

EJP. H. (1948) Department.

SERIES.

G.O. NO. 1490

Dated 5-6-48

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Legislative Assembly Question by S. Paramananda Royan
M.L.A. regarding University - Annamalai - student-discipline
papers Recorded.

Back Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Further Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Secretariat of the Madras Legislature.
(Assembly Section)
2-12-1947.

~~SECRET~~ STARRED QUESTION.

SRI S. PARAMANANDA ROYAR, M.L.A.

EDUCATION & PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

*Q.No.1286.- Will the Hon'ble the Minister for Education be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it was brought to the notice of the Government by the Chidambaram Police and the Annamalai University authorities that there was some serious trouble in the Annamalai University Hostel on 6th October 1947;

(b) whether any representation has been made by a body of students to the Government with regard to the trouble in the Annamalai University;

(c) what action the Government have taken on it; ^{and} whether the Government will take severe action against those who fomented the trouble as a result of which one warden and many students of the University were injured, since such troubles are uncommon in South India and would mar the good name of our Province as the only province which has no communal trouble;

(d) what measures have been taken to safeguard the interests of the teachers and students of the University from the attack of goondas in the future; and

(e) whether the Government can be expected to view this matter as an urgent one and remedy the wrong done to the students and teachers of the University?

C.

Copy of letter dated 11-10-1947 from Sri P. Kandaswamy, B.A., District Superintendent of Police, South Arcot, Cuddalore to the Inspector-General of Police, Madras.

Sub: ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY - Students - Assault on 6-10-1947.

The incidents which preceded the clash on 6-10-1947 are given briefly below.

2. The students of Annamalai University at Chidambaram number 1,800 and of these 1,200 reside in the hostel within the university precincts. The members of the Black Shirt party now number only 120 whereas the Indian Students Congress claims about 1,200 members. The rest belong to other minority parties. This year there was an understanding that no party flag of any kind was to be flown on the university premises without the permission of the Vice-Chancellor.

3. On 2-10-1947, celebrating the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, the students of Annamalai University hoisted on the hostel premises a flag of the Indian Dominion without the permission of the Vice-Chancellor. On 3-10-1947 the Black Shirts applied for and got the permission of the Vice-Chancellor to conduct a meeting to celebrate the birthday of Mr. E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker, the leader of their party. Their party flag was hoisted on a tree in the hostel premises without the permission of the Vice-Chancellor. Both the flags were allowed to remain.

4. Now coming to events which have a direct bearing on the clash on 6-10-1947, it should be mentioned that the hamlet Therkuirruppu is immediately behind the hostel but not within the limits of the University. R. Chinnappan, a student of the II University class and one of the leaders of the Black Shirts resides in that hamlet. On 5-10-1947 evening one Subramaniam aged 15 years and Sambandam aged 10 years hoisted the Indian Dominion Flag on a tree in front of Chinnappan's house during the absence of the latter. Chinnappan returned at 10 P.M., removed the flag and burnt it. Appraised of this by R. Rajagopalan, a student of the II University class residing in the same hamlet, the Sub-Inspector visited the scene and finding that no cognizable offence could be made out, warned Chinnappan. The students who had gathered strength by then, insisted that drastic action by way of arrest etc. should be taken against Chinnappan and were dissatisfied when the S.I. told them that the matter would be reported to the Vice-Chancellor for disciplinary action.

5. On 6-10-1947 the S.I. by timely warning and advice prevented the Black Shirts from holding a meeting at Therkuirruppu and hoisting their party flag on the tree from which the Indian Dominion flag was removed the previous day.

6. Mr. Krishnaswamy Padyachi, Secretary of the District Congress Committee, Rajagopalan and three others were examined by the Inspector that evening. Rajagopalan says that six students witnessed the burning of the Indian Dominion flag by Chinnappan. But Doraikannu Padyachi, the father of the boy who hoisted the flag and who lives just opposite Chinnappan's house says that he was the only witness to the burning of the flag.

7. The same evening i.e. on 6-10-1947 a meeting of the Indian Students Congress was held when the following two resolutions were passed.

- i. The S.I. of Police, Annamalainagar station should be asked to resign or be transferred out for his failure to take necessary action in connection with the burning of the Indian Dominion flag by R. Chinnappan.
- ii.

ii. That the Black Shirts flag flying within the quadrangle of the University hostel should be pulled down and burnt as a reprisal for the burning of the Indian Dominion Flag by the Black Shirteers on 5-10-1947 night and that until it was done the students should not take their food.

8. The students assembled in the quadrangle at 7 P.M. Captain Subramania Iyer, who was acting as the Chief warden, was told that if he did not remove the Black Shirts Flag himself within half an hour, they would pull the flag down and burn it. The Chief Warden tried to bring about a temporary rapprochement but this proved impossible as each party refused to concede to the other's demand. The Black Shirts formed a cordon round the tree on which their flag was flying and the two parties segregated in the opposite sides of the quadrangle. A rumour spread round that outsiders had been brought to support the Black Shirts and that they were armed with sticks etc. The Chief warden saw about 80 persons on the side of the Black Shirts and 600 persons on the Indian Students' Congress side but could not make out whether they were all students. An urgent meeting of the representative council of the hostel was called by the Chief warden in which it was unanimously resolved that the Black Shirts Flag should be removed from the hostel. The representative of the Black Shirts also voted and signed this resolution. Even when this resolution was communicated to the Black Shirts they refused to remove the flag. The Vice-Chancellor who returned to Annamalainagar at this time was appraised of the situation and he directed Somasundaram, leader of the Black Shirts, to remove the flag as it was hoisted without his permission. Somasundaram consented to this but his followers refused to abide by his decision. The Chief warden finding the situation tense wished to call in the aid of the Police but the Indian Students Congress strongly objected to it. Thereupon the Chief warden asked all the students to clear out of the quadrangle and directed Sergeant Thyagarajan, a peon in charge of the main gate, to climb the tree and remove the flag. While he was doing so, stones were thrown at him and he received a hit on the forehead. Mr. R.K. Viswanathan, one of the wardens who interfered was badly hit and became unconscious. This was the beginning of a melee in which brickbats from both sides were thrown about freely. Bricks stored in the quadrangle for the building of the hostel extensions were made use of by both parties. By this time it was 10-45 P.M. and the Chief warden rushed to the Police station for help. The S.I. went to the hostel with 1 H.C. and 1 P.C., leaving a note to the C.I. to follow with a posse of men. The advent of the Police gave courage to the members of the Indian Students' Congress who began a hand to hand fight with the Black Shirts. The Police restored order and saved the Black-Shirts from murderous attacks. The Vice-Chancellor, P.A. to Vice-Chancellor, the Dy.S.P. and the S.D.M., Chidambaram came on the scene about 11-30 P.M. and tried to smooth matters. But feelings ran high till 3 A.M. when the place at last quietened. The injured, 28 in number were removed to the hospital and 24 Black Shirts rescued from the Indian Students' Congress, of whom 22 were students and 2 outsiders, were removed from the hostel at 4-30 A.M.

9. Three cases in (1) Cr.No.106/47 Sec.379 and 426 I.P.C. for the removal and burning of the Indian Dominion Flag (2) Cr.No.107/47 Sec.147, 323, 324, 352 I.P.C. against three and some others of the Indian Students' Congress for attacking the Black Shirts and (3) Cr.No.108/47 Sec.147, 324, and 452 I.P.C. against four and some others of the Black Shirts were registered and are under investigation. It was decided not to bring back for the present the 22 Black Shirt students who were taken out of the hostel. The first term of the university closed down on 8-10-1947 and so most of the students have gone home. The two outsiders were arrested and sent to remand.

10. All these unfortunate happenings are to some extent due to instigation and ill advice from outside people. The convocation on 9-10-1947 passed off peacefully.

11. It is worth mentioning here that the leaders who took an active part in the incidents of 5 and 6-10-1947 are the same who led the attack on Velavar talkies and organized menials strike. The rioting case against these students were ordered to be withdrawn by the Government in the middle of this year and this has emboldened the students to indulge in acts of rowdiness with impunity and utter disregard for authorities.

12. I investigated this case on 8 and 9-10-1947.
6.1. /True copy/.

UNSTARRED

Secretariat of the Madras
Legislature.
3-2-48.

SRI S. PARAMANANDA ROYAR, M.L.A.,

Education and Public Health Department.

*Q.No.341.- Will the Hon'ble the Minister
for education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was brought to the notice
of the Government by the Chidambaram Police
and the Annamalai University authorities that
there was some serious trouble in the Annamalai
University Hostel on 6th October 1947;

(b) whether any representation has been
made by a body of students to the Government
with regard to the trouble in the Annamalai
University;

(c) what action the Government have
taken in ^{the matter} it; and whether the Government
will take severe action against those who
fomented the trouble as a result of which one
warden and many students of the University
were injured (since such troubles are uncommon
in South India and would mar the good name of
our Province ^{as} and the only province which has
no communal trouble;

(d) what measures have been taken to
safeguard the interests of the teachers and
students of the University from the attack of
goondas in the future? and

(e) whether the Government can be expected
to view this matter as an urgent one and remedy
the wrong done to the students and teachers of
the University?

E+H (63)

Advance (copy) in copy to H.M. (Edu). The question
was previously received but it is held on account of the
prolonging of the Assembly? E action is being
taken

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taken separately to answer the question).

21/2/48
8/2
21.2.48



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25/2
V STARRED

Secretariat of the Madras
Legislature.
3-2-48.

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E. & P.H. Deptt.

Draft answer.

SRI S. PARAMANANDA ROYAN, M.L.A.,

Education and Public Health Department.

*Q.No.341.- Will the Hon'ble the Minister
for education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it was brought to the notice
of the Government by the Chidambaram Police
and the Annamalai University authorities that
these was some serious trouble in the Annamalai
University Hostel on 6th October 1947;

(a) Yes, by the Police;
the University authorities reported only
after a report was received called for by
Government.

(b) whether any representation has been
made by a body of students to the Government
with regard to the trouble in the Annamalai
University; and

(b) Yes.

(c) what action the Government have
taken in it; ~~and whether the Government~~
~~will take severe action against those who~~
~~fomented the trouble as a result of which one~~
~~warden and many students of the University~~
~~were injured since such troubles are uncommon~~
~~in South India and would mar the good name of~~
~~our Province and the only province which has~~
~~no communal trouble;~~

(c) Both the Police and
the University authorities are taking action
against the culprits.
The S.I. of Police,
Annamalainagar Police
Station, has been ordered
to be transferred.

(d) what measures have been taken to
safeguard the interests of the teachers and
students of the University from the attack of
goondas in the future? and

(d) If the Criminal
proceedings or the
proceedings of the
University authorities
disclose the need for
any special measures
the question will be
considered.

(e) whether the Government can be expected
to view this matter as an urgent one and remedy
the wrong done to the students and teachers of
the University?

To The Secretariat of the Madras Legislature (Assembly
Section 5 copies)
Copy to Public (Elections).
1 spare copy for file.

E.P.H. No. 97033-98/482
21.2.48.
Two to 11476-93/48-12m
13/3/48.

7/83
Governor's Secretariat.

1,002-27-2-47. b

U. O. Note No. 172/48-1, dated the 24/2/48

Subject: ~~M.L.A.~~ Question No. 241. Starred by Sri S. Parashananda
~~M.L.C.~~

Royan
University Hostel.

M.L.A.
M.L.C.

Trouble in Annamalai



13209

E & C H.

Department may be requested to circulate to His

Excellency the file containing the draft answer to the above question, before the answer is despatched.

Forwarded / By order (sd) P. G. N. 24.2.48

K. Subramanian
for Superintendent

E & C H.

Department u.o.



SECRETARIAT OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATURE,

For Sec. Secy 13.12.1947
Chepauk, dated the 13.12.1947.

99033 QUESTION No. 1286 for the meeting of the Legislative Assembly to be held on the 194.

Two copies of this question are forwarded to the E and P.H. Department.
The question has been admitted.

m
13/12

To

The E and P.H. Department.

no 8365/47-8ML
15.12.47.

E. & P.H. (G.3)

Please see the Legislative Assembly Question on p 1 c.f.

Clause (a) - Please see the report from the Police on p.p. 1 and 9-13 c.f. of L.F. (top file), regarding the incidents at the Annamalai University. The report from the V.C., Annamalai University was received only after it was called for by the Govt. His report is on p.p. 39-49 c.f. of L.F. (top file). It is for orders whether the answer to this clause may be "Yes" or "No".

Clause (b) - Please see the reports from the Indian Students' Congress, Chidambaram Unit, on p.p. 3-14 c.f. of L.F. (top file) and reports from the President, Dravidian students' Federation, Kumbakonam, President, Dravida Manavar Kazhagam, Periakulam, Dravida Manavar Kazhagam, Sholavandan, Dravida Manavar Kazhagam, Shiyali, President, The Dravidian Students' Federation, Vaniyambadi, President, Dravidian Manavar Kazhagam, Tiruvarur, and Secretary, Dravidian Students' Federation, Golden Rock, on p.p. 21-31 and 35-37 c.f. of L.F. (top file). It is for orders whether the answer to this clause may be "Yes" or "No".

Clause (c) - Please see L.F. (top file) and also L.F. (top file). Three police cases have

P.T.O.

SECRETARIAT OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATURE,
 1st St. George
 Chepauk, dated the 14-2-1948.

QUESTION No. 341 for the ^{next} meeting of the Legislative Assembly to
 be held on the 194- .

Two copies of this question are forwarded to the Edn. and PH Department.
 The question has been admitted.

To
 The Edn. and PH Department.

11426
 14/2-48
 28/2-48
 14/2-48

Education & P.H. (G3) Department.

Please see the notes on pp.1-3 ante and ^{the} Legislative
 Assembly question on p. 5 c.f. since received from the Legis-
 lature Secretariat. The same question by the same M.L.A. was
 previously received during the last session of the Assembly.
 The question was then starred. It is now an unstarred question.
 As the Assembly was prorogued then, the question lapsed. Please
 see the notes on p.3 ante. The position has not changed since
 then. A draft answer based on the notes at pp.1-3 ante is sub-
 mitted ^{on page 5 c.f.} for approval. May be circulated to M.L.(Edn.)



23.2.48

24-2-48

6
C.No. 13709/48. - From the Governor's Sectt.
No. No. 172/48 - 1 dt- 24/2/48.

Please see the also note from the
Governor's Sectt. on p. 7 of. The file may
now be circulated to H.E.

26/2/48

8/2/48

P.S. Bear, Thanks

M. 12/48



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

793

25th March 1948]

Trouble in the Annamalai University Hostel.

23 Q.—SRI S. PARAMANANDA RAYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it was brought to the notice of the Government by the Chidambaram Police and the Annamalai University authorities that there was some serious trouble in the Annamalai University Hostel on 6th October 1947;

(b) whether any representation has been made by a body of students to the Government with regard to the trouble in the Annamalai University;

(c) what action the Government have taken in the matter; and

(d) what measures have been taken to safeguard the interests of the teachers and students of the University from the attack of goondas in the future?

A.—(a) Yes, by the Police; the University authorities reported only after a report was called for by Government.

(b) Yes.

(c) Both the Police and the University authorities are taking action against the culprits. The Sub-Inspector of Police, Annamalai Nagar Police station, has been ordered to be transferred.

(d) If the criminal proceedings or the proceedings of the University authorities disclose the need for any special measures, the question will be considered.

P.T.O.

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Please see the Legislative Assembly
Proceedings on p 6 ante. Re. A on p 6.
It may be mentioned that the
University has since appointed
various
a Committee to go into the
matters connected with the
administration of the Annamalai
University. The report is awaited.
The papers may
now be

Order/MS 1490 Ednol- 5/6/48.

Recorded

3/6/48

u. b. u.

Legislative Assembly
Question - by S.
Paramananda
Royar, M.L.A. -
re. University -
Annamalai -
Students - Indis-
cipline - Papers
recorded.

