

E & P. H (1949) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

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[Despatch Abstract.]

Schools - Secondary - Private - Opening of a high School at Coimbatore with English as the medium of instruction by the management of the Stanes European High School - Permission refused.

Back Papers.

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R.C.NO.963-D.3/48

Office of the
Director of Public Instruction,
Madras, Dated 27-9-1948.

From The Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

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

Sir,

Sub: Schools - Secondary - Recognition of the Park Preparatory
School, Coimbatore - Medium of instruction.

In submitting herewith copies of petitions dated 23rd June 1948
and dated 7-7-1948 received from the Correspondent, Stanes European
High School, Coimbatore, I have the honour to state as follows:-

The management of the Stanes European High School, Coimbatore,
was running for several years now, an unrecognised Preparatory section
in the same premises, in which Indian pupils were given instruction
through the English medium.. But in pursuance of the policy of the
Government, a directive was issued by the Inspectress of European
Schools in November 1946 to close down the unrecognised Preparatory
School. Please see D.O.No.35025-C.1/46-3 Edn dated 16-10-46 from
the Secretary to Government, Education and Public Health Department.
On a representation from the management, this Preparatory section was
allowed to continue until June 1947, provided the management arranged
to change over to Tamil as the medium of instruction and the school
recognised by the Education Department from the beginning of the
schoolyear. Please see Government Memo. No.76880-C.1/46-1 Edn dated
24-1-1947. The management gave up the idea of running this school
with Tamil as the medium of instruction and consequently transferred
the management to Mrs. Todd who took upon herself the responsibility
of running that institution as Park Preparatory English School. Though
the management of the institution was transferred to Mrs. Todd, the
Government still took objection to this institution being run in the
premises of the Stanes European High School. Please see D.O.No.21822-
C.1/47-3 Edn dated 27-6-48-1947. Thereupon Mrs. Todd asked for
permission to open an Indian Secondary School with English as the
medium of instruction. The Hon'ble Minister for Education directed
in his minutes dated 23-5-48 that the Park Preparatory School might
be allowed to run one section in Tamil for the Tamil children and
another section in English for children who do not come from that area.
The management was thus permitted to run the school in accordance with
the directive issued by the Hon'ble Minister (Education). Please also
see Govt. D.O.21822C.1/48-Edn dated 24-5-48.

The Correspondent, Stanes European High School, has now
submitted an application for permission to open an Indian Middle
School, thereby merging the unrecognised Park Preparatory School
in the Indian High School proposed to be opened. For the reasons
stated in his letter dated 7-7-1948, the Correspondent requests that
the new Indian High School, if allowed to be opened, may also be gran
permission to adopt English as the medium of instruction in the large
interests of the community especially when English is regarded as the
universal language. He states:-

"The question of the language to be the medium of instruction is from
an important one. Personally I press for English. I am in the full-
est sympathy with the natural and highly commendable desire for the
advancement of the provincial language; but it is my honest and
considered opinion that if India is to hold her place
worthily in the polity of nations she must have a proportion of her
citizens very proficient in the command of the English language, which
is not merely the mother tongue of the Englishman, but also now a
universal language. It is also by no means an easy language in
which to acquire proficiency, which can come only by the study of it
continually from one's earliest schools days and right through one's

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school and college career. There are many schools that can cater for masses, who may learn all their work in the provincial language. Would it be too much to ask that in each big city there be at least one Indian School that should teach in English permanently as the medium of instruction? I put this forward as my earnest plea in the best interests of India".

I may point out, in this connection, that in the Z.P.H.Gujarathi Kanyasala, Gujarathi has been and is, the medium of instruction. The question as to whether Gujarathi should continue to be the medium of instruction in that school is separately under the consideration of the Government. In the Shri Amolukehand Gelada Jain High School, Sowcarpet, Madras, the medium of instruction is in the following languages: namely, Tamil, Hindi, Gujarathi and English. At the time when this school was permitted to be opened in 1940, the adoption of the regional languages as the medium of instruction was not contemplated. The school which was mainly intended for the benefit of North Indians particularly jains, adopted Hindi as the medium of instruction in the lower forms. In form IV, however, English was adopted as the medium of instruction owing to the dearth of qualified candidates. At the same time they also gave an assurance that facilities would be provided for the local Tamil and Telugu students.

To grant these exemptions that have been asked for is to relax to that extent the present policy of the Government in regard to the regional and other languages. I therefore request for orders of Government in this regard. In this connection it may also be pointed out that so far as Muslim Schools are concerned permission to use Urdu as the medium of instruction even where it is the mother tongue of the pupils has been granted only for a temporary period.

Yours faithfully,

M. K. M. M.

for Director of Public Instruction.

RVR 1/x/-

Copy of letter from the Headmaster and Correspondent, Stanes E.H.School Coimbatore dated 23rd June 1948

In accordance with your RC.No.354-E/48 dated 11-6-1948, I attach hereto a formal application in triplicate for permission to open an Indian High School in the building rendered vacant for this purpose by the closure of the hostel attached to this school. I attach also a plan of the entire estate, showing the location of the various buildings and of the playing fields.

I have to inform you that the hostel building at present is partially occupied by the offices of the two D.F.O's of Coimbatore N. and S. Their offices occupy one half of the building, and are taken on a lease requiring three months' notice either way for termination of it. The other half of the building is occupied by the park Preparatory English School, which is a private institution renting the accommodation from us with Government approval. It is my intention, with the approval of the Director of Public Instruction, to take over the Park Preparatory School as the foundation on which to build the High School. Your instructions were that I should apply for recognition of Forms I to VI. But the Park Preparatory School starts with the Kindergarten. What, then, is to be the position of the lower classes, below form I? This is a matter that has to be clarified.

: 3 :

You will see from the above statement that the Indian High School as such is not yet in existence. It is to be started. As soon as sanction is accorded I shall arrange to take over the Park Preparatory school under the control of the Stanes E.H.School Association, and give notice to the forest officers to vacate the building occupied by them in accordance with the terms of the lease. Then I shall have the necessary remodelling carried out in order to make the building suitable for the purposes of the school. It is clear, therefore, that at the least four clear months will be needed from the date of sanction received before I can get the school actually started. I shall greatly appreciate, therefore, that this matter be given early consideration.

I shall be glad to furnish any further information required by you.

Copy of letter dated 7th July 1948 from the Headmaster and Correspondent Stanes European High School, Coimbatore.

On June 23rd I made application for permission to open an Indian High School, but owing to the impossibility of doing it at this advanced time of the year, because we must give the Forest Officers three months' notice to quit the building occupied by them which we shall need for the purpose, I am applying now for sanction to open an Indian Middle School, with classes from class I to Form III. The Park Preparatory School is already being, and it is my intention, with Government sanction, to take over under our control this school as the Stanes Indian Middle School, with the hope that next year it may be possible to raise it to a High School.

I do not think that there is any doubt of the need for more schools in this rapidly developing city. I was present at the opening of the Devanga High School, and I remember that one of the speakers remarked that Coimbatore needs at least 8 to 10 High Schools to meet the educational needs of the children of this city. The schools that there are heavily over-crowded. Moreover, I have been often approached by Indian gentlemen with the request that I would open such a school, primarily to meet the needs of the children in the east part of the city, where there at present is no such school, except in Peelamedu which is too far east.

The question of the language to be the medium of instruction is frankly an important one. Personally I press for English. I am in the fullest sympathy with the natural and highly commendable desire for the advancement of the provincial language; but it is my honest and considered opinion that if India is to hold her place worthily in the polity of nations she must have proportion of her citizens very proficient in the command of the English language, which is not merely the mother-tongue of the Englishman, but also now a universal language. It is also by no means an easy language in which to acquire proficiency which can come only by the study of it continually from one's earliest school days and right through one's school and college career. There are many schools that can cater for the masses, who may learn all their work in the provincial language. Would it be too much to ask that in each big city there be at least one Indian School that should teach in English permanently as the medium of instruction? I put this forward as my earnest plea in the best interests of India. Jai Hind.

However, my committee are quite prepared to accept the verdict of Government in this matter. Our sincere desire is to provide educational facilities of as high an order as possible in the interests of the youth of this city; and so we are not insisting on the acceptance of the youth for English, though we sincerely hope that the authorities will acknowledge the strength of our plea and accede to it, at least for a fair number of years, say five. Everything just now is in a state of transition, and it would be great pity if a stringent rule should be introduced now, which future experience might prove to have been undesirable. May I, therefore, suggest that English remain the medium of instruction in our Indian School until such time as it has been proved beyond all doubt.

doubt that the need for it has ceased entirely to exist. I wish it to be clearly understood that we are sincerely prepared to meet the well considered requirements of the Government in this matter. While pressing for due consideration of our claims for English, we are not thereby creating an obstacle to the opening of the Indian School if the Govt. decide otherwise about the matter

5 In this connection there is another fact to be considered. This is a very cosmopolitan city and hundreds of citizens are non-Tamilians. Also there is a constantly fluctuating population, consequent upon transfers, which makes it extremely difficult for people to accommodate their children in the local schools, which teach in Tamil. This fact creates a very strong plea for an English-teaching school here.

6 May I urge that the Stanes E.H.School Association was incorporated under the Act XXI of 1860 definitely for the purpose of advancing the interests of education in English, and by the provisions of its regulations, it is free to add to the European High School now in existence such other schools or institutions as might be desirable in the interests of education. Accordingly it is the desire of my committee to co-operate as fully as possible with the Government in all scheme that will make for better education of the youth of the country, and thereby for the advancement of India among the nations of the world. Of this co-operation the Government have our fullest assurance.

7 In conclusion I must point out that the Park Preparatory School is a private institution, with its own Committee, and entirely free from any control whatever from me. Hence, if I am to merge that Park Preparatory School in the proposed Middle School, in order for this merger must come from the Government.

(TRUE COPIES.)

Thiruvananthapuram
for Director of Public Instruction.

1/10

Rec. No. 963 D3/48

From

The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.

To

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

Sir,

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Sms

Sub: Schools - Secondary - Aided - Recognition of Park Preparatory School, Coimbatore.

Ref: My letter to Government Rc. No. 963 D3/48 dated 27-9-48 and Government Endorsement No. 73300 B.1. 48 dated 19-4-49.

Mr. 1-2 ante
Sentin original

Kindly let me know whether Government have since passed orders on my above letter.

Yours faithfully,

Thiruvananthapuram

for Director of Public Instruction.

Out 22/6
22/6



Office of the Director of Public Instruction, Madras dated 24-6-49.

EXP(31)

Schools - Secondary - Private - Opening of a high school at Comibatore with English as the medium of instruction by the management of the ^{Stanes} ~~Stanes~~ European High School - Permission - ~~Refused~~ ^{refused}

From the D.O., R.C. no 963-23/48 d. 27.7.48

Order no 2309 Edu dated 15.7.49

The Govt regret that they cannot permit the management of the ^{Stanes} ~~Stanes~~ European High School, Comibatore, to open a new ~~Indian~~ Indian High School with English as the medium of instruction. The D.O. is requested to inform the correspondent of the school accordingly.

113/15-7

15/7

To the D.O.
15/7

13.7.49

14/7/49

15/7

Schools - Secondary - Opening of an Indian Middle School by the Management of the Stanes European High School, Coimbatore with English as the medium of instruction.

From the D.P.I., Rc.No.963-D3/48 dated 27--9--48.

The management of the Stanes European High School, Coimbatore, has applied for permission to open an Indian Middle School at Coimbatore with English as the medium of instruction. The idea is to convert the unrecognised preparatory school which was being run hitherto with English as the medium of instruction into a recognised Indian Middle School with the same medium of instruction.

2. Under the existing orders, the medium of instruction in middle and high schools intended for Indian pupils should be the regional language (Tamil for Coimbatore). The correspondent of the Stanes European High School has pointed out that in the larger interests of the community there should be in every cosmopolitan city like Coimbatore, a school where English is taught from the lower classes instead of from Form II as laid down in the scheme for the reorganisation of secondary education and ~~where~~ ^{that} English is adopted as the medium of instruction throughout the Secondary school course in order to provide facilities for those who cannot follow the instruction given in the regional language;

3. There are a number of high schools for Indians in Coimbatore and the necessity for opening another middle school for Indian pupils and developing it into a high school is not apparent. The D.P.I. has not offered his remarks on this aspect of the question. Exemption from adopting the regional language as the medium of instruction is given to existing schools where there are sufficient number of pupils who cannot follow the instruction given through the medium of the regional language. The number of pupils who had received instruction through the medium of English

Sevanga High School was opened in 1948-9. The need for another school is explained in para 2 on p.34.

and for whom instruction through the same medium will have to be provided for, ~~it~~ will gradually diminish and till then it will be sufficient to allow one or two sections in the existing schools with English as the medium of instruction. If the establishment of separate schools with English as the medium of instruction throughout the secondary school stage is permitted, the adoption of English as the medium of instruction will be perpetuated and it is ^{against} the present policy of Govt. to encourage the study of the regional language and its adoption as the medium of instruction in the secondary school stage. If the permission applied for is allowed in this case, it will be difficult to refuse to grant permission for the establishment of such schools in all big Cities like Madras, Madura, Tiruchirapalli etc.

The Guzarathi and Jain schools referred to by the D.P.I. p2 of (primary) are not comparable to the school proposed to be opened

by the management of the Stanes European High School. ^{In the former schools the medium of instruction will be their mother tongue or it is in English - those who had received instruction through that medium till now it will be given gradually}
 4 The permission to adopt English as medium of instruction in the proposed middle school may be refused. The case may be circulated to H.M. (Education) for orders.

12-4-49 14-6-49 S (M.L.A.)

Lie over the general issue raised is decided 30/4

It was decided at the meeting of the Cabinet held on 3.6.49 that ^{consideration of the} the question of medium of instruction in secondary schools should be postponed. M.M. (200) has proposed to discuss the question with the D.P.D. Mr. Suryanarayana Rao M.L.C. on the 13th morning. As it may take sometime more to arrive at a final decision

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it is for consideration whether this may continue or to be over. Perhaps the D.P.D. may be informed that the question of granting permission to adopt English as the medium of instruction in the proposed Indian Secondary School proposed to be opened by the management of the Stanes European High School can be considered only after the policy in regard to the medium of instruction in Secondary Schools is decided with reference to the resolution of the Govt. of India, so as to enable the Director to give a reply to the management before the commencement of the school year. For orders

11-6-49

11-6-49

L.O. No 1576/11

Submitted with reference to the orders of Secretary above. The question of medium of instruction is to be discussed again at the meeting of the Cabinet to be held on the 22nd June. This may be up till 30th June.

15-6-49

15-6-49

15/6

Orders have been issued in G.O. No 2125 Edu dated 2.7.49 in regard to the medium of instruction in Secondary schools. According to this order the D.P.D. can permit instruction being given through the medium of a language other than the regional language only in respect of pupils belonging to linguistic minorities whose mother tongue is different from the regional language. The general principle that in a secondary school, the medium of instruction should generally be in the regional language and provision for giving instruction through

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Vide note at

the medium ~~the medium~~ of any language other than the regional language should be made only for pupils who cannot follow instructions given through the medium of the regional language still holds good. In purposes of medium of instruction 'any language other than the regional language' may be held to include 'English'. It is presumed that it is not the intention to restrict the medium of instruction to the Indian languages only.

2 Permission to open an Indian Middle School with English as the only medium of instruction cannot therefore be granted to the management of the Stanes European High School. The request may be refused.

3 The file may be circulated to HM (Contd) for orders.

1082
6.7.49
7-7-49

to exercise his discretion, according to the circumstances of the school and the difficulties of the linguistic minorities

H. N. (E & L)

The permission asked for is not for X above but something else. So may be refused. Rel at para 10/10/49.

[Signature]



A draft order is submitted below for approval

1082
12.7.49
14/7/49
5/15/7

