filled in by the Superintendent or Referencer concerned.

(*d*) In the absence of special instructions to the Press to keep matter standing for a specified period, ordinary papers of 8 pages and under will be kept standing for *one* week, and larger papers for *two* weeks only. *The type of notes and of all confidential papers is distributed immediately after striking.*

(*e*) This slip, properly and completely filled in, should accompany every paper sent to Press; it will be returned by the Press when proofs are furnished; it should be sent to the Press when a call is made for revised proofs or when a corrected proof is sent for striking. When finally returned by Press it should be filed with the original order or letter.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PRESS.

(*a*) If, in the opinion of the Superintendent of the Press, a paper has been marked urgent unnecessarily, he should send the Press slip to the Registrar with a remark to that effect.

(*b*) Unless a note to the contrary is made against the matter, pencil entries should not be printed. The Superintendent of the Press may bring to the notice of the Registrar any instance of incomplete or careless editing.

(*c*) Signature copies of letters to the Secretary of State or to the Government of India should be printed on hand-made paper.

(*d*) This slip should be returned by the Press to the Secretariat when proofs are furnished; it will be sent back to the Press when proofs are returned corrected and should be finally returned to the Secretariat when struck-off copies are supplied.

(*e*) The names of the Secretary and Members should be printed in full when they occur on the right hand side, only the first time when they appear on the left side, the initials alone being printed later.

[P.T.O.

TO PRESS, MADRAS, OOTY.

A	B	C
Please send proof in duplicate. The papers have been carefully edited.	Proof returned corrected. Please strike off and send number of copies as indicated.	As the matter is clear manuscript and has been carefully edited, (*b*) proof need not be sent. Please print and supply number of copies as indicated.
	Type may be released after usual interval. / at once.	Type may be released after usual interval.
LP6 3/3/47 ~~Referencer.~~ / Clerk.	……… Referencer. / Clerk.	……… Referencer. / Clerk.
3/3/47 ……… Supt.	……… Supt.	……… Supt.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

Certified that the number of copies ~~[illegible]~~ for is the minimum required.

J. B. Mehta
Asst Secy to Govt
Ed & P.H. Dept.
3.3.47

Press
Please send proof before twenty evening (4 pm.)
[illegible]

1-45 P.M.

TO BE FILLED IN BY THE PRESS.

Diary.		Initials of Press official.
Received in Press on	4-3-'47.	[illegible]
First proof furnished on	5-3-'47.	[illegible]
Call for revised proof received on		
Revised proof furnished on		
Corrected proof received for striking on	6-3-'47	[illegible]
Final copies supplied on	8-3-47	

---

16 Dec
93

(4)

Education and Public Health Deptt.

386

Elementary Education--Compulsory--Supply of midday meals to Schools--Discontinued.

****

ORDER No. 386 Education Dated 3/3/47
Press

THE Government sanctioned in 1945-46 ~~the~~ a scheme of compulsory Elementary Education in selected villages in each district. The scheme was extended to a few more villages in each district in 1946-47. As an inducement to ~~school children~~ them to attend the schools ~~in these areas~~ regularly, the Government approved also the supply of midday meals to poor children ~~of the~~ the schools. in the areas [illegible] to give the children proper nourishment. ~~The food situation prevailing then was also one of the factors that was taken into consideration in sanctioning the scheme of supply of midday meals.~~

(X)

~~2. The Government are examining proposals to amend the general frame work of the Madras Elementary Education Act in order to ensure that children are brought to schools and retained there till they complete the Elementary school course, without resorting the penal provisions of the Act to ~~in a~~ any large extent. Further, it is proposed to transfer ~~from~~ very short the power of imposing penalties on defaulting guardians to officers of the Education Department. The food situation has has also improved appreciably. In the circumstances, the Govt. consider that there is no need to continue the supply of Midday meals to school children beyond the current year.~~ They accordingly direct that the scheme be terminated with effect from 1-4-1947.

On a review of the general finances of the province it has been found that it will not be possible at present to continue the scheme
W.D. Say well

3. The Special Officers of District Boards are requested to take the necessary measures to ~~widened~~ wind up the scheme by the end of March 1947 and to dispose of the stock of food stuffs., etc., on hand and the utensils purchased for the supply of meals.

DP
3/3/47

To The D.P.I. Madras
The Spl. Officers of the Dt. Boards.
The Examiner of Local Fund account.
The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
~~The A.G. [illegible]~~
The A.G. [illegible]
" Fin Dept
" Public (P.D.) Dept
Call proofs -

P.J.A.

4. The utensils purchased for the supply of midday
als should be handed over to the D.E.Os. The D.P.I. is
quested to instruct the D.E.Os to collect the utensils,
st them up and send the lists to the Director. On re-
ipt of the list, the Director should examine how best
e utensils can be distributed to ~~the~~ hostels attached
Govt. institutions ~~who~~ which are in need of them and
ke a report to Govt.

27-12-47

---

386 9 (5) 5

Copy of letter Rc.No.666 B1/47 dated 19-11-47 from the Director of Public Instruction, Madras to the Secretary to Government, Education and Public Health Department.

Sub: Elementary Education - Compulsory - Discontinuance of the midday meal scheme - disposal of utensils - Report submitted.

With reference to Govt. Memo. No.6 0302 - A-2/47-2 Edn. dated 16-10-1947, I have the honour to submit that the utensils purchased for the supply of midday meals in some Districts are being ordered to be distributed among the various Government Hostels in accordance with their requirements on the recommendations of the District Educational Officers. A few officers of the Department are still examining the question and the utensils in their custody will also be ordered to be distributed after their recommendations are received and examined.

It has been reported by the Special Officer, East Godavari District Board that no utensils were peruchased for the feeding centres ~~wi~~in the District. The Special Officer, Malabar District Board has reported that no utensils were purchased and supplied for the midday meals centres out of Government grant. The Special Officer Tanjore District Board has also reported that no grant was sanctioned for the purchase of utensils and hence the utensils purchased for the midday meal scheme are the properties of the Board. The contention of East Godavary, Malabar and Tanjore District Boards is not correct. All the Boards were paid subsidies for the supply of midday meals at 0-1-9 pies. According to the Orders in para 3 of Government Memo. No.32083 - A-5 Edn. dated 1-9-1945 this subsidy was intended to cover the cost of utensils also. Hence I request Government to instruct the Special Officers of these District Boards to hand over the utensils to the District Educational Officers immediately.

Copy of Endt. Rc.666 B1/47 dated 20-1-48 from the Director of Public Instruction, Madras to the Secretary to Government, Education and Public Health Department.

386

Resubmitted.

2. No note regarding the above subject has been received from the Hon'ble Minister for Education so far with reference to para 4 of G.O.No.386 Edn. dated 3-3-47 action was already taken for ~~dis~~ the disposal of the utensils in question and a report to the Government made in this office Rc.666 B1/47 dated 19-11-47) in reply to their Memorandum No.60302 A2/47-2 Education dated 16-10-47 explainingx the then position.

3. Orders from Government are awaited with regard to the handing over of the utensils by the Special Officers of East Godavari Malabar and Tanjore District Boards to the District Educational Officers concerned.

4. The present position is as follows:

Necessary approval has been accorded for the transfer of the utensils from the Districts of Vizag North, Vizag South, West Godavari Kistna, Guntur South, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur, Cuddapah, North Aroct, Tinnevelly, Salem, Coimbatore and South Kanara to the Educational Institutions (Government) which were in need of them. The matter with regard to the other Districts excepting East Godavari, Malabar and Tanjore is under ~~eemes~~ correspondence with the District Educational Officers concerned for the early disposal of the utensils.

5. A further report will be submitted to Government after the question is finally settled.

13/

386

D.P.I.

I think it is many months since I sent you a note asking for an inventory of the vessels purchased for the midday meals scheme. Now that the scheme has been dropped, we must account for these vessels and be in a position to utilise them in the best manner possible. Though it is many months since I sent you the note, I have not yet received a reply and I am afraid the vessels may disappear and be misappropriated in course of time if appropriate action is not taken in time. An inventory of these vessels throughout the province may be called for and submitted. If reports from certain districts have not been received, that need not delay the inventory that has been received by the Director's office but such inventories as are received may be sent up, while a final consolidated inventory may be sent after all inventories are received. It may also be noted as to in whose possession they are just now. Suggestions may also be given as to how they can be utilised. The cost at which they were purchased may be given so that we may have an idea of their value.

Sd. T.S.A.

16-12-1947.

H.M. Education.

15/ ⑧

8

386

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Education and Public Health Department.
Memorandum No.60302 B2/47-4. Education, dated 26th Feb. 1948.

Sub: Supply of mid-day meals to elementary school children Utilisation of utensil purchased.

Ref: Letter from the Director of Public Instruction No.666 B1/47 Dated 9-11-47 and 20-1-1948.

The Director of Public Instruction is informed that the Special Officers of the District Boards of East Godavari, Malabar and Tanjore need not be asked to hand over to Government the utensils purchased in connection with the mid-day meals scheme. But they should be asked to make proper use of the utensils and if the utensils are not necessary, they should be sold and the amount realised credited to the elementary education fund.

The Director is requested to issue ~~introductions~~ instructions to the District Educational Officer to see that the orders above are carried out.

The further report promised in paragraph 5 of the Director's letter dated 20-1-48 is awaited.

M.V.Subramanian,
Secretary to Government.

(TRUE COPY)

28/3.

For Director of Public Instruction.

No. F.33-181/48-D.I.
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.

(9) 386C 9

New Delhi 3, the 10th October, 1950.

From

Syed Ashfaque Husain,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
12 OCT 1950
31621
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education Department,
MADRAS.

Subject:- School Meals.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith for the consideration of the State Government a copy of a "Memorandum on School Meals".

2. The Government of India hope that it will be possible for the State Government to take suitable action in the matter, and it is requested that this Ministry may kindly be informed in due course of the action taken in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

Ashfaque Husain

(ASHFAQUE HUSAIN)
DEPUTY SECRETARY.

"RLR"

R.D.T.

Dr. Deptt

Referred to the Director of Public Instruction for remarks.

Asst. Secretary to Govt.

3
17/10

To
The Director of Public Instruction

---

386 3/ (10) 17185 10

MEMORANDUM
ON SCHOOL MEALS.

A joint committee appointed in 1941 by the Central Advisory Board of Education and Central Advisory Board of Health to report on medical inspection of school children stressed the necessity for provision of school meals. Similar suggestions were made by the Famine Enquiry Commission and the Bhore Committee.

Provision of school meals now existing is on an extremely meagre scale. The schemes are not well planned with potentialities for further development. Provision of snack meals to children in some of the Secondary Schools on a subscription basis was started in certain States soon after the first World War. But this movement did not receive steady support either from the Governments or from the public.

B Schemes for the provision of meals for school children no doubt require financial expenditure but considering the useful part they can play in building up the health of the younger generation such schemes should be encouraged. It is highly desirable that the States Governments should adopt a positive and helpful attitude towards the supply of school meals if necessary on a contributory basis.

An ideal school meal should consist mostly of protective foods, which are not ordinarily available to poor students in their homes. If owing to financial reasons it is not possible, to provide them even a meal which consists of grain food or its preparations will be a welcome contribution to the health of the children.

P.T.O.

The meals could be supplied on a subscription basis, it being desirable to fix the rates according to the income of the parents. It will be observed that vendors often go to schools to sell their unhealthy food stuffs to the children who spend money to buy them. With careful and sympathetic planning this money could be collected and diverted to the provision of healthy meals by the school authorities.

A

Provision of school meals may first be tried in Secondary Schools where there are facilities for cooking and necessary supervision. The scheme may be implemented first in those schools where the staff or at least some of them are keen about it and gradually extended to other schools.

Kitchen gardens, wherever possible, should be started and the products utilised for school meals.

The State Governments may make part contribution to such schemes or reimburse the expenses involved by providing meals to the poorest section of the children in the schools. Another desirable practice would be to make provision of mid-day meals an essential preliminary for introducing any kind of physical training, including drill classes or compulsory games.

"RIR"

386

5
29.11

Letter No. 31621- C/50-2 Edu dt 28-11-50
Ref

To,
The Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India,
Ministry of Education, New Delhi.

Sir,

Subject: School meals.

PP1-4CF Ref: your letter No. F.33-181/48-D.: dt 10-10-50

I am directed to invite your attention to this Govt. L/PP13-14CF letter No. 74879 B2/48-3 Edu dt 6-12-48 explaining the attempts made by this Govt. to supply midday meals to school children and the circumstances ~~underwhich~~ under which the scheme was dropped and to add that in view of the financial stringency, this Govt. are not in a position to revive the scheme.

Yours faithfully,

25/11/50

25/11/50

DM
27/11/50

9/8/51

Notes

386 (12)

E. and P.H. ~~20/46~~
B.2.

12

Extracts from the file dealing with the curtailment of
expenditure under the Post-war schemes relating
to Education.

******

Letter from the Govt. of India, dated 31. 7. 1946.

x x ,,,,,,, x x x x

It is therefore suggested that the Provincial Government should reexamine their plan with a view to reducing the expenditure in particular regarding expenditure on Education and increasing the allotments both on Agriculture and Health.

x x x x x

Edn. Dept.

Schemes No. 88 and 89. :- COMPULSORY ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AND MIDDAY MEALS.

A reduction in the cost of the scheme of compulsory elementary education will result in the slowing down of the progress of the scheme. A cut may be possible in the cost of the midday mealscheme. The cost of this scheme is flexible in the sense that it can be increased or reduced with reference to the number of children to be supplied with meals. On a previous occasion when a reduction in the cost of education schemes was proposed, the cut was made under midday meals. The amount of reduction to be made may be decided upon with reference to the increased amount required under Public Health and Agriculture. But it may be pointed out that the supply of midday meals has been decided ~~both male~~ to make ele. edn. popular and to induce children to go to schools. An undue restriction of the scope of the scheme will have an adverse effect on the progress of elementary education, and to afford the amenity at some places and not at others will make it invidious.

P.S.V.
20.8.46.

Finance Dept.

The estimated cost of scheme 89 is Rs. 12.88 crores in the 5 years and Rs. 4.[illegible]8 crores p.a. recurring ~~for the~~ after five years. Finance would ~~ag~~ urge that this scheme be wound up completely as soon as the present acute food shortage is over, and treated as a temporary scheme necessitated by the abnormal food shortage. It is quite impossible to find funds for this scheme as a permanent measure.

D.W.D.
26.8.46

I agree with Finance that the midday meal scheme may be dropped, but would like to have it kept on to end of the academic year, i.e. till about the end of April, as to give up the scheme in the middle of the academic year may cause dislocation. The midday meal scheme has very little to do with food scarcity, and is meant to be an inducement to poor parents to send their children willingly to school. We have no doubt powers to compel attendance, but the pill has to be sugar-coated to some extent. The fact that compulsion is not likely to be 'popular' does not prove that the scheme is a costly mistake, but it only proves that we have to do good to people against their own wishes sometimes particularly in the case of educational progress. Food shortage can only be aggravated by large scale feeding schemes, unless the rations given to parents is proportionately reduced, which it has not been proposed to do.

D.S.O.
5.7.46

Proceedings of the Development Board at its meeting held on 18.9.1946.

Scheme No. 89 relating to provision of midday meals to school children may be ~~reduced~~ dropped by about the end of the academic year and not the financial year.

II) Supply of midday meals. In 1945-46, a scheme for the upply of midday meals to 1.34 lakhs of children (annual st of Rs. 35 lakhs) was sanctioned. As the scheme was troduced only late in the year, the expenditure incurred n 1945-46 was only Rs. 6 lakhs.

In 1946-47 a scheme to continue supply of meals to the number of children already fed and to supply meals to additional 70000 children was sanctioned. The 2.04 lakhs of children are now supplied with meals.

In the current year's budget there is a provision of Rs47 lakhs made up of :

	Rs
For supply of meals for 1.34 lakhs of children (Full year's provision).	35 lakhs
For supply of meals to 70000 additional children (8 months' provision(.	12 lakhs.
	47 lakhs.

The entire pr9vision may not be utilised in the current year. Assuming that it will be spent in full, the total expenditure on midday meals that would have been incurred in 1945- 46 and 1946-47 together will be Rs. 53 lakhs (6 plus 47) against the provision of Rs. 12.50 crores estimated in the five year plan. If the scheme of midday meals is scrapped with effect from the end of the academic year as recommended by the Development Board, the savings will be Rs. 12 crores.

It, however, seems desirable to keep the scheme going in places in which it has been in vogue these two years, i.e. the 2.04 lakhs of children already fed may continue to be provided with midday meals during the five year period. The annual cost on this account will be Rs. 53 lakhs a year and for five years the cost will be Rs,2.65 crores. The savings in this case will be only Rs. 10 crores.

M.V.S.
29.10.46

4

Finance Dept

Since the E. P.H. Dept. admit that the free midday meals scheme is less essential than the rest of the Education Department's schemes, I submit that it is clear that this scheme will have to be cut out completely and that it is, therefore, desirable that it is wound up completely at as early a date as possible in order to conserve the funds available as much as possible for the more essential schemes. The continuance of the scheme indefinitely in the areas where it has been in force so far would be most inequitable as it would mean giving preference to continuing an expensive differential advantage for these areas over extending compulsory elementary education to further areas. These areas have had a ~~byxxt~~ big differential advantage already and, since it is not possible to give the same benefit to new areas, it should certainly be abolished at the earliest possible moment in the areas where it is now in force. It may be hoped that the children in these areas have now formed the habit of going to school and that it will continue in future without the inducement of free meals. The N.E. monsoon is ~~faourable~~ favourable and H.F.M. has held out some hope of the rice ration being increased in December. We may, therefore, take it that there will be a big improvement in the food situation by January. Finance would therefore, urge that the free midday meals scheme be wound up at the end of Dec. 1946 or as soon as possible thereafter and in any case not later than 31.3.47, the end of the financial year. E. P.H. may kindly take extracts and examine this question separately and get orders urgently on the termination of the free midday meals scheme and the date when it should be wound up.

D.W.S.
16.11.46

386

(14)

Edu. Dept

In the notes on pages 1 to 4 ante, the question as to how the cost of the scheme of midday meals should be curtailed has been examined. The Finance department suggest that the scheme may be done away with altogether, in view of the fact that the food situation has improved. It may be noted that the scheme of supply of midday meals was not introduced with the ~~sole~~ object of supplementing the system of ration introduced in the province~~,~~ on account of the food scarcity. The intention was to ~~enable~~ encourage children to attend schools regularly in compulsory areas without a need to resort to the penal provisions of the Elementary Education Act. In any case as the ~~Finance department~~ Govt. of India insist on a reduction in the cost of the postwar plan, this department may agree to the deletion of the scheme altogether.

2. The Finance Secretary raises the question whether the scheme ~~of supply of midday meals~~ should be stopped at the end of the next month or at the end of March 1947. It may not be desirable to discontinue the scheme in the middle of the school year. Perhaps the scheme may be continued till the end of the school year.

3. Public (Development Bd) ~~(Political)~~ and Finance may see for remarks before circulation.

23/11/46.

25/11/46 S

28/11/46

Pub. (Dev. B.)

922
3/12/46

Pub ~~Political~~ Dept

73397

U.O. 73397 Edn/46-1
29.11.46.

6246 Fin

Asst. Secretary to Govt.
4 DEC 1946
Finance Department

Public (Dev) Dept.
U.O. 922/46-1
4/12/46

Please see A on p 2 ante and the further notes. The matter may be placed before the Dev. Board at the next meeting.

The file may be passed on to Fin.

2/12/46

3/12/46

J.S. 3/12

Finance(PWR)Dept.

(Extract of Previous Finance Notes on page 4 above)

The point at issue is, as ~~regards~~ to the date from which the scheme for the supply of midday meals in elementary schools may be discontinued. The question was already considered at the Development Board meeting held on 18-9-46 and the Board's recommendation is at 'A' on page 2 above. In that connection Finance Secretary suggested that the scheme might be wound up by the end of the current financial year at the latest, while the E.&.P.H. Secretary recommended the termination of the scheme with the end of the current school year. /A

X on p2 above

2. In view of the possible improvement in the food situation in the coming months of the current financial year, Secretary has again suggested that the scheme may be stopped at the end of December,1946, or as soon as possible thereafter and in any case not later than 31-3-47. E.&.P.H. however, reiterate their previous suggestion stating that the improvement in the food situation has no relation to the scheme for the supply of midday meals which was introduced, not on account of the scarcity of the food but to induce children to attend schools regularly in compulsory areas without a need to resort to the penal provisions of the Elementary Education Act. ~~This argument is no doubt true, but~~ The fact, however, remains that the improvement in the food position will mean improvement in the quantity available under the ration cards of the iddidividual families. It may then be unnecessary (after improvement in the food situation) to continue to offer an inducement through ~~full~~ free midday meals. If attendence at schools is irregular, the penal provisions of the Act may ~~have~~ to be resorted to. Finance may ~~therefore~~ in any case adhere to the suggestion that the scheme may be terminated by the end of the current financial year at the latest.

p4 above

para 1 p5 above

/ Y p4 above DWD
9.12.46.

3. E.&.P.H. propose to circulate the case for orders on the above point. But Public(P&D) suggest that the matter may be placed before the Development Board at its next meeting. As the Development Board have already considered the point and recommended that the scheme may be dropped, ~~at the end of the school year,~~ it is perhaps unnecessary to place the matter again before the Development Board. ~~again~~ Finance may agree with E.&.P.H. that orders may be taken in circulation on the point. H.P.M. will no doubt see. /B

Bottom of p5 above

A on p2 above

DWD
9.12.46

Portions marked A & B above!

From this deptt's U.O.Note of 8-10-46 it will be seen that at the meeting of the Devt. Bd held on 18-9-46 the question of the date of termination of the scheme was left open as a matter of detail for further consideration. Fin. may suggest that it is not necessary to refer the question again to the Devt Bd but that the orders of the Govt may be obtained in circulation, including H.P.M.

The Board's recommendation was not correctly recorded. Public (P&D) did correct it fully even when they referred to [illegible] DWB

B2 (15)

1

Y
9.12.46

[illegible] 10.12.46

~~Addl Secy~~/Secy

It is not necess^y or desirable to delay a decision in this matter by holding it up to be placed before another meeting of the Devt Board. The Devt Board has already unanimously recommended that the scheme should be dropped completely. The only point requiring further discussion is the date to be proposed for termination of the scheme, & it is not necessary to wait to get the opinion of the Devt Board on this point of detail.

2. It seems to me obvious that, since all Depts are agreed that this scheme should be closed down completely in order to conserve funds for more essential post-war devt schemes, it ought to be closed down at the earliest possible date in order to conserve funds to the max^m possible extent. Moreover since the proposal is to delete the scheme entirely from our 5-year post-war plan, it is not desirable to allow any exp^re on it to continue into 1947-48, which is to be the first year of the regular 5-year post-war plan. E&PH have not given any special reason for objecting to closure of the scheme in the course of an academic year, & I cannot see that it would involve any substantial disadvantage. If there are any special disadvantages involved, I submit that they are much outweighed by the advantages of saving more funds for more essential schemes.

I mentioned the improvement in the food situation only by way of anticipatory reply to a possible argument that this scheme should not be terminated as long as the food shortage continues to be severe. If the latter argument is not raised, the point may be ignored entirely.

Fin. urges strongly that this scheme be closed down completely at the earliest possible date — if possible at the end of Dec. '46 — and in any case not later than 31.3.47. The case may kindly be treated as "Special" & orders obtained in Cir^n as early as possible. DWD
10.12.46

Special.
66246 PWR
10.12.46

E.P.H.

8/

E. and P.H. dept.

A

Public (Development Board) has recommended the discontinuance of the scheme of middgy meals altogether. The Finance has proposed the acceptance of the recommendation and this dept. has agreed with Finance.

The question arises whether the scheme should be discontinued at the end of the current school year (as suggested by this department) or at the end of the current financial year (as suggested by the Finance department). The file may be circulated for orders:

(1) whether the scheme should be wound up as recommended by the Public (Development) Board, and

(2) if so, whether it should be discontinued from the end of the current ~~year~~ school year or the financial year.

11/12/46 S

Pub. (Dev. Bd.)

See [illegible] Dev. Bd. - again.

11/12/46

Pub. (Dev. Bd.)

Pub. P&D Dept. E&P.H. 460-7 11-12-46

May be perused and returned to E.P.H. We may ask for circulation to H.P.M.

11/12/46

11/12/46 J. S.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
951
11 DEC 1946
PUBLIC DEPARTMENT (PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT)

Public (P&DV) Dept.
922/46-2
11/12

B2

76368
12 DEC 1946
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

The file may be circulated for orders on points (1) and (2) above.

12/12/46 S

H.M. (Edn.)

H.P.M.

This is largely a matter of policy & may be placed before the Cabinet at the time considering the next budget.

TSA
13-12-46

SECRETARY, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
17 DEC 1946
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

16/12/46

---

(16)

9

386

The meeting of the cabinet to consider the Budget Estimate for 1947-48 will be held on 27-1-47. This file may be circulated again to H M (Edn) on 26-1-47. Meanwhile Finance may see.

17/12/46 S

17/12/46

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
68636
17 DEC 1946
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Finance (B.E.V.).

Previous Finance notes on pp. 6-7 above and the orders in circulation on p. 8 above may be perused and the case returned to E & P.H. [Extract of the minutes of H.M. (Edn) & H.P.M. on p. 8 above will be taken]

V.S.
17.12.46

Thro' Fin (B.G.).

17/12/46

The case may be Cd. also to H.M. Rev., as he has minuted on the case relating to the Pt. II scheme for extension of compulsory elementary in 1947-8 that he agrees to a provision of Rs. 16 lakhs in that scheme provided no provision will be included for free mid-day meals in the compulsory areas either in Part I or in Part II of the budget for 1947-8.

As Finance Dept has urged that the free mid-day meals scheme should be wound up completely as early as possible, & if possible at the end of Dec. '46, I venture to submit that it may be considered whether the matter may not be placed before the Cabinet at ~~the~~ its meeting on 27.12.46 instead of leaving it for the meeting to consider the budget on 27.1.47. I do not know whether the general question of revision of the 5 year plan is to be placed before the Cabinet meeting ~~of~~ on 27-12-46 by Public (Dept Bd). (I have urged that it be done as early as possible). If so, the question of termination of the free mid-day meals scheme will have to be considered then as part of that subject.

Dud
18.12.46
E.P.H.

It is understood from the Public Dept. that replies from all departments of the Secretariat have not ~~been~~ as yet been recieved on the question of the revision of the cost of the five year plan.

In the circumstances it ~~can~~ cannot be definitely said that the subject will be placed at the meeting of ~~on~~ the Cabinet to be held on 27.12.46.

2. The file may be circulated to H.M (Edn), H.M. (Rev). and H.P.M. for orders as to ~~the~~ whether the proposal to discontinue the scheme of the supply of midday meals ~~to be~~ also be discussed at the meeting of the Cabinet to be held on 27.12.46.

19.12.46

19/12/46 S

H.M. (Edn)
H.M. (Rev.)
H.P.M.

~~19.12.46~~

As suggested by some of the previous notes this may go on till the end of the financial year & as there is no urgency for it to be placed before the Cabinet on 27-12-46.

TSA
19-12-46

73397-B2
7/1/47

(17)

386

The question of the midday meal & its continuance are intimately connected with ~~the~~ our ability to finance ~~II~~ the new Part II scheme in this file. Since H.P.M is not here and it is already 21st today there is not sufficient time for the question ~~could~~ to be placed before the 27th Cabinet mtg. But it should be considered urgently by the Fin. Comttee as soon as possible, and by the full Cabinet thereafter at the (~~earliest~~) next meeting. ~~(this is another matter, however)~~

KRK
21/12/46

187

Pub(Genl) D.
UO 922/46-3
11-2-47

H.P.M

This file was not circulated to H.P.M as it was linked with another file which was circulated to H.M. (Edn) & which returned from circulation yesterday. It is understood from the Finance Dept. that the Finance Committee will meet on the 14th. [illegible] (Edn) & (Rev) are on the committee. [illegible] will be sufficient if the file is ~~circulated~~ sent to H.M. (Edn) for discussion ~~at~~ at the ~~first~~ meeting of the committee [H.P.M. is ~~now~~ away from Madras, ~~and it is not definitely known when he will come back to Madras~~].

9.1.47

9/1/47 S

H.M. (Edn) TSA
23-1-47

Extract of the Cabinet orders at the meeting held on 28th January 1947 to consider the Budget for 1947-8.

-----

xx xx

The provision of Rs 37,00,000 in Part I of the Budget for free mid-day meals to children in elementary schools in areas where compulsory elementary education has been introduced will be omitted.

A draft order is

21/2/47

→ [illegible] for appl. : Pub (P&D) & Finance may see before [illegible].

7.2.47

BM 6/2/47 S

Pub (PD) Dept

Fin.

E&P.H. u.o. 73397 B2/47-3
10.2.47

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC DEPARTMENT (PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT)
187
11 FEB 1947

The order of the cabinet extracted at the bottom of the previous page ~~[illegible]~~ and the draft below may be perused and the file passed on to Fin.

Pub (P&D) Dept
U.O. 922/46-3
11-2-47

Fin. (Exp. A)

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, FINANCE DEPARTMENT
8525
12 FEB 1947

The orders of the Cabinet, extracted on p. 11 above and the draft order below may be perused and the case returned to E.P.H.

13.2.47

13.2.47

14/2/47

~~AS / AS S~~

17/2/47

E.P.H.

17.2.47

Thru. B.E.V.

NS 13.2.47

E.P.H. Fin. u.o. 8525 Exp. A-1
17/2.

For orders as to circulation 13/2

BM 18/2/47 S

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.
13532
18 FEB 1947

Ed. (Gen.)

25.2.47

Now that we are passing orders to wind up midday feeding, we must make arrangements to dispose of the vessels that have been purchased for this purpose. I understand big bronze vessels have been purchased at the expense of Government. The D.E.Os. may be asked to collect these vessels, make a list of them and send them on to the D.P.I. so that such of the few hostels which do not have these vessels may be given these and we need not incur fresh expenses in this matter again. On

---

386 EA 13 18 78

the collection of the lists, the D.P.I. may send a report of the inventories received and proposals as to how the vessels can be distributed to the various hostels under Government auspices ~~af~~ in the Province.

TSA
24.2.47

SECRETARY, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT., GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
24 FEB 1947

A new para is added to the draft order.

25.2.47

BM 27/2/47 S

Fin. (Exp. A)

The revised draft may be perused

1.3.47

D.S.

1/3

E.P.H.
E-PH

E&P.H. u.o. 73397 B2/47-1
28.1.47

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.
1 - MAR 1947

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, FINANCE DEPARTMENT
12495
1 - MAR 1947

Fin. u.o. 12495 Exp. A1
1.3.47

Issue

BM 1/3/47

Education Deptt.(C).

C.No. 31621. 386 Ref:- From the Government of India, No. F.33-181/48-D.I. dated 10th October 1950.

Subject:- School Meals.

Please see the Memorandum from the Govt. of India on 'School Meals' in the current file.

2. In 1944 the Central Advisory Board of Education prepared a report on Post War Educational Development in India. The desirability of giving midday meals to children attending schools was referred to in the Report. In 1945 the Madras Govt. drew up a Post-war Plan relating to the different departments. Seven schemes related to Education and one of these was the provision of midday meals to children attending elementary schools.

3. The scheme contemplated provision of funds for supplying meals to six lakhs of children in the first year, the provision being increased in subsequent years by adding 6 more lakhs of children each year, so that 30 lakhs of children would have been given meals at the end of 5 years. It was to be extended during the next five years to all children who would have been newly enrolled in schools under the compulsory elementary education scheme and to those who would be studying in Standards VI to VIII of schools on the extension of compulsion to these standards.

4. The cost of supplying meals was calculated at the rate of one anna per meal for 220 days in the year. It was estimated that the cost in the first five years would be on a progressive scale beginning with Rs 83 lakhs in the first year and reaching Rs 418 lakhs in the fifth year. The cost of meals in the second quinquennium was worked out at Rs 8 crores annually. The expenditure would increase to Rs 12.5 crores if meals were supplied to children in Standards VI to VIII also.

5. The scheme was not, however, implemented according to the plan. In 1945-46 the Govt. allotted a sum of Rs 20 lakhs for the supply of midday meals for children in schools in compulsory areas. The cost of supply of meals was raised to

1 anna 6 pies per meal against 1 anna originally fixed. It was found possible to supply meals to 1.34 lakhs of children in 1945-46. During 1946-47 the Government provided funds for supplying meals to 67,000 more children.

6. Towards the end of 1946-47 it was felt that as the cost of supply of meals would be increasing on a progressive scale and as expenditure on meals might be beyond the means of the State, the scheme might be abandoned from 1947-48 - vide G.O.No. 386, Education, dated 3-3-1947. (5)

7. Arrangements for the supply of midday meals to poor Harijan pupils in secondary schools has been made only by a few local bodies and the entire expenditure on this account is met by the local bodies concerned from their own funds. If this concession is to be allowed to Harijan pupils in all secondary schools, the Govt. will have to meet the entire expenditure in respect of Government secondary schools and admit the expenditure on the supply of midday meals to Harijan pupils as an item of approved expenditure for purposes of assessment of teaching grants to non-Govt. secondary schools - half the net cost in respect of secondary ~~under~~ schools under local bodies and two-thirds in respect of secondary schools under private managements. In schools where no kitchen and a dining or tiffin-room has ~~not~~ been provided for, it will be necessary to provide them and local bodies and private managements may apply for non-recurring grants for the purpose. It does not also seem that the suggestion at 'A' on page 4 c.f. is a practical one.

8. In view of the present financial stringency, it is doubtful whether Government should undertake this extra expenditure. For orders whether the remarks of the D.P.I. may be called for. Finance may see first.

NM 24/10/50 AS II / 8

The suggestion in the memorandum

---

c/ 386 3/ (20) 29

A on p. 4 c.f.

i.e. that meals to school children may be supplied on a subscription basis, rates being fixed for the boys & girls according to the income of the parents. In the case of well-to-do boys & girls, their parents may not agree to their children being fed in this manner in the schools. In the case of ~~the Harijan & other students who~~ are poor, the scheme may be popular but the cost in this case will be considerable. It is very likely that if the suggestion emanates from the Govt. the managements will ask for the entire cost of the scheme as grant.

24.10.50

30 OCT 1950
1/x1 29th

Edu (G) Dept

W.O. 31621 C150-1
28.10.50

Fin. (Exp. A)

The notes of Edu. on pp. 1-3 above may be perused. The scheme of supply of meals to school children in this State if undertaken by the Govt. on even on a contributory basis as proposed in the memorandum on pp. 3-4 c.f., will commit the Govt. to a very large expe. which the Govt. cannot afford to bear at present in view of the financial stringency. This Dept. may therefore suggest that the Govt. of India may be informed that the scheme recommended by them, although laudable, cannot be undertaken by this State at the present moment. H.M. (Fin.) ~~will no doubt~~ may see before a reply is sent to

A & B on p. 3 and A on p. 4 c.f. Apparently the Education Ministry of the Govt. of India [illegible] the [illegible] by the [illegible] the same Govt.

3.11.50

2.11.50

3.11.50

C

20/16/11

was tried out in earnest in this Province & was given up only on considerations of Finance. Even now we are furnishing a mid day meal in our ~~Harijan~~ Labour schools particulars of which may be obtained from the L. W. dept.

Cr. 3162 C/50.

2/11/50

Fin. U.O. No. 907 398 A/50
4/11/50

Edn
D.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
1 NOV 1950
34940
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

~~The file may now be sent to the R. W. dept for remarks~~

14/11/50

The Govt of India, Ministry of Edn, have already been informed of the attempts made by this Govt to supply mid day meals to school children and the circumstances under which the scheme was dropped - please see the letter on page 13 of the papers, at (L). ~~Their~~ India's attention may be invited to that letter and they may be informed that in view of the financial stringency this Govt are not in a position to revive the scheme. H.M (Edn) and H.M. (Finance) may see.

14/11/50.

15/11/50 S

16/11

H.M. (E.A)

H.M. (Fin)

24.XI

SECRETARY
24 NOV 1950
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

A draft letter is submitted for approval. After issue the papers may be stitched with file No. 386 Edn D 3.3.47

25/11/50.

(S)

25/11/50.

25/11/50

28/11

21