

E.P.H. (1949) Department.

(T)

SERIES.

G.O. NO. 1520 Edn.

Dated 13-5-49

(9)

pp 3 9 n/c copy for A
271.

[Despatch Abstract.]

L. A. Question - Adult Education Scheme to and comp
edm. scheme. to drive out illiteracy - 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.

29-5-1948.

44

STARRED.

SRI S. NAGAPPA, M.L.A.

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

* Q.NO.14.

Will the Hon'ble the Minister for Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme under contemplation of the Government to drive out illiteracy; and

(b) if so, what it is and when would it would be implemented?

PSK/29-5.

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECTION QUESTION NO. 14 STARTED.

SRI S. NAGAPPA, M.L.A.

B2

Will the Hon'ble the Minister for Education be pleased to state:-

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(b) if so, what it is and when it would be implemented?

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

ANSWER.

(a) and (b): -The Government have introduced a scheme of adult education under which grant will be given to Adult Literacy Schools opened throughout the province. Arrangements have also been made to train teachers for Adult Literacy work.

The Government have also introduced a scheme of compulsory elementary education in selected villages in each district. The scheme will be extended to other areas in due course.

By these measures the Government propose to eradicate illiteracy in the long run.

To The Secretary to Government.
The Secretariat of Madras Legislature (Assembly Section)
The Public (Elections) Department.

The above answer has been approved by Hon'ble Mr. T.S. Avinasilingam Chettiar.

E. A. P. H. U. O. NO. 4 490/48-1 B.2 Edn.
Dated 8th July 1948.

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Secretariat of the Madras Legislature
Assembly Section.

Starred Question No.14.

Draft Answer.

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Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any scheme
under contemplation of the Government
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To
The Secy M.L.
5 copies
The Pub (Electns)
1 copy
1-8.e. 10/7/48

Exp No. No.
42490/48-1B2 Edn
8-7-48

6/11/48
7/17/48
2 A/p roved 6/9
H. R. (Edn)
was posted to Com. Pmt. accordingly
ad. to 19th. may be put up when it
sex. comes up

Answered
18A
19.7.48

SECRETARIAT OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATURE,

Fort St. George, dated the 4.6.1948



42490

QUESTION No. 14

to be held on the

19 .
for the meeting of the Legislative Council

Two copies of this question are forwarded to the E.P.H. Department.

The question has been admitted.

To

The E.P.H. Department

610 3 465/48-9AL
7.6.48

E.P.H. Dept
B2

The Govt. have introduced a scheme of Adult Education to remove illiteracy among the adults. The scheme contemplates the establishment of adult education centres and the conduct of special classes for adults.

2. The Post-war plan of the Madras Govt. aims at introducing universal compulsory elementary education up to 5th standard within a period of 10 years. The scheme of compulsory elementary education was introduced on a limited scale in selected villages in each district during 1945-46, 1946-47 and 1947-48. Under the scheme about 5 lakhs of children may have been brought to schools. The Retrenchment and Re-organisation Committee has suggested that all funds available should be utilised for the expansion of compulsory ele. education, and that a standing provision should be made in the budget of each year for introducing compulsory education. The question whether a scheme of com-

pulsory

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—"In answer to a supplementary question the Hon. Minister said on the basis of experience gained this year, he will proceed further, are we to take, Sir, that whatever reforms he is introducing he does only in the light of experience gained in the past?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Before creating new compulsory education areas, may I know whether the Hon. Minister is satisfied that all the children of school-going age in compulsory areas find a place within the schools?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"These are matters which were discussed only the previous day and I do not think I need repeat those answers now."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Inasmuch as only one-twenty-fourth of the children of school-age not under instruction have been brought under instruction every year, may I ask how it is that within ten years, he expects to complete the cent per cent literacy scheme?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"That is the old scheme; the idea with which we are planning the new scheme is to bring it within ten years."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Is it not a retrograde step to suspend the extension of compulsory education? In the face of this how does the Hon. Minister expect to liquidate illiteracy within ten years?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"It is not the intention of the Government to suspend compulsory education altogether; we find it is working inefficiently and now we want it to work efficiently. There has been a lot of wastage and it will take some time to take up the matter and set it right and this is only a temporary measure but after the planning is completed, we expect the speed to be greater."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know whether the plan for the spread of literacy includes women also?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir. It is both for boys and girls."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"My question was, Sir, whether the scheme includes the plan for the spread of education to women also?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir. We have provided for boys and girls and men and women."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Arising out of the reply given by the Hon. Minister to the effect that a Cabinet Committee has been constituted to go into the question, may I know, Sir, whether any plan is being prepared by the Government to enlist the co-operation of experts on the question of removal of illiteracy?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I do not understand the question. I presume that Mr. Murthi is an expert and I would very much like his co-operation in the matter."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—"Surely, Sir, there are men like Mr. Harisarvottama Rao and Mr. Roche Victoria who have been giving their attention to this matter of removal of illiteracy in this Province for the last ten to fifteen years; I wish to know whether the Government have asked for their co-operation in order to galvanize their efforts in this direction?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The hon. Member would be glad to hear that we are working in collaboration with Mr. Harisarvottama Rao who has been put in charge of this work in the Andhra area."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether there is any school already in existence for the adult education of women and whether the Government have got in view any scheme to be started in the near future for that purpose?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The Woman Welfare Department is doing adult education among women to-day. The rural colleges contemplated under this scheme has got separate syllabus so that women might get particular benefit out of this scheme."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—"May I know, Sir, what is the sort of aid or help that is proposed to be given regarding the removal of illiteracy?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"The hon. Member may put a separate question. I believe, for rural colleges it is two-thirds of the net cost under certain conditions and for night schools also, it is on the basis of the number of teachers."

SRI D. V. RAMASWAMI:—"Sir, may I ask how the Government expect to attract the requisite number of qualified teachers to take up the scheme? Is it by advertisement or through the Public Services Commission or through what channel?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"No, Sir. Existing teachers or pupils who have undergone Adult Training Scheme may become teachers. It is not confined to merely teachers. Many others who have undergone this training can take up to this adult literacy work. They will be given grants. If I remember right, it is eight rupees per teacher per month and four rupees for expenses."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—"Sir, arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister that within ten years they will drive out illiteracy completely, do not the Government think that ten years is too long a period. Is there not any possibility of reducing that period?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I shall be glad to have the illiteracy wiped out even to-day. But certain things have to be done and things are not done by merely putting questions. Hard work has to be done. I think ten years is a sufficient period and it will be creditable if we can do it within that period."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Sir, is the Hon. Minister aware that there are certain poor districts where expansion of education is held up for want of finance and what particular scheme or method does he propose to introduce there so that education may spread?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir. Finance is a big hurdle in our way and I am looking forward to our Finance Minister to help me in this matter. The Government also intend to appoint a special committee to go into the finances of the local boards so that new methods of taxation can be devised for the spread of education. We are trying to investigate the matter."

SRI A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have a scheme of making it compulsory for every young man and woman who want to take a degree in the University to carry on adult education among men and women for some time before they are given degrees?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, many Universities are against this proposal. I tried another experiment during the last vacation. We invited volunteers from various colleges for adult literary work. During the holidays about three hundred boys and girls offered themselves as volunteers for this work and we gave them training for one week in adult literary work and they went to villages and did work. I am awaiting the report of

the work that they have done. On receipt of that report, the Government intend to use students in the colleges during the vacation for this purpose."

SRI K. VARADACHARI:—"Are the Government aware, Sir, that in the Nagiri Development Firka all night schools have been ordered to be closed by the district educational authorities?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Yes, Sir. It was in the old days. Now we have made provision for opening all these adult literacy classes. There will be night schools and there will be day-schools and they will be given grants if they work under this scheme."

MR. L. C. PAIS:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is the general policy of the Government to introduce shift system in the schools run by local boards?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, that question does not arise out of this question."

SRI K. BOKKAI GOWDER:—"Sir, will the Government consider the desirability of engaging the elementary school teachers only in the mornings in elementary schools for the children and engage those teachers for the adult education in the evenings so as to get over paucity of teachers in liquidating illiteracy?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, for the whole day they have to work for five hours. Unless they do it, they will not be entitled to any remuneration for the voluntary extra work that they do."

SRI P. KAKKAN:—"Sir, will the Government take necessary steps to open schools in villages having a population of more than 500 people?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, in this matter we want the co-operation of the hon. Members. I have written to some of them and I have drawn their attention to the various villages where there are no schools. The Government are prepared to aid them on a generous basis and will be glad to have their co-operation to open schools and to maintain them. But, as far as the local boards are concerned, their main obstacle is finance. Their finances are well known and it is difficult. The Government will be glad to assist them if schools are opened in those areas where adult schools do not exist at present."

SRI N. VENKATASUBBAYYA:—"Sir, is it a fact that during the Advisers' regime certain special grants were given to poor districts and afterwards—even though expansion of education has taken place—the grants have not been increased by this Government proportionately?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, that is a separate matter. Let the hon. Member put a separate question."

SRI S. NAGARAJA MANIGAR:—"Sir, am I to understand that the last two years were found insufficient by the Hon. Minister to modify and rectify the compulsory elementary education scheme to suit the purpose as desired?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I have explained the matter. I have nothing more to add."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the fact that this is a very serious and urgent problem, has the Hon. Minister taken counsel from experts on this matter and if it is so, has he been able to formulate a real scheme for liquidating illiteracy in this country particularly in this Province and if it so, whether he is prepared to place the detailed scheme on the table of the House in order that Members, whose co-operation the Minister seeks, will be able to give him the help that is necessary?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, the Government will consider it when the committee finalises its report. I hope it will be soon. Apart from discussions, I think it would be of help if the Members do their work in their own constituencies and in villages and get schools established there."

B. POCKER SAHIB BAHADUR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Government have considered the advisability of taking under their control elementary education from the management of the district boards and also from the management of private bodies and conduct the whole elementary education themselves and expand it as quickly as possible so as to drive out illiteracy completely in as quick a period as possible?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, this is a very important question of policy. It will be considered by the Cabinet Sub-Committee."

M. S. ABDUL MAJID SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, will the Hon. Minister give us an assurance that he would liquidate illiteracy in areas where the scheme of compulsory education is in operation?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I can only try my best. If Members instead of putting merely questions, give us their co-operation, it would be of much use."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, in view of the extreme paucity of teachers and of the scarcity of school buildings and equipment, will the Hon. Minister be pleased, in order to accelerate the scheme of compulsory education, to provide for a shift system by reducing the curricula content and at the same time providing for as best a scheme of education as possible?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"We will consider that point of view, Sir."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, may I know what specific measures the Government are taking to liquidate adult illiteracy among men and women apart from the grants that they have promised to adult schools?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, that itself is a specific measure."

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:—"Sir, may I know what the Government are doing themselves in the matter and whether they are establishing any adult schools?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Wherever possible, they will also conduct those schools."

N. MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:—"Sir, whatever the objections of certain Universities, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to take into consideration the agitation on behalf of so many public bodies that there should be conscription of undergraduates and S.S.L.Cs. for this purpose before they are allowed to take their degrees?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, that is largely a matter for the Universities. I would like to have their co-operation and I will certainly bring to the attention of the Universities the view expressed by the hon. Member."

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:—"Sir, in reply to a question put by my hon. Friend Mr. Majid, the Hon. Minister said that Members should not only put questions but should also help him. Surely, the help is there but is it not a fact, Sir, that on account of these questions put by various Members of this House, he emerges wiser and stronger?"

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I am not quite sure about it. The Members must satisfy themselves for their wisdom."

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:—" May I know, Sir, how the Members will help in the matter when they do not know the details and particulars of the scheme which the Hon. Minister has got before him? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, I am circulating a letter giving details of the scheme. The hon. Member will get it very soon."

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Seeing that the Hon. Minister for Education does not depend upon any information or knowledge but upon his own, may I know whether he is having any expert advice on this very important question of adult education at all? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, we are taking help from anybody. As a matter of fact, every scheme that has been introduced, has been through more than one body. It may be that everything

that we do is not considered by experts but we are taking all available expert advices as and when necessary and it is referred to the respective department of education."

SRI B. S. MURTHI:—" Sir, in view of the fact that the Government of India has a definite plan to liquidate illiteracy, may I know whether this Government have received any plan from them or any assurance of contribution from the Centre in order to liquidate illiteracy? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, I am not aware of any definite plan from the Centre. Only we are requesting them for money."

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:—" Sir, in spite of the fact that the Hon. Minister for Education has been in both the Ministries for two years, why it took two years for him to discover that the compulsory education scheme is not working satisfactorily? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, I think that this question has been answered previously. I have nothing more to say."

SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether they propose to introduce compulsory adult education throughout the province? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" No, Sir. There is no proposal to that effect. We have already enough trouble to have elementary education compulsory. It will be impracticable. I would like the hon. Member to try it in his own village and he will know the result."

SRI N. M. R. SUBBARAMAN:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is necessary that qualified teachers alone should conduct adult education classes to receive grants? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, the qualification prescribed is very little—VII Standard—and the training contemplated is only six weeks, and these people will get a little more than what people with basic qualifications but who have no training."

DR. M. J. SAMUEL:—" Sir, may I know the method and the technique adopted in these adult literary training schools? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, it is usually called the Laubach method."

SRI S. NAGAPPA:—" May I know, Sir, whether it would go a long way to drive out illiteracy if we pursue the present compulsory education system with suitable modifications and adjustments? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Yes, Sir."

SRI D. DURAIRAJA PANDIAN:—" Sir, is it not a fact, that the Maravar Reclamation Scheme of Education in Tinnevely has been given up? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, let the hon. Member put a separate question. I think it is the Labour Department to which it must be addressed."

SRI A. VEDARATNAM PILLAI:—" Sir, what is meant by the Laubach system? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, let the hon. Member ask the question outside the House and I will answer it."

Please see the printed proceedings of the
Legislative Assembly on the stated question no 44 on
pages 3-13. ante. no further action seems called
for. The papers may be
C.O. No 1520 Edu., dt. 13-5-49
recorded

Abstract: L.A. Question no 14-
Adult Education Scheme
compulsory education scheme
to drive out illiteracy -
Papers recorded

Per
11-5-49 3
12-5-49

12/5/49

