15575/1

Put Away

Scott II-27—58,004—4-11-46.

Education (1947) Department.

Ms SERIES.

G.O. NO. 853 Edn.

Dated 26. 4. 47.

pp. 71-79, d.7.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Grant – Building — Olcott Memorial School, Adyar — Payment – Sanctioned.

M •	825		10 8 57

A.3. 6470/46

Office of the Commissioner of Labour,
Chepauk, Madras, dated 9-10-1946.

From

C.K. Vijayaraghavan Esq., I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Labour, Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government, Development Department,
Madras.

Dy. Secretary to Government, Education and Public Health Dept. 20 OCT

635

Development Department 10 OCT 1946 76088

Sir,

Discretionary grant-Olcott Memorial School, Adyar-Building destroyed by fire-Reconstruction-Application for.

---

p 2 below

I enclose a copy of letter No. 19000/46 J.1. dated 26-9-46 from the Collector of Chingleput. The building of the Olcott Memorial School Adyar, was destroyed by fire on 14-9-46 and the Management (The Theosophical Society, Adyar) have requested for a grant of Rs, 3500/- for constructing a new building at a cost of Rs. 7,000/-. As no funds are available under 'Discretionary grants' either with the Collector or with me, and as the case is a deserving one, I request that the Government may be pleased to sanction a building grant of Rs. 3,500/- as a special case. A

N. 9.X.46

For Commissioner of Labour.

P.S.9/10

9/X

Director of Public Instruction 23 OCT 1946 Madras

P.T.O.

Dev. Dept.

'A' above is a matter for consideration in the E & P.H. Dept. This may be transferred to that Dept. wo.

11/X/46

Dev. R.O. 76088 PII/46-1
19.10.46.

Copy of letter No. Rc. 19000-46-J.1. dated 26-9-46 from the Collector of Chingleput.

Grant Olcott Memorial School Adyar-Accident by fire.

--

Z The Olcott Memorial School Adyar founded in 1894 by Col.Olcott contains VIII standards with 16 teachers and a strength of 638 of whom over 250 are members of the Scheduled Classes. The institution is paid labour grants since about 1933 and they now get Rs. 3040/ per annum. The school is managed by the Theosophica Society, Adyar. On 14-9-46 at about 6 P.M. one of the thatched sheds 61' X 18' accidently caught fire and was completely burnt down with all the furnitute and equipment. The total loss is estimated at Rs. 2500/- The management at present desires to errect a pucca tiled shed 79' X 18' costing over Rs. 7000/- and have now applied for the grant under the objects mentioned in Article 213 of the Madras Financial Code no amount can be paid from the Collector's discretionary grant. It appears that the allotment available with you has also been spent. The management can obtain a building grant from the Educational Department but it might take sometime. X His Excellency the Governor may pay any amount upto Rs. 10000/- from his discretionary grant for this purpose. I request you to pay a building grant of Rs. 3500/- or to recommend the case to His Excellency if no funds are available with you. The connected records are enclosed.

N. K[illegible] 4/x
For Commissioner of Labour.

P.S. 9/10

3

3

Edn and P.H. Dept
C1.

10 FEB 1947

C. No: 63542 C1. Letter from the ~~[illegible]~~ Commr of Labour A.3-6470/46 dt 9.10.46.

Olcot Memorial School, Adyar - Grant for building damaged by fire.

Endt 63542 C1/46-1 dt 24.x.46.

Referred to the D.P.I for remarks.

22/10/46.

24/10/46

To the D.P.I
(with cf)

4

11/15/11

18/11

Edn dept A.

Memo. No. 63542 C1/46-2 Edn. St 14.11.46.

[illegible] Adyar — [illegible] damaged by fire.

Ref:— [illegible] 24.x.46. — p1 ante

The D.P.I. is requested to expedite his remarks called for in the Govt. Memo. cited above.

BSM
14/11/46

To
The D.P.I.

OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL

IX

5/4

Olcott Harijan Free Schools
14.11.46.
Adyar

Mrs Lavender,
Correspondent of above
re Loss of Rooms, Fire Accident

To inquire for possibility of permit to begin building before question of grant is settled?

To Secretary
Development Dept.
(Told to inquire here before Lab. Commissioner re papers)

Are they [illegible] attention [illegible] their [illegible] 14/11/46

I gather that the file is being dealt with in E.D.P.H. Mrs Lavender may be [illegible] to E.D.P.H. 14/11/46

(5)

Endt. 63542 c (or E) -1
/46 -1 Edn D.24.10.46

C1 1/5

COTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL

lcott Harijan Free Schools

19.11.46
18 NOV 1946

OPIES to the Secretary, Dev.t Dep.T
" " " D.P.I., [illegible] College
" " " Labour Commissioner

To the Secretary,
70919 Education and Public Health Dep.t.

Dear Mr Subramaniam,

After the courtesy of your interview with me, and that of the Secretary, Dev.t Dep.t., since your view on the question of

PERMIT TO BEGIN TO BUILD

was that as this was a free grant question, and not the ordinary building grant of the code, I wish to inform you that we shall now proceed with the building as planned, so that the children may again be housed properly, and their education not suffer from the congestion

With thanks,
Yours truly,
E. Marion Lavender
Correspondent.

Address :- at THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
ADYAR MADRAS

All vouchers will be kept. We have a certified accountant!

6

Ett. 4
C1

Submitted for perusal of p.5 ante.

The original petn for payment of grant has been referred to the Director for remarks. [He was last reminded on 14.11.46]. As a copy of the letter on p5 ante has been sent direct to the D.P.I., no ~~further~~ action seems called for on this. May be added to the file.

P.P.O.C. p1 ante

p2 ante

A on p5 ante

W

60
21-11-46

The D.P.I. may perhaps be reminded on 1.12.46

ap
21/11

21/11/46

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(6)

9/6

OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL

OLCOTT HARIJAN FREE SCHOOLS

25.11.46

Endt. No. 63542 c (or 5 e) - 1
/46 - Edn.
3349 d. 24.10.46

The Secretary,
Dept. of Educ.n and Publ. Health
COPY to The Secretary,
Development Dept.

Dear Mr Subramaniam,

After visiting you, last week I paid a visit to Mr Lobo on another matter, and asked if my papers were returned to you for the question of obtaining a permit to begin to build at once

After consultation with your Dept. it was decided that the permit could be issued there in the terms stated below, to avoid a further visit to you.

The permit is headed from that office, R.C.No. 8165 B6/46 %. 21.11.46 — not recd

"Subject:- Elem. Educ. - Olcott Memorial School, Adyar - Grant for Building damaged by fire - permission to proceed with the work -granted.

"The Correspondent is informed that he may proceed with the construction of the building without prejudice to the question of grant " Sd G.Lobo.

That is the first contact made thro' that Dept. on this question, and I trust that the papers are now back with you or with the Devt. Dept. so that the decision may be reached in due course of the question of a free grant. As you know with the total loss of the classrooms and the furniture, and the decision to work towards a permanent building, we shall be glad to have a fuller grant than possible under the Code, Educ.n. This will help the good work that has been done here continuously with the Harijan children.

Yours truly,

E. Marcione Lavender

(Mrs

Correspondent.

EAP. H

C1

Submitted for perusal of pp. 7-8 ante.

A draft memo reminder to ~~to~~ D. P. I. is submitted for approval.

NP
29/11/46

[Same as of pp 7-8 ante)

O COTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL

OLCOTT HARIJAN FREE SCHOOLS

25.11.46

Endt. No. 63542 c (or e)
/46 - Edn.
d. 24.10.46

29 NOV 1946

The Secretary,
Dept. of Educ.n and Publ. Health
COPY to The Secretary,
Development Dept.

Dear Mr Subramaniam,

After visiting you, last week I paid a visit to Mr Lobo on another matter, and asked if my papers were returned to you for the question of obtaining a permit to begin to build at once

After consultation with your Dept. it was decided that the permit could be issued there in the terms stated below, to avoid a further visit to you.

The permit is headed from that office, R.C.No. 8165 B6/45 d. 21.11.46 — not recd

"Subject:- Elem. Educ. - Olcott Memorial School, Adyar - Grant for Building damaged by fire - permission to proceed with the work - granted.

"The Correspondent is informed that he may proceed with the construction of the building without prejudice to the question of grant " Sd G.Lobo.

That is the first contact made thro' that Dept. on this question, and I trust that the papers are now back with you or

14

with the Devt. Dept. so that the decision may be reached in due course of the question of a free grant. As you know with the total loss of the class rooms and the furniture, and the decision to work towards a permanent building, we shall be glad to have a fuller grant than possible under the Code, Educ.n. This will help the good work that has been done here continuously with the Harijan children.

Yours truly,

E. Marion Lavender

(Mrs) Correspondent.

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⑧ 9/3/12 4/12 8 13/E9f. H C1

Memo. No. 63542 C1/46- Edn. Dt. 2-12-'46.

Grant - Olcott Memorial School, Adyar - grant for building damaged by fire.

p 1 CF Ref:- Govt. ~~Memo~~ Endt. 63542 C1/46-1 Edn. Dt. 24.x.46.

The D.P.I. is requested to ~~state when~~ expedite ~~the submission of~~ his reply to the Govt. Endt. cited above ~~may be expected~~

4/12

BR 29/11/46.

30/11

BM 2/12/46

COMMISSIONER OF LABOUR
10 FEB 1947

(9)

C1 Education Department.

15/9

From

Dr. S.R.U.Savoor, M.A., D.Sc., I.E.S.,
Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
76876
13 DEC 1946
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Eduation and Public Health Department, Madras.

Rc.8165 B6/46 dated 12-12-1946.

Sir,

Elementary Education - Olcott Memorial School, Adyar - grant for building damaged by fire.

p 1 ante
p 11 ante

Ref: Govt.Memo No.63542 C1/46-1 Edn., dated 24-10-1946 and reminder thereon dated 2-12-1946.

With reference to the above, I have the honour to state that the matter is still under correspondence with the Divisional Inspector of Schools and I will be submitting my reply soon after I hear from him.

R. Narasa

for Director of Public Instruction

h.12-12.

Edn + P.H.
C1

The D.P.I. may be reminded again, if necy, on 4.1.47.

14-12-46

14/12

16/12/46

14/12

⑩ VII Put up to [illegible] 4/1/47

2.1.47

17/10

LCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL

Address:- at The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras

SECY. TO EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
4 - JAN 1947
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

D.O. Letter
concerning [illegible] at above school, & Emergency Grant for Building

The Secretary, Education & Public Health
The Secretariat

Dear Mr Subramaniam,

Since you saw me on my visit about Nov. 12th, nothing has been heard concerning the application for emergency grant for this School. I understood from your assistant that unfortunately the papers had already gone to D.E.O.'s Office to Mr Lobo, but he would obtain them again, as you said it was an emergency grant.

On Nov. 20th, the next week, I visited Mr Lobo on another matter, & also raised the question of this emergency application - had the papers been returned to you? I have since enquired at your Office twice, if they have been returned, & also have

18

written to Mr Lobo, to ask of their whereabouts.

As it is an emergency case, and as the Secretary of the Development Dept., to whom the Labour Commissioner had sent the papers urgently, said that they would be dealt with by him or by you, I shall be glad to hear from you what has happened, for it is now seven weeks since my visit. The papers seem to be held somewhere; whereas they had in the previous seven weeks been sent on urgently!

A

With apologies for the reminder,

Yours truly,
E. Marion Lavender
Correspondent.

Urgent 7/1 7/1 ⑪ 11 19/E&P.H C1

Memo. No. 63542 C1/46-3 Edn. dt. 4.1.47

Elementary Education – Olcott Memorial School, Adyar – grant for building damaged by fire.

p 1 C.F. Govt. ~~Memo~~ Endt. No. 63542 C1/46-1 dt 24.10.46
p 13 C.F. from the D.P.I. No. 8165 B6/46 dt 12.12.46

The D.P.I. is requested to expedite his reply promised in his letter cited above.

dpd 7/1
HP 4.1.47
dp 4/1/47
JM 4/1/47

To
The D.P.I.

20

R.C.NO.8165-B.6/46

(12) C1

21/12

Asst. Secretary to Government
7 JAN 1947
Education and Public Health Dept.

Office of the
Director of Public Instruction,
Madras, Dated 3-1-1947

Commissioner of Labour
FEB 1947

Sub: Building grant - Scheme - Olcott Memorial School, Adyar

954 p1 ante Ref: Letter No.A.3-647-C/46 dated 9-10-46 from the Commissioner of Labour forwarded for remarks in
p 3 ante Govt. Ednt No.63542-C.1/46-1 Edn dated 24-10-46.

Resubmitted.

2. The construction of the building is no doubt urgent and the correspondent has already been permitted to proceed with the construction of the building without prejudice to the question of grant. The plans and estimates are being forwarded to the Consulting Architect to Government for scrutiny and remarks and the scheme will be included in the approved list on receipt of his remarks.

6/1/46
for Director of Public Instruction.

To
The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health Department.

RVR 6/1/-

6.1.47

20

Issue today

P1. keep clean. copy file

⑬

E & P.H. Department. (C1)

23/13

Memo No. 63542 C.1/46 Edn. dated 15-1-47.

Sub: Grant - Building Scheme - Olcott Memorial School, Adyar.

pp 17-18 CF

From the Correspondent, Olcott Memorial School, Adyar dated 2--1--1947.

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p 21 CF

The D.P.I. reports that the Correspondent, Olcott Memorial School, Adyar, has already been permitted to proceed with the construction of the school building without prejudice to the question of grant. She is informed that the question of sanctioning a grant for the scheme is under consideration ~~and that orders will issue in due course~~ & that it is ~~[illegible]~~ in view of the management [illegible] only for the usual grant under the ~~grant~~ rules relating to the grant of recognition and aid to ele. schools ~~[illegible]~~ the question is being considered only on that footing.

do.

[illegible] 11/1/47

J.S.M. 13/1/47

[illegible] 13/1/47

To

The Correspondent,
Olcott Memorial
School, at the
Thesophical Society
Adyar, Madras.

16/1

(14) 14

SECRETARIAT, EDN. AND P. H. DEPT.
20 JAN 1947
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL

Gov. Ms. 63542, C. 1/46-4 d/ 15.1.47
Sub. Building Scheme, O. M. School, Adyar.

From the Correspondent. 20.1.47
To the Secretary,
Education and Public Health Dept.,
Madras

Dear Mr Subramaniam,

Thanks for the above letter, confirming power to proceed with building without prejudice to grant. And, for news that the D.P.I. has recommended only half grant.

Size 40 x 22, rough calculated cost Rs 4,400

I am writing you in order to submit three points:-

1. That before writing your Dept. I had pointed out that we had deliberately not applied thro' the Education Dept. Indeed on that day at the Development Dept. it was definitely said that I should not be sent on there!

2. This was because my Board was aware that the rules of Educn. Dept. permit a grant only

26

of half-building-amount.

3. Wherefore we applied thro' the Labour Commissioner, on the grounds that:- (4, 5, 6)

4. Because of fire-accident, we are building by emergency.

5. And so, asked for an emergency-grant, where the amount must not be limited by rule, but by need.

6. Also, because we are a Harijan School, and a free School, we begged for the extra help, for development: and because of our long-standing work – now, 52½ years.

Due to these points, on behalf of the Olcott Harijan Free School Board, I beg you to reconsider the basis of grant, and to act beyond the recommendation of the D.P.I., (considering that as the usual grant-basis,) and remembering that this is an emergency grant.

Yours truly,
E. Marion Lavender

N.B. This is a totally different application from that made to the Education Dept. for half grant on an additional class-room – to extend school. Rs 2950

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(15) No. Ref. Mem 63542. C. 1/46-4 Edn d. 15.1.47 22 p23 ante

LCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL

Olcott [illegible] Schools
Adyar, Madras
21.1.4

SECRETARY, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
22 JAN 1947
4227
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

15

Mr M.V.Subramaniam, I.C.S.
The Secretary,
Dept. Education and Public Health

Dear Mr Subramaniam,

Yesterday I called on the Labour Commissioner and told him that you could only proceed with the grant for the building lost by fire of above school, replacement for 140 children, on the basis of his recommendation. This was not for half the cost of the buildings, please, but I had asked for R.7000 - and apparently it was half of this only that was recommended.

The Commissioner was sympathetic. His memory was that he had been favourable to a request for a very large grant, the R.7000 -the Collector's letter he had not remembered.

I am enclosing a copy of the letter he asked me to send him applying for a pp29-31 reconsideration of his recommendation. I will send you also by later post a copy of the details given in with our application note, that was handed in on my interview of Sept. 17th. At present I am enclosing a rough draft made of those details. The other will please be for your files. This present (and incomplete) draft, I send with a request to you - please will you telephone to the Commissioner, and see if you can arrange in

p33 infra

28

some fashion a procedure that will enable the school either to recive full building costs, or, the 7000 that was first asked. It will mean very much indeed to us in this work.

Yours truly,

Correspondent.

16

Copy to the Secretary, Dept Education & Public Health. 29 ~~31~~

OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL
ADYAR, MADRAS

16

FEB 1947

TO Mr C. J. VIJARAGAVAN, I.C.S. - Labur Commissioner

FROM The Correspondent, Olcott Harijan Free Schools.
21.1.47 address, at The Theosophical Society, Adyar

Dear Sir,

Following on my interview with you yesterday, may I request you for an earnest reconsideration of the grounds of your recommendation to the Development Dept. on behalf of grant for rebuilding of above school due to loss of premises by fire accident

plaint

To summarise the purport of yesterday's call on you - I heard on 7th inst from the Secretary, Educ. and Public Health Dep, in whose hands the papers now are that the grant question would now be considered on the basis of recommendation of half the amount needed. I saw him yesterday, and one or two tangles were discovered, but on the basis of your initial recommendation for Rs 3500 he can do no other than proceed in that way. Then you found that no copy of my original application was in your files. I am enclosing a copy of that and also a copy of the status (summary) of the school, that was sent with the original, for your files. Please note that the first request for an interview went to your private address. But the first interview was at your office, and that you had asked that the application be made thro' the Dt. Collector.

The summary shows clearly our request for an emergency grant. We asked for a grant of Rs 7000. It has been a misconception on my part, but I had thought thro'out that this was the basis of recommendation, for as reported we would have gone direct to the Education Dept. had it been a case of the "half-grant for building" But this was an emergency.

Also the summary shows that we were anxious not to run the risk of that fire accident again . Added figures show that the loss was underest-

17 2. 17 3

OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL
ADYAR, MADRAS

imated. In addition there had just been spent that summer the usual replacement of leaves on the thatties and repair to cement floor that comes at least every second year. About Rs 300 would be the share of th hat shed.

Please consider again a further recommendation, on the grounds that this is an emergency fire case, and that it is a question of improving educational conditions in a school with a fine record. That it is too a part of the development work in connection with a Harijan school.

If you will notice in the summary the Board has to collect to make up the deficit on this school alone, over Rs 5000 per year, you will realise that we are making an effort even if we replaced the furniture only.

Yours truly,

E. Marion Lavender.

Correspondent.

(18)

Copy: From E. Marion Lavender
Correspondent
Olcott Memorial Schools
Adyar, Madras

~~33~~ 18

16.9.46

Details for Labour Commissioner –
Fire at Olcott School

(1) Present estimate of loss
Thathed shed, cement floor, cement pillars;
= 3 classrooms, to house 140 children;
Furniture equipment.

(2) Need for permanent building
It would be insurable
Better conditions for education

(3) a Free School for Harijans of 52 years standing

(4) Strong emphasis on Handicrafts throughout.
Net, coir, & palm leaf work. Clay modelling
Sewing, hand & machine embroidery,
Spinning, weaving, carpentry, gardening.

(5) Strong numerical growth of school in recent years
655 place 638 on roll
About 60% Harijans.

(6) additional room required.

(7) Cost of permanent building, of 4 rooms Rs 7,700
without equipment.

(8) School has worked for past years with deficit of Rs 5000 & over

Sent to Secretary,
Education and
Public Health Dept.
(With fuller copy to follow.)
21.1.47
for
information

p35
infra

Copy to Secretary, Dept of Education and Public Health

OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL
ADYAR, MADRAS.

35 Last letter to Correspondent Mem. No. 63542. C. 1/46 4 Edn d/15.1.47

SENT FOR FILES
21.1.47

19

COPY OF
1Formal application through the Dt. Collector
and
2. Details of status of school, loss, etc as sent to Collector and Commissioner

N.B. Original application made to Labour Commissioner, and interview, on Sept. 17 1946, also summary of status.

1. (APPLICATION FOR EMERGENCY GRANT" FIRE ACCIDENT - REQUEST WAS FOR R. 7000)
TRUE COPY - From the Correspondent, Olcott Harijan Free Schools
To, The District Collector, Chingleput 18.9.46

Dear Sir,

ACCIDENT BY FIRE AT OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL
Saturday, 14.9.46, 6p.m., by accident from neighbouring village

In our emergency yesterday I reported our loss direct, to the Labour Commissioner. He was sympathetic to our case for an emergency grant, to rebuild. However he asked me to make this application first through you, since you know the school and its worthy conditions for grant.

You will know best in what direction this application can be made workable. I beg you to give it earnest consideration, and if it is necessary, to pass it forward, to send it with your strong recommendation, in the best direction where such money ~~may~~ be available (can)

I have drawn up a statement of our position, summarised, which I append.

Yours truly, Sd. - E. M. L.
Correspondent
(Mrs) (M.A., L.L.A.)

2. (TRUE COPY) From the Correspondent, Olcott Harijan Free Schools

FIRE AT OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL. Through accident from neighbouring village.
QUESTION OF REBUILDING

STATUS, etc, of the School

1. Present estimate of loss at rebuilding costs.
   Thatched shed of 3 classrooms, to house 140 children;
   cement floor, cement pillars;
   furniture and teaching equipment Rs 2,500

2. A PERMANENT BUILDING needed
   It would be insurable
   Better conditions for education

3. A FREE SCHOOL for HARIJANS, working for 52 years
   Nowadays about 60% are Harijans
   ~~xx433~~ FREE meals to 25% - FREE books to 25%

4. A strong emphasis on HANDICRAFTS throughout
   Net, coir and palm leaf work, clay modelling
   Sewing, hand and machine, embroidery

5. Strong numerical growth of school in recent years
   655 places, 638 on roll
   Highre Elementary School (Complete. 8 Standards)

6. Teaching staff: 16. - remuneration good
   E.H.G. 30 a 1 - 45 SEC. Grade35-2/2 - 55
   Dearness allowance has been paid for over three years
   " " raised to 16 and 18from 1.2.46,
   retrospective to 1.7.45

7. Additional room required
   Recently 100 children refused admission for lack of space

8. Estimated cost of permanent building of 4 rooms Rs 7700 → Rs 7700
   Cost of building if 3 rooms only, Rs. 6200
   Now it costing Rs 8000 odd

9. School has worked for past few years having to raise a deficit of Rs 5000

Please note that Rs 3,500 is not even half the estimated building cost - for which I might have applied in ordinary course to the Education Dept.
E. M. L.

20

29

37
20

ACTIVITY

N THE

OLCOTT FREE SCHOOLS

FOR HARIJANS

1947

THE FIELD OF WORK

The purpose of the schools is strongly upheld. The proportion of Harijans is maintained at about 60%, the general intermingling thus shown being for the good of the individuals, and a foretaste of their future. Individuals benefit, for where education has been mainly lacking in past generations, when they work in their own groups in such proportions the difference in capacity does not form a hindrance. Better opportunities are thus given to use suitable subjects and methods.

The schools are free, and by their help literacy has been spread, and the villages improved. In one of the neighbouring villages is Damodarapuram Educational Centre for night work, with a teacher to help, and Library and Reading-room, instead of the former night-school, made difficult by war conditions. The level of literacy in this village is high. 60% of the men of forty and under are literate, a great contrast with the average illiteracy for the country, which is 86%. There are others beyond forty who are literate also. This is a result of the fifty-two years work of the main school, where the children have attended, and in later years of the work of teaching adults in the night School.

In the Olcott Kuppam School, that is, the junior school in that fishermen's village, south, on the near-by coast,— there are some sixty children, taught to Standard II, thence to transfer to the Olcott Memorial School. In spite of the fact that education is compulsory, it is hard to effect these transfers, where the poverty is so great. The children go out to earn, instead.

The last Inspection Report for this school says:—"Games are well conducted. Parents' meetings are held twice in the year. Midday meals are supplied to all pupils, and free books and slates. These are a further inducement to children to join the school and become literate. The management spares no effort to achieve this in this lethargic and indifferent fisherman area. The school continues to be popular, and rendered useful service to the locality for several years past, and so deserves encouragement by Government aid . . . An increase of grant is proposed for the efficiency of the school."

At the Olcott Memorial School (Higher Elementary) the number on roll is 638. When the projected nursery class is opened the number will probably be 665-670. Teaching goes to Standard VIII, and there are only 10 such Schools in the area, out of about 250. This is one of the largest Harijan Schools in the Presidency. Scholars come to it from miles around, especially for work in the upper Classes, which are not catered for even in Mylapore, so large a residential district of Madras.

FORWARD LOOKING.

The type of education given is definitely Theosophical, for the Theosophical spirit of self-awakening runs through all subjects, including the three R's. To arouse the scholars to appreciate their own culture is the aim and project of the schools. That cultural sense, it is recognized to-day, can be developed in an even purely technical education, not alone through Arts and Crafts.

But CRAFTS form a right "royal road to learning" for these children, so the school is known for its specialization in them. Then the children learn to garden, really a home art with many of them. They have a variety of crafts, the choice giving them the possibility to find their own best means of expression. They begin in the lower classes with work in sand and clay, in palm leaf, nets, and coir, and go on to hand and machine sewing, to embroidery, and spinning, weaving and carpentry. There is a strong stress on music, which is optional in the syllabus, as are the crafts. Grant-earning means that only so much, —so little,— time is allowed for them. But now from the earliest days, when first Montessori apparatus is used, crafts are followed, maintaining the long standing traditions of the Schools, when Kindergarten methods were first adopted, on to the days when a Teachers' Centre was run. So not only do the art and the hands help to train the mind, but they help the heart, forming an outlet for self-expression. The time given to crafts is far less than in the idea of the Wardha Scheme advocated by the Congress, and is different from the suggestions of the "Post-War Educational Development in India Report" of January 1944, commonly called the Sargent Report. Thus, with little time, the crafts are not self supporting nor yet a source of profit, though the financial side of the work is known to the young craftsman, and work is sold on an economic basis to them, and on Parents Days and at Exhibitions. The absorption of these workmen in their craft is a joy to them and to the observer.

Music, and communal games, and rural dances, are used at the many celebrations kept in the schools. For this is both a world in miniature, and a family in large. Local and religious festivals are celebrated simply. Stress is laid on the community side in the school anniversaries, where great workers are honoured, as Dr. Besant, and on February 17th, Founder's Day, when the picture of Colonel Olcott looks down at the Annual Sports day. Then visitors, and workers from The Theosophical Society are present with their great interest in the schools. The school is without religious bias, while it favours strongly a religious outlook. Prayers are said and sung in common, the children using the prayers of the different faiths to which they belong.

BODILY WELL BEING

Physical well being has been the care of the schools from the beginning. The daily bath is taught as an object lesson, the seniors helping the tiny new-comers, until at last the daily bath and clean clothes become a home habit. A visitor recently observed how this progress was marked in the school by the change in appearance in the classes from lower to higher, the ideal of self-respect being awakened. Cleansing of eyes, ears, teeth, are examined twice weekly until the higher Standards where pupils have reached their own sense of dignity in this matter. Ill-nourished bodies have not enough material to send to their brains to stand much school work, so in the main school, for many years the very poor children have been provided with a mid-day meal, about twentyfive percent of those on roll. Three or four times a year all the schools make gay with tiffin on certain days of celebration. The mid-day meal for the whole Olcott Kuppam School is cooked by women of their own group. These things form a part of a very necessary background when pupils come from homes where only one meal a day is the order. Indeed meals can and do attract to school, and help to further the ideal of education.

In the matter of Medical Care the schools have long been in advance. Not only were they first in the field here for medical inspection, but also they go beyond that step of annual inspection, with after-care, for the Medical Officer of Health for The Society is always available in case of need, caring as he does for the villages around. The simple medicines for slight common ailments are provided too, for immediate school treatment— colds for example. Daily First Aid is rendered by the scholars who study it as part of their civics, and by the Junior Red Cross, a group of which is active in the school, always under supervision of a teacher, trained in First Aid. Then the Baby Welcome of The Society has care of the village mothers and children throughout the area, and thus there is a watchful eye kept on the children of pre-school age. This gives a better opportunity for after-years.

THE YOUNG CITIZEN AT WORK

Education towards living is the practical custom of present days. To achieve it, not merely the power for self-expression on all sides of educational life is to be re-awakened, but the quality that should result, SELF-GOVERNMENT, is to be put into practice. Various ways are followed. Scholars form committees, responsible for the care of certain aspects of school life. Excursions and camps foster it, and continue the principle of community life. Parents' Days encourage with pride the interchange of home and school. Inter-school sports keep the school in relation with other schools. Exhibition Days develop the sense of worth of the school and the value of education. After-hours games carry the spirit of joy into daily life. The strongest extra-school activity is the large and fine Scouting Group, with a quarter of the school as its members, Cubs and Bulbuls, Boy and Girl Scouts. The Junior Red Cross plays a noble part. Such activities and methods foster the whole life of the child, rounding it out, enabling him to find a niche in the school world that may fit him for finding his true way in after life.

SCHOOL ENDED.

Pride in the work of the Olcott Harijan Free Schools is marked in the villages, and in the old scholars, who realise that if the Board had not undertaken these things locally, by and large they might not have been done. Old scholars, or their children later, often become employees on the Theosophical Society estate, as peons, servants, and in the Garden and Engineering Department or as peons or workers with special training for the Theosophical Publishing House, and for the Vasanta Press. One became Records Assistant in the Library. Some have become teachers. Two of these have followed in the path of early days and are back here as teachers; one is one of the early pupils, the other has now joined the Staff on completing her course of Elementary Higher Grade Training.

Scholars go out to such work also, as well as following trades and crafts. One of the activities to be developed at once is the formation of an after-care committee, with a type of employment bureau. As the schools have good standing in Madras this should prove successful. For although the main school does not rate highly its percentage of success in the School Leaving Examinations recently, its value is known, and the school is one of the six best in the area in that result. On this school the current report from the Inspector closes with the words, " A well organised and well managed school in good tone."

ONWARD TO MARCH

Many things remain to do, progress is never standing. About two-thirds of the school-rooms are palm-leaf thatched with bamboo plaited tattie walls and doors, on a cement flooring. The Board has now a definite policy to replace these with permanent buildings, as funds may be available. It is a long-run economy, as the biennial cost of repair for walls and roofs is, under present conditions, with materials scarce, very heavy. A new room or cottage is now under construction, an additional class-room which will finally work out for the better housing of the carpentry work — the first step in this plan.

The staff is responsible for school attendance. When the authorities find a sound method of keeping the enactments for compulsory education, attendance will improve, and greater value be obtained from the education provided. It will mean that the degree of promotions from class to class will rise. As it is, the level for the main school stood this last year at 70%, against the norm of 75% in this area. This is good for this class of school, and the levels vary from year to year with the type of children and with prosperity. Higher than the norm has been obtained. One of the present needs is to increase this, to ensure the compulsory attendance in the Olcott Kuppam, and thence to have full drafting to the main school. Then, to follow on, scholars and parents are to be drawn towards the ideals of education, so that pupils will remain at school at least until Standard V, even though the age level is reached earlier; and the number of those who go forward through the school to Standard VIII is to be increased. This way the school keeps in full tune with the educational progress desired in India. So also is the next project part of the forward policy in education. A nursery class for the "fives-and-under" is planned, where, through constructive play and group life, the sense of attraction to education will develop. This will finally help to lower the average age of each class, increase the number of promotions, and the length of time for school life.

Card indices, a card for each scholar with his school record, will show how far the difficulties on those points, have been overcome. Intelligence tests, giving the mental ratio of the child, will show where new scholars stand and where backward children will need help. The care of the individual child is to be more largely stressed. To this end, and that children may be aided in seeing school work as a whole, a careful practical correlation of the syllabus is planned. Much of the work to be done is routine work, but it can be planned on progressive lines. Pioneering days may be over, but there yet remains so much of adventure in experiments for the development of modes, how best to help the individual when there are so many masses who need education, that there is room for enthusiastic workers. The Staff is suited to the strength of the schools and is well-provided. The Staff it is who carry out the work outlined with patient and self-sacrificing endeavour, with love for the cause for which they are working, and among them the Headmaster is verily head, leader, with his earnest zeal for the schools he runs so well.

E. Marion Lavender,

CORRESPONDENT.

48

A.G. Press, Bza. P I C K9. 500-1-1-47

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26 49

A.3. 6470/46

Office of the Commissioner of Labour,
Chepauk, Madras, dated 23-1-1947.

8433

From

C.K. Vijayaraghavan Esq., I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Labour, Madras.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Development Department, Madras.

Sir,

Discretionary grant-Olcott Memorial School Adyar-Building destroyed by fire-Reconstruction-Application for.

p. labour

Ref:-My letter No.A.3. 6470/46 dated 9-10-1946.

A grant of Rs. 3,500/- was recommended by me in the reference cited as a special case for the Olcott Memorial School, Adyar for the reconstruction of the school building which was destroyed by fire. The Correspondent Miss. E. Marion Lavender has represented to me that the cost of the reconstruction has increased and that it is now estimated at Rs. 7,000/-. She states that the grant of Rs. 3,500/- is insufficient and requests that the entire cost of the reconstruction may be borne by Government, as the school is now run with a deficit of Rs. 5,000/- The school is reported to be doing good work for the education of Harijans and deserves encouragement from the Government. I, therefore, recommend that Rs. 7,000/- may be granted for reconstructing the school.

Z

below

PP 51-66 below

A copy of her letter dated 21-1-1947 together with the three enclosures in original referred to by her is enclosed.

As the year is drawing to a close and the grant applied for is an emergent one, very early orders of Government are requested.

Encl: copy of letter & 3 Encls

P.S.24/1

V. Balasubramaniam

For Commissioner of Labour.

24/1

Copy of letter dated 21-1-1947 from the Correspondent, Olcott Harijan Free Schools, Adyar.

Following on my interveiw with you yesterday may I request you for an earnest reconsideration of the grounds of your recommendation to the Development Department on behalf of grant for rebuilding of above school due to loss of premises by fire accident.

To summarise the purport of yesterday's call on you—I heard on 17th instant from the Secretary, Education and Public Health Department, in whose hands the papers now are that the grant question would now be considered on the basis of recommendation of half the amount needed. I saw him yesterday and one or two tangles were discovered but on the basis of your initial recomendation for Rs. 3500/- he can do no other than proceed in that way. Then you found that no copy of my original application was in your files. I am enclosing a copy of that and also a copy of the status (summary) of the school that was sent with the original for your files. Please note that the first request for an interview went to your private address. But the first interview was at your office and that you had asked that the application be made through the District Collector.

PP 57-86 below

M

The summary shows clearly our request for an emergency grant. We asked for a grant of Rs. 7000/-. It has been a misconception on my part but I had thought thro'out that this was the basis of recommendation for as reported, we would have gone direct to the Education Department had it been a case of half grant for building. But this was an emergency.

Also the summary shows that we were anxious not to run the risk of that fire accident again. Added figures show that the loss was underestimated. In addition, there had just been spent that summer the usual replacement of leaves and thatties and repair to cement floor that comes at least every second year. About Rs. 300 would be the share of that shed.

Please consider again a further recommendation on the grounds that this i
an emergency fire case and that it is a question of improving educational

conditions in school with a fine record. That it is too a part of the development work in connection with a harijan school.

If you will notice in the summary the Board has to collect to make up the deficit on this school alone over Rs. 5000/- per year, you will realise that we are making an effort even if we replaced the furniture only.

******

(True copy)

Sd/- V. Bahadur
For Commissioner of Labour.

P.S.24/1

24/1

Dev. Dept (P II

E & PH U.O. in continuation of
Dev. U.O. No. 76088 P II/46-1 d/19-10-46.

28.1.47

28/1/47

Dev. U.O. 8433 P II/47-1
29.1.47

E & P.H.

C1

The file on this subject ~~was~~ is being transferred to Dev. with this dept. Lr. No. 6354 C1/46 Edn d 30.1.47. This file also may be returned to that dept.

30/1/47

Dev.

Edn. U.O. 7004 C1/46-1
30.1.47

10343 P II

FOURTH ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVT. DEVELOPMENT
31 JAN 1947

Copy to Labour Commissioner 21.1.47

OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL

To the Secretary,
Education and Public Health Dept.
Mem. No. 6354 C 1/46-4 dtd/15.1.47
Sub.- Building Scheme - O.M. School, Adyar
From the Correspondent 20.1.47

Dear Mr Subramaniam

Thanks for the above letter, confirming power to proceed with building without prejudice to grant. And for news that the D.P.I has recommended only half grant.

Size 70×21½ though [illegible] Rs 1400

I am visiting you in order to submit three points -

1. That before visiting your Dept. I had pointed out that we had deliberately not applied thro' the Education Dept. Indeed on that day at the Development Dept. it was definitely said that I should not be sent on there!

2. This was because my Board was aware that the rules of the Educn. Dept. permit a grant only of half building amount.

~~4~~ 3. Wherefore we applied too the Labour Commissioner, on the grounds that:- (4, 5. 6)

52

4. Because of fire-accident we are building by emergency.

5. And so, asked for an emergency grant, where the amount need not be limited by rule but by need

6. Also because we are a Harijan School, and a free school, we begged for the extra help for development and because of our outstanding work - now 52¼ years

Due to these points on behalf of the Olcott Harijan Free School Board, I beg you to reconsider the basis of grant, and to act beyond the recommendation of the D.P.I. (considering that as the usual grant basis) and remembering that this is an emergency grant

Yours truly
E Marion Lavender

Re Letter of Labour Commissioner to Dev Gt Dept.
Ref. No. A3. 6440 /46 dated 9.10.46

53 ~~5~~ 28

OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL,
ADYAR, MADRAS.

COPY OF
1 For[illegible] application through the Dt. Collector
and
2. Details of status of school, loss, etc as sent to Collector and Commissioner

SENT FOR FILES
21.1.47

N.B. Original application made to Labour Commissioner, and interview, on Sept. 17 1946, also summary of status. ✓

1. (APPLICATION FOR EMERGENCY GRANT" FIRE ACCIDENT - REQUEST WAS FOR R. 7000)

TRUE COPY - From the Correspondent, Olcott Harijan Free Schools
To, The District Collector, Chingleput 18.9.46

Dear Sir,

ACCIDENT BY FIRE AT OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL
Saturday, 14.9.46, 6p.m., by accident from neighbouring village

In our emergency yesterday I reported our loss direct, to the Labour Commissioner. He was sympathetic to our case for an emergency grant, to rebuild. However he asked me to make this application first through you, since you know the school and its worthy conditions for grant.

You will know best in what direction this application can be made workable. I beg you to give it earnest consideration, and if it is necessary, to pass it forward, to send it with your strong recommendation, in the best direction where such money ~~may~~ be available (can)

I have drawn up a statement of our position, summarised, which I append.

Yours truly,
(Mrs) Sd - E.M.L.
Correspondent
(M.A., L.L.A.)

2. (TRUE COPY) From the Correspondent, Olcott Harijan Free Schools
FIRE AT OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL. Through accident from neighbouring village.
QUESTION OF REBUILDING

STATUS, etc, of the School

1. Present estimate of loss at rebuilding costs.
   Thatched shed of 3 classrooms, to house 140 children;
   cement floor, cement pillars;
   furniture and teaching equipment Rs 2,500

2. A PERMANENT BUILDING needed
   It would be insurable
   Better conditions for education

3. A FREE SCHOOL for HARIJANS, working for 52 years
   Nowadays about 60% are Harijans
   ~~xxxxx~~ FREE meals to 25% - FREE books to 25%

4. A strong emphasis on HANDICRAFTS throughout
   Net, coir and palm leaf work, clay modelling
   Sewing, hand and machine, embroidery

5. Strong numerical growth of school in recent years
   655 places, 638 on roll
   Highre Elementary School (Complete. 8 Standards)

6. Teaching staff, 16. - remuneration good
   E.H.G. 30 a 1 - 45 SEC. Grade35-2/2 - 55
   Dearness allowance has been paid for over three years
   " " raised to 16 and 18from 1.2.46, retrospective to 1.7.45

7. Additional room required
   Recently 100 children refused admission for lack of space ✓

8. Estimated cost of permanent building of 4 rooms Rs 7700 → Rs 7700
   Cost of building if 3 rooms only, Rs, 6200

9. School has worked for past few years having to raise a deficit of Rs 5000

Now it costing Rs 8000 odd.

Please note that Rs 3,500 is not even half the estimated building cost - for which I might have applied in ordinary course to the Education Dept.
E.M.L.

29 55 ~~15~~

ACTIVITY
IN THE
OLCOTT FREE SCHOOLS
FOR HARIJANS

THE FIELD OF WORK

The purpose of the schools is strongly upheld. The proportion of Harijans is maintained at about 60%, the general intermingling thus shown being for the good of the individuals, and a foretaste of their future. Individuals benefit, for where education has been mainly lacking in past generations, when they work in their own groups in such proportions the difference in capacity does not form a hindrance. Better opportunities are thus given to use suitable subjects and methods.

The schools are free, and by their help literacy has been spread, and the villages improved. In one of the neighbouring villages is Damodarapuram Educational Centre for night work, with a teacher to help, and Library and Reading-room, instead of the former night-school, made difficult by war conditions. The level of literacy in this village is high. 60% of the men of forty and under are literate, a great contrast with the average illiteracy for the country, which is 86%. There are others beyond forty who are literate also This is a result of the fifty-two years work of the main school, where the children have attended, and in later years of the work of teaching adults in the night School.

In the Olcott Kuppam School, that is, the junior school in that fishermen's village, south, on the near-by coast,— there are some sixty children, taught to Standard III, thence to transfer to the Olcott Memorial School. In spite of the fact that education is compulsory, it is hard to effect these transfers, where the poverty is so great. The children go out to earn, instead.

The last Inspection Report for this school says:— "Games are well conducted. Parents' meetings are held twice in the year. Midday meals are supplied to all pupils, and free books and slates These are a further inducement to children to join the school and become literate. The management spares no effort to achieve this in this lethargic and indifferent fisherman area. The school continues to be popular, and rendered useful service to the locality for several years past, and so deserves encouragement by Government aid . . . An increase of grant is proposed for the efficiency of the school."

At the Olcott Memorial School (Higher Elementary) the number on roll is 638. When the projected nursery class is opened the number will probably be 665-670. Teaching goes to Standard VIII, and there are only 10 such Schools in the area, out of about 250. This is one of the largest Harijan Schools in the Presidency. Scholars come to it from miles around, especially for work in the upper Classes, which are not catered for even in Mylapore, so large a residential district of Madras.

BODILY WELL BEING

Physical well being has been the care of the schools from the beginning. The daily bath is taught as an object lesson, the seniors helping the tiny new-comers, until at last the daily bath and clean clothes become a home habit. A visitor recently observed how this progress was marked in the school by the change in appearance in the classes from lower to higher, the ideal of self-respect being awakened. Cleansing of eyes, ears, teeth, are examined twice weekly until the higher Standards where pupils have reached their own sense of dignity in this matter. Ill-nourished bodies have not enough material to send to their brains to stand much school work, so in the main school, for many years the very poor children have been provided with a mid-day meal, about twentyfive percent of those on roll. Three or four times a year all the schools make gay with tiffin on certain days of celebration. The mid-day meal for the whole Olcott Kuppam School is cooked by women of their own group. These things form a part of a very necessary background when pupils come from homes where only one meal a day is the order. Indeed meals can and do attract to school, and help to further the ideal of education.

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THE YOUNG CITIZEN AT WORK

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ONWARD TO MARCH

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H 64

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E. Marion Lavender,

CORRESPONDENT.

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A3'

A.G. Press, Bza. P I C. K9. 500-1-1-47.

D.O. No 475-C/47-2

C.No 15601

67

~~15700~~

PRIVATE SECRETARY MADRAS

~~MADRAS GOVERNOR'S CAMP~~ 35

Government House,
Guindy,
13th February 1947.

FOURTH ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
17 FEB 1947
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

1712

P2

En. H

My dear Sivasankar,

Grant to Olcott Harijan Free School, Adyar.

Mrs. Lavender, Correspondent of the above school has made representations to His Excellency that the school building was accidentally destroyed by fire in September, 1946. She put in an application through the Commissioner of Labour for a grant of Rs.7,000/- to reconstruct the building. The full cost of reconstruction was originally estimated at Rs.7,700/- and is now estimated at Rs.8,500/-. She has been permitted to start construction without waiting for a decision on her application for a grant and without prejudice to such a decision. There has apparently been some doubt as to whether this grant was a matter for the Development Secretariat or for the Education & Public Health Secretariat. Could you kindly let me know for His Excellency's information at what stage the matters stands and when a decision is likely to be reached.

Yours sincerely,

A J Platt

T. Sivasankar, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Development Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.

A3'

A.G. Press, Bza. P I. C. K9. 500-1-1-47.

D.O. No 475-C/47-2

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Secretary, Development Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.

D.O. No. 475-C/47-1

C1. (36) P II 36

PRIVATE SECRETARY MADRAS

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

FOURTH ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOV.
22 FEB 1947
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

13225

17526

~~MADRAS GOVERNOR'S CAMP~~
22-2-47
Government House,
Guindy,
13th February, 1947.

My dear Subramanian,

Grant to Olcott Harijan Free School, Adyar.

Mrs. Lavender, Correspondent of the above school has made representations to His Excellency that the school building was accidentally destroyed by fire in September, 1946. She put in an application through the Commissioner of Labour for a grant of Rs.7,000/- to reconstruct the building. The full cost of reconstruction was originally estimated at Rs.7,700/- and is now estimated at Rs.8,300/-. She has been permitted to start construction without waiting for a decision on her application for a grant and without prejudice to such a decision. There has apparently been some doubt as to whether this grant was a matter for the Development Secretariat or for the Education & Public Health Secretariat. Could you kindly let me know for His Excellency's information at what stage the matters stands and when a decision is likely to be reached.

put up in file transferred to Secr. Agri

A

Yours sincerely,

AJPlatt

M.V. Subramanian, Esq., ICS.,
Secretary, Education & Public Health Dept.,
Fort St. George, Madras.

2 70

E+P. H
C1

Please see the D.O. letter from the P.S.G. at p. 1 ante.

The file on the above subject was finally transferred to the Dev. Dept in this dept. U.O. 62542 C1/46-7 dt 20.1.47. This may also be transferred to that dept; they may be requested to ~~who will personally~~ send a reply to the P.S.G.

A onplant

18/2/47.

18/2/47

20/2/47 3

Dev.

Edn. U.O. 13225 C1/47-1 20.2.47

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37 71

Education and Public Health Department.

Subject: Grant--Building--Olcott Memorial School, Adyar, Payment sanctioned.

****

p.21 CF
p25CF
p49CF

Ref: From the Director of Public Instruction No.8165 B-6/46 dated 3-1-1947.
From the Correspondent, Olcott Memorial School, Adyar d/20-1-47
From the Commissioner of Labour No. 6470/46 dated 23-1-1947.

*****

ORDER/MIS. NO. 829 EDUCATION DATED 26.4.47

The Government sanction as a special case the payment in 1947-48 of a ~~half~~ grant not exceeding Rs. ~~3500/ (Rupees Three thousand five hundred only~~ 5000 (Rupees five thousand) to the management of the Olcott Memorial School (Higher Elementary), Adyar, towards the cost of construction of a pucca tiled shed in the place of the thatched shed destroyed by fire in September 1946. The grant will be disbursed in accordance with the rules relating to building grants for elementary schools under private management.

I/18CF

-2-

72

-2-

The expenditure will be debited to "37-Education", necessary funds being provided ~~x~~ either by re-appropriation or by obtaining a supplementary grant.

22/3/47

1 To the D.P.I.
2 To the Commr. of Labour.
3 The Correspondent, ~~of~~ Olcott Memorial School, Adyar.
4 The A. G. through Finance.
5 Copy to the Dev. Deptt.

Despd 22-4-47

Despd & clear 4135 28/4/47

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(78)

Edn. and P.H. Department (C1)

38

Grant - Building - Olcott Memorial School, Adyar.

From the Commr. of Labour, No. A.3.6470/46,
dated 9--10--46.
From the Correspondent, Olcott Memorial School,
dated 2---1--47.
From the D.P.I. Rc. No. 8165 B6/46 dated
3---1-47.

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pp 1-2 CF
pp 17-18 CF
p 21 CF
p 1 CF

The building of the Olcott Memorial School, Adyar, was destroyed by fire on 14--9--46. For the reasons stated in his letter read above, the Commissioner of Labour recommends that a building grant of Rs. 3,500 may be sanctioned as a special case to the school for the construction of a new school building. The D.P.I. reports that he has permitted the Correspondent of the school to proceed with the construction of the building without prejudice to the question of grant— please see ~~copy of~~ his letter No. 8165 B6/46 dated ~~21--11-46~~ 3-1-47. He proposes to include the scheme in the list of approved works after obtaining the remarks of the Consulting Architect to Government. If this is done, in the ordinary course the grant will become payable in 1948-49 after considering the proposal as a part II scheme for that year. The correspondent seems to expect a grant in the current year itself or at least early next year and this can be ~~done~~ sanctioned as a special case, only if any portion of the provision in the budget remains unutilised. For orders whether the Director may be asked whether it will possible to disburse the grant this year or early next year. Dev. and Finance may see.

p 21 CF

pp 17-18

A draft Memo to the correspondent is also submitted.

13/1/47

5093 PII
17.1.47

Dev.
Fin.

E. Dn. Memo. 63542 C1/46-4 Edn
15.1.47.

Dev. Deptt (PII)

4

Dev Dept

The notes of E&P.H. Dept. on pp 1-3 above and the C. L.'s letter on p 49 c.f. may be perused. It is not usual for the Labour Dept to pay ~~any~~ building grants to aided schools even though such schools may be intended mainly for the benefit of Harijans. Though the C. of L. has recommended the payment of a special building grant of Rs 7000/- to the Olcott Memorial School, Adyar, he has not stated from which budget head the amount should be met and whether there is any ~~provision~~ savings available in the current year to meet this expenditure, if it is the intention to debit this expenditure to the Labour Dept. budget. This case may perhaps be sent to the C. of L. u.o. for remarks on these points and also for remarks generally on the other issues raised in this file. The C. of L. may also be requested in this connection to indicate whether there have been any similar cases previously in which building grants were granted to aided educational institutions from the Labour Dept. budget and if so, to specify the Govt orders in which those grants were sanctioned.

p 49 cf

A3

4/2/47

6/2 (W) JS

C. L. U.O.

7/2 G L u.o.

Dt. U.O. 8433 P.II /47-2
8.2.47

40

U.O.No.A3-6470/46.

Office of the Commissioner of Labpur,
P.II Chepauk, Madras,
20th February 1947.

16812

Fourth Assistant Secretary to Development Dept.
FEB 1947

p.10 of (F)

p.124 of Bk.34

The Labour Dept. can give grants-in-aid for school buildings, hostels or boarding homes in accordance with G.O.No.Ms.2414 L., P.W.& L., dated 27-8-29 and article 211 of the Madras Financial Code, Vol.I. The Government have directed that in such cases, the procedure laid down in Rules 53 & 54 of Chapter VIII of the Grant-in-aid Code of the Madras Educational Dept. should be followed.

In the following cases, the Government have sanctioned half grants through the Labour Dept.:-

p.15 of (M)

(1) Rs.2275/- for the construction of an additional building for the Boys' Boarding Home of the Depressed Classes Mission, Mangalore. Please see G.O.No. Ms. 580 Dev. Dept., dated 8-4-36.

p.39 of (E)

(2) Rs.2500/- for the construction of a building for the Hostel attached to Sree Krshnashramam Harijan Industrial School, Guntur. Please see G.O., No.Ms. 964 P.W.(LO., dated 27-3-42.

The grants were debited to "47 Misc. Depts. - a Labour - D. Communities eligible for help by the Labour Dept.- Education - Grants-in-aid - Building grants".

As the Olcott Memorial School which is mainly intended for the education of Harijans has been destroyed by fire, and as the correspondent is in urgent need of financial assistance for the reconstuction of the destroyed sheds, a full grant has been recommended to Government as a special case.

M

I consider that in the case of aided institutions intended specially for the education of the Harijans, the grants-in-aid (either full or half grants according to the merits of each case) should be given through the Labour Dept. and not the Education Dept. The Education Dept. will, however, be consulted by the Labour Dept, whenever necessary.

X

There is no provision to meet the expenditure of Rs.7000/- applied for by the Olcott Memorial School in the current year.

If the Government are pleased to sanction the grant as a special case and decide that it should be debited to the Labour Dept. budget, necessary allotment may be provided under the budget head mentioned above in the statement of Additional Allotment and Surrenders already submitted to Government.

G. Vijayaraghava Rao

Commissioner of Labour.

Joint Secy. Dev.
u.o.

29/2/47

(xi) 41 7

Dev. Dept.

The Olcott Memorial School, Adyar, is a higher elementary school with standards upto VIII. Out of the total strength 638 in this school about 250 are members of the scheduled classes. The school is managed by the Theosophical Society, Adyar. On 14-9-46 at about 6 p.m. one of the thatched sheds of this school measuring 61' X 18' accidentally caught fire and was completely burnt down with all furniture and equipment. The total loss is estimated at Rs. 2500/-. In the place of the shed destroyed by fire, the management now proposes to erect a pucca tiled shed, 79' X 18' which is estimated to cost ~~about~~ over Rs. 7000/-. The management has aplied thorugh the Collector of Chingleput and the Commissioner of Labur for an immediate grant for the reconstruction of the shed. The Collector and the C. of L. originally recommended only the payment of a half grant not exceeding Rs.3500/- for the purpose. On subsequent representations by the management, the C. of L. has revised his recommendation and has now suggested that the ~~extra~~ entire cost of reconstruction of the shed viz Rs. 7000/- may be paid as a Govt. grant.

p.2 cf.

p 1-2 cf.

p. 49 cf.

2. Building grants for educational institutions are usually given by the Educatin Dept. and met from the Education budget. The D.P.I. who was consulted in the matter states that full grants are not usually given for any building schemes and that schools are eligible only for half grants. Even in the case of buildings damaged by cyclones, only half grants are usually given. There has, however, been an exception recently and in the case of St. Peter's H.E. School, Chally, Tellicherry, the Govt. sanctioned full grant not exceeing Rs. 10,000/- for a building on the ground that the school catered to the education of the children of soldiers serving in the war. In these circumstances, the Director considers that it is entirely a matter for Govt. to decide whether they should give a full grant to the Olcott Memorial school for the reconstruction of the building which was lost by fire, on the ground that the school caters mainly to the needs of Harijan pupils. The C. of L. who was further consulted in the matter points out that there have been cases where building grants were given by the Labour Dept. and

Vide p.3 above

Vide G.O. Ms. 5 Edn 15/4/46 (d)

G.O. 841 Edn 18/4/46 (I) p18 cf. M

Vide also 'M' on p. 3 above.

K on p 3 above

p 5 above

quotes two such instances, one of the year 1936 and another of 1942. He also states that additional funds will have to be placed at his disposal if it is decided that the grant should be paid from the Labour Dept. budget.

× G.O. 580 Dev 8/4/36 p 15 of Ⓜ
× G.O. 964 P.W. 27/3/42 p 39 of Ⓔ
X on p. 5 above

3. When once a decision to sanction a grant to the school is taken it ~~It~~ does not make much difference whether the amount of grant is met from the Education budget or the Labour Dept. budget. This Dept. need not therefore object to the payment of the grant to this school (if it is eventually decided to do so), from the head "47 Misc. Depts. - a Labour - D. Communities eligible for help by the Labour Dept. - Education - 7. Grants in - aid - Other grants".

Vide 'X' on p 3 above
'M' on p. 5 above

4. As stated by the D.P.I. and as provided in para 55 of the Grant in aid Code of the Madras Educational Dept., the grant payable should not ordinarily exceed one half of the cost of constructing the building. In the two instances quoted by the C. of L., at p 5 above, in which building grants were given by the Labour Dept., those grants were limited to half the cost of the buildings. The C. of L. however recommends that as the present school is catering mainly to the needs of Harijan children, and as the institution is even now run at a deficit of Rs. 5000/- annually, the Govt. should treat this as a special case and give a full grant of Rs. 7000/-. It may be mentioned in this connection, that in respect of the school at Tellichery referred to at 'M' at p. 7 above, even though the D.P.I. opposed to the payment of anything higher than a half grant for the reasons stated at pp 10-11 of G.O. 841 Edu. dated 18-4-46, Ⓘ the Govt. overruled his objection and sanctioned a full grant. That institution was having only 94 children of soldiers and ex-soldiers, out of a total strength of 310. The Olcott Memorial School is said to be having 250 Harijan children out of the total strength of 638. In these circumstances, it is for orders whether this Dept. may agree with the C. of L. that this institution may, as a special case, be paid a full grant not exceeding Rs. 7000/- towards the reconstruction of the building which was lost by fire.

× p 3 above
↑ p 9 of the B.H. No. 40
Vide p. 39 of Ⓔ and p 15 of Ⓜ
p. 49 c.f.
X pp. 10-11 of Ⓘ
Vide pp. 35-36 of Ⓘ
81 + 13 = 94
'A' on p. 10 of Ⓘ
p. 2 c.f.

May be accepted

5. It may be stated that in the previous cases where

G.O.s at Ⓜ & Ⓔ

33/25.2

buildings grants were sanctioned by the Labour Dept., the proposals were treated as Part II Schemes. As it is now too late to treat this proposal as a Part II Scheme for 47-48 and as the proposal is very urgent, the 'new service' procedure may have to be followed in this case. i.e., after the case has been examined by Finance, orders of H.M.(P.I.) and H.P.M. will have to be taken, then the case will ~~them~~ have to be placed before the Standing Finance Committee of the Cabinet and thereafter the approval of the Cabinet also may have to be obtained. The above procedure will involve some time and it may not be possible to disburse any grant for this institution in the current financial year.

R

6. The correspondent of the school wants the grant to be disbursed as urgently as possible. The Collector of Chingleput had made a suggestion that the amount required for the purpose might be paid from the discretionary grant at the disposal of His Excellency the Governor. If this suggestion is acceptable, there will be no need to follow all the procedure mentioned in para 5 above, and the grant can be paid without any delay. The case may now be sent to P.S.G. with reference to his D.O.s at pp 67 and 69 c.f. He may also be requested to state whether it is proposed to sanction any grant to this institution for the purpose of reconstructing the building from H.E's discretionery grant. If not, the case will be further examined in consultation with Finance Dept.

'M' on p. 49 c.f.
X on p. 2 c.f.

MADRAS GOVERNOR'S SEC.
F 613 (47)
26 FEB 1947
15.3.47

25/2/47

25/2/47

25/2

PSG.

H.M. (P.I.)

G.O. 8433 P.W./47-3
25.2.47

25768

It will not be possible for H.E. to make a grant of this sum from his discretionary grant. It is suggested that as the delay in considering the application was apparently not the fault of the school applicants, the application may be considered on its merits now as a new service if necessary. A.J. 14.3.47

Dev Depts

The case may now be sent to Finance Dept for remarks.

15/3/47

17/3/47 Finance

ADDITIONAL DEPUTY SECRETARY
18 MAR 1947
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

In the circumstances stated in the P.S.G.'s note the grant may be sanctioned immediately as a special case.

KRV
18.3.47

Finance (Accts-B).

18.3.47
Fin

Dev w 8133 P.II/43-A
18.3.47

Please see the Development note on pp 7-9 and ... P.S.G's remark at the bottom of p.9 above.

The following further remarks seem called for.

(1) Amount of grant. One of the thatched sheds of the Olcott Memorial School, Adyar caught fire in September 1946 and sustained damages estimated at Rs 2,500. The Management now proposes to erect ~~the~~ a pucca tiled shed estimated to cost over Rs 7,000 and has applied for a grant. The Collector and the Commissioner originally recommended a half grant of Rs 3,500 from out of the educational grant. On a further representation by the Management that the school attends to the needs of the Scheduled classes and ~~that the school~~ it is now run with a deficit of Rs 5,000, the Commissioner of Labour has revised his recommendation and supports the request of the Management for a full grant of Rs.7,000. Development also support the proposal. As observed by Development, it is usual to give only half grants for such purposes. Even in the case of buildings damaged by cyclones only half grants are given. The fact that the Management suffered loss on other counts is no reason why Government grant should be claimed for the full amount for erecting a pucca shed in the place of a thatched shed. Such reasons are not special and can be adduced by ~~any~~ every private Management and it does not appear that Government can make a deviation from the usual rule for such grants. Though the Management ~~apply~~ has applied for a full grant on the ground that the school is catering mainly to the needs of the Harijan children, it may be remarked that there are hardly 250 Harijan children as against the total strength of 638 or about a third. It does not appear that any deviation ~~in~~ from the rules is called for. ~~only to enable a concession intended for a small fraction of the school.~~

p.2 CF

18 MAR 1947
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

pp 1-2 CF

16708 Dep. A.

p.49 CF

para 2 on pp 7-8 above

G.O. 815 Edn 8.15.4.46 (a)

Z' on p.2 CF

This Department may hold that if any ~~concession~~ grant is to be paid, ~~shown~~, it may be limited to ~~a half grant or~~ Rs.3,500, as originally proposed, ~~and that if a further concession is necessary the grant should not exceed Rs 5,000 (the amount of deficit of the school)~~. If the management is unable to finance the construction of a pucca building, it should be satisfied for the present with a temporary building unless the Govt are prepared to make an exception in the present case.

pp1-2 CF

the principle of half-grant may be adhered to.
KRV
20.3.47

A

Cf on p.49 CF
20.3.47

p.49 CF

p 9 above

(2) Head of debit. The Management wants the grant to be disbursed as urgently as possible. Development have ascertained from the P.S.G. that the amount in this case cannot be met from H.E's discretionary grant. The question then for consideration is whether it should be a grant ~~from~~ by the Education Department or one ~~from~~ by the Labour Department. The D.P.I. solicits the orders of the Government and E & P.H. have transferred the file to Development, who have no objection to debit the payment of grant, if sanctioned, to the head "47.Miscellaneous Departments - a.Labour-D-Communities eligible for help by the Labour Department - Education - 7.Grants-in-aid - Other grants."

K on p.3 above

Y on p. 3 above

para 3, p 8 above

K

In the recent past, such building grants have been met from the Education Budget - please see G.O.841 Education dated 18-4-46. The two cases of building grants (half grants) cited by the Commissioner of Labour relate to 1936 and 1942 and the grants in those cases were for institutions catering solely to Harijan students. In this case though the school has on its rolls Harijan pupils, they form only about a third of the strength of the school. This is therefore a mixed school and it seems that the D.P.I. should disburse the grant. But in view of the Labour Commissioner's recommendation, it is for consideration whether his proposal, which is supported by Development, that the grant may ~~be~~ debited to the head of account referred to at K above, may be agreed to.

(I)

G.Os at (a) & (F)
(Both half grants)

(250 out of 638)

M on p5 above.

The Expr should be debited to 37 Edn which is the correct head of debit.
KRV
20.3.47

Z

20.3.47

(3) Financial procedure: The proposal should ordinarily be treated as a Part II scheme for 1948-9. The Management desire ~~an~~ early payment of the grant. Development remark that the 'New Service' procedure may be followed and that the matter may be placed before the Standing Finance Committee. The P.S.G. has remarked that the proposal may be

p.49 CF

R on p 9 above

Bottom of p 9 above

considered on its merits after following the 'New Service' procedure, if necessary. As a full grant for a similar ~~purpose~~ school does not seem to have been given in the past, the proposal may be treated as a 'New Service'. In the case referred to at X on P. 8 above a full grant for a building was sanctioned partly on the ground that a large number of students in the school were children of serving soldiers. This reason does not apply in the present case.

In view of the recommendation of Development and P.S.G., this Department may agree to the grant being sanctioned for payment early in 1947-8 (as it is now too late to provide funds for payment in the current financial year). The scheme may be treated as one falling under para 2(vi) of this Department U.O.Note No.65500 B.G-2 dated 27-12-46 and Development may be requested to circulate the case to H.M. concerned, H.P.M. and H.E. It is not necessary to refer the proposal to the Standing Finance Committee and the Cabinet. Steps should also be taken to provide funds during 1947-8 by reappropriation or otherwise.

X C The School is run partly for the benefit of Harijans and partly for [illegible] pp 35-3[illegible] p 9 above

19/3
KRV 20.3.47

19.3.47
19.3.47
19/3/47
KRV 20.3.47

Dev. U.O.

Dev Dept

Thro' Exp.A
B.G.
19.3.47

19.3.47

~~AS2~~
~~AS1~~
~~ADS~~
Addl Sec
Devl

21 MAR 1947

19/3/47
KRV 20.3.47
20.3.47

Fin. 16708 AB-1 20.3.47

27166 p11 20.3.47

Please see the Finance Dept. notes on pp 10-12 above. ~~[illegible]~~. This Dept. may accept the advice of that Dept that the expenditure in the present case is one properly debitable to "37-Education" X on p. 11 above. The further action in this case, is therefore a matter ~~entirely~~ for the E & P.H. Dept. The case may therefore be transferred to that Dept. for necessary action. That Dept. may ~~also~~ be requested to circulate the case to the H.M. in charge of Harijan Uplift also, and also to inform the P.S.G. about the action proposed to be taken in this case

(A) 20/3/47

20/3/47 S

20 MAR 1947

Ed & P.H. 21.3.47 E & P.H.

E & P.H. / C1

Dev. U.O. 8433 p11 47-5 21.3.47

23 2[illegible]

The notes from p. 7 ante may be perused. The suggestions of

63542-C1

44

13

... ante the Finance dept. that only a half-grant need be sanctioned and that the ~~[illegible]~~ expr. on account of the grant may be debited to the head "37. Edn." may be accepted. For orders as to circulation.

X on p 11 ante

The draft order below, which is for approval, explains the proposal.

21.3.47

22/3/47 S 24/3/47

Fin & Edn
H.M. (Edn) 30-3-47
~~H.M. (P.J.)~~
H.P.M. G.P.R 1-4-47
H.E.

MADRAS GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT
2 - APR 1947
C.No. 782-C/47

P.S.G. H.M. Fin may please see also before H.E. sees
3.4.47

Recd. 6/4/47

The file may be circulated to H.M. (Finance).

6/4/47 S / H.M. (Fin) 8/4/47
H.E. H.M. (Fin.)
H.E.

8/4/47

A

The institution is really doing useful work. [illegible] a large number of Harijans are being educated here. When Rs 3,500/- is debited to Education, [illegible] may be given by Labour Dept.? I [illegible] only a question of accounts. [illegible] be ... a share of Harijan [illegible] ① given as a special case?
8/4

Circulation interrupted — for observations of H.M. (Fin.).
9/4/47.

9 - APR 1947

The file may be sent to Dev. and Finance for remarks with refce: to

14

H.M. (Fin)'s minute on page 13 ante.

OSM 9/4/47 S

9/4/47

33240 PII / 10-4-47

Dev. A.S. / J.S. / M: / Edn no 23281 C,-1/47 / 9.4.47

Dev Dept

The ~~note~~ previous notes of this Dept. at p.12 above and the subsequent notes and orders may be perused. The case has now been sent to this Dept. for remarks with refce. to the minutes of H.M. (Finance) at p 13 above. H.M. (Finance) presumably wants a building grant not exceeding Rs 5,000/- to be paid to this school, out of which a sum of Rs 3,500 should be debited to the Edn. Dept. budget and the balance to the Labour Dept. budget. There seems to be no great purpose in ~~debiting~~ meeting the expenditure partly from the Edn. budget and partly from the Labour budget. Either the entire amount proposed to be sanctioned in this case may be debited ~~to the Labour~~ to "47-Misc.-a Labour" or no portion of it should be so debited (so that the difficulties involved in having a dual control may be avoided). There appears to be no objection whatsoever to debit the entire amount of Rs 5000/- to "37-Education" as there have been cases previously where building grants in excess of a half grant were met from this budget head. It may also be stated in this connection, that the question whether building grants in respect of hostels etc. intended for eligible communities, should not, in future, be met from the Labour Dept budget instead of the Education budget, has been raised separately and on the advice of Finance Dept, the remarks of the D.P.I., the C.L. and the Accountant General have been called for in the matter. Their replies have not yet been received. Pending the receipt of their replies and a final decision of the Govt. on that question, it would seem much better ~~[illegible]~~ if

A in p.13 above

Vide 'M' on p.3 above

C.NO 40960 PII/46 (not put up)

FOURTH ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
10 APR 1947
DEVELOPMENT

23281 C/47

15

45

N | the entire amount of Rs 5000/- proposed to be sanctioned in this case is debited to "37-Educn."
With these remarks the case may be passed on to Finance Dept.

10/4/47

10/4/47 J.S.

Fin (B.S.)

Dev no. 33240 PII/46-1 10/4/47

(Previous Finance notes on pages 10-12 above)

The minute of H.M. (Finance) on page 13 above and the subsequent notes of E&P.H. and Dev. may be perused. The entire amount of Rs. 5,000 proposed to be sanctioned as a special case may be debited to the head "37 Education" as ~~[illegible]~~ suggested at N above.

The file may be returned to E&P.H.

10.4.47

11.4.47

11.4.47

A.S. / Addl Secy.

11.4.47

E&P.H. / C1

Mr Asst B. 10/4/47

22175

Fin. No 22175 / 11-4-47

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
10 APR 1947
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
11 APR 1947
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

The draft has been amended. The file may be recirculated (Minute at p.13 ante; notes following)

OSM 11/4/47 S / 11/4/47

✓ H.M. (Edn.) TSA 17.4.47

✓ H.M. (Fin.) B.G.A.

H.M. (L) G.P.R. 24/4/47 19/4

H.E.

15/4/47

P.S. H.E. agrees
25.4.47

MADRAS GOVERNMENT
F 939 C/47
26 APR 1947

JOINT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
26 APR 1947
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The draft may now issue

26/4/47

26/4/47

SECRETARY, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT. GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
7 - MAY 1947

OLCOTT MEMORIAL SCHOOL
ADYAR, MADRAS

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.
7 - MAY 1947

5.5.47

Dear Mr Subramaniam,

Please accept this as an informal acknowledgement of the help given and courtesy shown, during the time when I was asking for financial aid for this school, for,

38786

BUILDING LOST IN FIRE ACCIDENT.

The grant made of Rs 5000 will be a great help tom us in this work for the Harijans for education.

Yours truly,
E. Maricie Lavender
Correspondent, Olcott Harijan Free Schools Board

(6)

G.O. Ms. No. 853 Edn -
D. 26th April /47 ——— (U)

Mr M. V. Subramaniam
Secretary,
Education and Public Health Dept.

E&PH(C1).

May be lodged and added to the papers as (b)

8-5-47

10/5/47

8/5/47