Sectt. II-27—00,004—17-

E & P.H (1949) Department.

T

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. NO. 3507 Edn.

Dated 14-11-49

[Despatch Abstract.]

M.E.R – Rule 92 – Grant of full fee concessions to Harijans converted to Christianity reconverted to Hinduism – orders passed – Papers recorded.

Back Papers.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
G.O.	2525	Edn	9-8-49	G.O.	1856	Edn	4-8-38
"	74	Edn	10-1-48	"	1766	Edn	26-7-38
"	1310	Edn	28-8-45	"	2476	Edn	22-10-[illegible]
"	1053	Edn	4-8-43	"	1779	[illegible]	[illegible]
"	1493	Edn	19-10-42	"	855	L.A.(Edn)	19-5-25
"	1282	Edn	21-8-34				
"	412	Edn	23-2-39				
"	2526	Edn	31-10-38				

Further Papers.

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

Government of Madras
Education and Public Health Department
Memorandum No.10935/49-3 C1, Education, dated 13-7-49.

Sub:-Madras Educational Rules - Rule 92 - Grant of full fee concessions to Harijan converts reconverted to Hinduism.
Ref:-From the Director of Public Instruction, Roc.No.1882-E4/47 dated 11-2-49 and 16-3-49.
From the Collector of Guntur, No.5339/49 dated 31-5-49.
From the Director of Public Instruction, No.2757-E3/48 dated 28-2-49.

The Director of Public Instruction is informed that there is no objection to Christians who are reconverted to Hinduism being granted the full fee concessions provided other conditions relating to the grant of the concessions are satisfied and that authenticated certificates regarding the conversions from Christianity to Hinduism are produced.

J.M. Lobo Prabhu,
Secretary to Government.

To
The Director of Public Instruction (with enclosures).
Copy to the Collector of Guntur.

Forwarded/By Order

SUPERINTENDENT.

JV.14-7.

Extract, from an article "The Cautious Prude" in the weekly magazine "Swatantra" of 27th August 1949.

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x x x

20/3

It seems to me that in this matter as in regard to so many questions at issue between India and Pakistan, faulty tactics on our part has made it only too easy for our enemies to obscure the truth and besmirch us. And we do not improve the situation by violently oscillating between the extremes of amiability and amour propre. A startling example of this instability has just come to light in the Government's curious attitude towards religious proselytism. Freedom to preach and propagate one's faith has with ostentatious broad-mindedness been proclaimed a Fundamental Right. But converts to Christianity are denied the special concessions which are being given to Harijans who ramain in the faith of their fathers.

That argues a particularism surprisingly at variance with the theatrical gesture embodied in the Constitution. There is, in fact, a very good case for confining the benefits to Hindu Harijans on the ground that the idea is by all legitimate means to consolidate the Hindus. But our raucously secular State is stopped by its own doctrinaire declarations from putting forward that plea,. Logic, however, is not its strong point. And so we find the Madras Government notifying the Director of Public Instruction that the aforesaid concessions may be grantedto Christian reconverts to Hinduism provided "authenticated certificates regarding conversion from Christianity to Hinduism are produced".

What is the principle behind it all? If poverty is the test for the grant of these concessions, why discriminate against Christians or Muslims? If the intention is to give a leg up to Hindusim, why confine the benefits to Harijans alone? In offering them to reconverts to Hinduism are the Government emulating the methods of the proselytising faiths which have always relied mainly on economic inducements to swell the flock? And if for the first time in history Hinduism under its self-appointed protectors is going to enter the competition for numbers, why content yourself with winning back lost sheep? Why not try to get in as many of the stray ewes and lambs of others as possible when you are about it? There may be something to be said for the fanatic, nothing at all for the calculating prude.

/True extract/

Rd 1.9.49.

E. & P. H. Dept. (Cl)

M.E.R. - Rule 92 - Grant of full fee concessions to Harijan converts reconverted to Hinduism.

~~Memorandum No.10935-49-3-Cl-Edn., dated 13-7-1949.~~

MEMORANDUM NO.66670/49-1C1 EDN., DATED 4-11-49

A/19-27 eF

(K)

In Memo No.10935-49-3-Cl-Edn., dated 13-7-49, the D.P.I. was informed that there was no objection to ~~Christian~~ Harijans converts to Xtians reconverted to Hinduism being granted full fee concession~~s~~ sanctioned in G.O.No.1667-Edn., dated 29-6-48, provided ~~the~~ other conditions relating to the grant of the concession~~s~~ were satisfied and that authenticated certificates regarding the conversion from Christianity to Hinduism were produced. The Govt. have since reconsidered the matter and they have decided that change of religion for purely monetary advantage should not be encouraged. They therefore direct that full fee concession~~s~~ sanctioned in G.O.No.1667-Edn., dated 29-6-48, shall be made available to Harijan ~~Christians~~ converts to Xtians reconverted to Hinduism only five years after such reconversion. In the meanwhile, such reconverts to Hinduism shall be treated as belonging to the backward classes.

(K)

To

The D.P.I.

RJS

29/10/49

29/4

(fine spare copies)

60 - 65 — 70 -

No. D/S/81670

C1 4/11/

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

23rd September, 1949.

CHIEF SECRETARY
7115
26 SEP 1949
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

27 SEP 1949

My dear Ramunni Menon,

Dr. E.C.Bhatty of the Christian Council of India has written to Hon'ble Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, our Health Minister, regarding Madras Government's policy towards Christian Harijans. He says that the recent circular issued by the Education Department of the Madras Government is a direct inducement to Christian Harijans to become Hindus. I enclose a copy of the circular. His representation has been forwarded to the Prime Minister.

74607

3/8

I shall be grateful if you will please let me know, for the Prime Minister's information, what the facts are and the background to the circular referred to and the reasons which necessitate and justify the circular.

Yours sincerely,

A.V.Pai

(A.V.PAI)

Edn Secy

Please let me see the papers

26/9.

Shri K. Ramunni Menon, ICS:
Chief Secretary, Govt.of Madras,
Fort St. George,
MADRAS.

Pub. Gl. E
no. 7115/49-1
26/9.

Encl:1

6

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Madras.

R.O.C. No. 1882-E4/47 dated 5/8/1949.

Subject:- Madras Educational Rule- Rule 92 grant of full free concessions to Harijanx converts reconverted to Hinduism.

Read:- Government Memorandum No. 10935/49-3-CL Educatiom dated 13/7/1949.

Order:- The Director of Public Instruction is informed that there is no objection to Christians who are reconverted to Hinduism being granted the full fee concessions provided other conditions relating to the grant of the concessions are satisfied and that authenticated certificates regarding the conversions from Christianity to Hinduism are produced.

J.M. Lobo Prabhu,
Secretary to Government,

V.K. Krishna Manon,
for Director of Public Instruction.

True Copy.
Copy communicated.

E 10

T-clerk

The Catholic Indian Association Of Madras Province
(District Committee, The Nilgiris)

சென்னை மாகாண கத்தோலிக்க இந்திய சங்கம்
(ஜில்லா கமிட்டி, நீலகிரி)

11-5-49

9

EHPA

27 SEP 1949

Coonoor,
20the September, 1949

Hon'ble the Premier
Government of Madras
To
26 SEP 1949

To
The Honourable Prime Minister
Govt of Madras

7

74605

Dear Sir,

I am directed to send you the following resolution passed unanimously at a meeting of the Nilgiris District Committee of the above Association, held on Sunday, 18th Sept., 1949, at St. Antony's Elementary School, Lovedale, and presided over by Mr. M.R.S. Mani, President of our Committee, for necessary action. The resolution was moved by Mr. A.C. Swami Raj and seconded by Mr. A. Dhanaswamy and passed unanimously.

> "This meeting deeply deplores the action of the Madras Government in deciding that those Harijans who are converts to Hinduism from other religions will be given various concessions. The Madras Government probably think that their earlier decision not to grant educational concessions to Harijans who have changed their religion is not enough. A secular State should stop granting such concessions to all Harijans irrespective of whether they have changed their religion or not. The meeting requests the Madras Government to treat all Harijans, irrespective of their religion, alike."

Yours faithfully,
S. Rajamanickam
Hon. Secretary.

13

D.O.No.74607/49-2 C1

Education and Public Health
Department,
Fort St.George, 6-10-1949.

8

My dear Pai,

Subject: Educational concessions - Grant to Harijan converts on reconversion to Hinduism.

--

Please refer to your D.O.No.D/S/8670 dated 23rd Septr., 1949 to Ramunni Menon.

I am to say that even before your letter arrived the Government of Madras ~~have~~ has taken up the question for re-examination and that the results of the reexamination will be communicated to you as quickly as possible.

Yours sincerely,

6/10.

To

Sri A.V.Pai, I.C.S.,
Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister of India,
Prime Minister's Secretariat,
New Delhi.

6/10

~~8~~ 14

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Edn. & P.H. Dept.(C1)

D.O. No. 74607/49-3C1 Edn dated 4-11-49

My dear Pai

Educational concessions - Grant to Harijan converts on re-conversion to Hinduism.

Please refer to your D.O. No. D/S/3670, dated 23-9-49, to Ramunni Menon and T.M.S. Mani's D.O. to you No. 74607/49 -2 C1, dated 6th October 1949.

p 1 cf

p 7 cf

I ~~may~~ am to say that prior to June 1948 Harijan pupils in secondary schools in this province were eligible only for half fee ~~educational~~ concession~~s~~. Converts to Christianity or to any other religion from ~~the~~ Harijan castes were also eligible for ~~all~~ the fee concession~~s~~ for which Harijans were eligible. In June 1948 this Government ordered that Harijan pupils in secondary schools ~~might~~ should be granted full fee concession~~s~~ from 1948-49. As the cost of this additional concession is met from the Harijan Uplift Fund - a special fund for the uplift of Harijans ~~caste~~ alone - it was ordered that the concession in secondary schools should be applicable only to (~~Hindu~~) Harijans and that converts would be eligible only for half fee concession as before. ~~As the expenditure on the grant of full fee concession to Harijan students was met from~~ the ~~special fund for the uplift of Hindu Harijans~~ only ~~[illegible]~~ Subsequently it was ordered that there ~~should be~~ was no objection to Harijan Converts to Christia~~n~~nity ~~Harijan converts~~ who are reconverted to Hinduism being grant~~d~~ed ~~the~~ full fee concession. ~~referred to above~~. It has since been brought to the notice of the Government that ~~Some~~ ~~Christian Harijan pupils get themselves reconverted to Hinduism with a~~ Some Harijan Converts to Christianity may get themselves reconverted to Hinduism with a view to get ~~the benefits of the~~ full fee ~~educational~~ concession~~s~~. Th~~e~~ Government felt that change of religion for purely monetary advantage should not be encouraged. They are accordingly issuing an order that ~~the~~ full fee ~~educational~~ concessions ~~will~~ shall be granted to ~~converted Christian Harijans~~ Harijans Converted to Christianity reconverted to Hinduism only five years after their reconversion ~~to Hinduism~~. It is hoped that this order will have the effect of preventing ~~Christian Harijans~~ Harijans Converted to Christianity ~~becoming converts to~~ ~~embracing~~ changing their religion

K in d. 7. I

G.O. 1667 Edn
29.6.48

omit 'Hindu'
KM

(A)

p 4 N 7 in
1.7.I

70 16

adventitious reasons

~~Hinduism~~ for purely ~~monetary advantage considerations~~.

o/p
28/7/49

O.R.M.
29/10/49

Yours sincerely,

To

Sri A.V. Pai, I.C.S.,
Principal P.A. to the Prime Minister of India,
Prime Minister's Secretariat, New Delhi.

A12

C1

17

Education Department.

From

The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.

To

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

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
9 - OCT 1949
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

Roc.2611 E4/49 dated 5-10-1949.

Sir,

Madras Educational Rules - Rule 92 - Grant of full fee concessions to Harijan Converts reconverted to Hinduism in Secondary Schools - Query regarding the.

77915

I enclose herewith a copy of the endorsement R.C.No.71-27 D/49 dated 29-8-1949 of the District Educational Officer, Salem for favour of Government instructions.

2. In this connexion, I may state the following:

a) It is to be considered whether the certificates of reconversions issued by such well-known organisations as the Harijan Sevak Sangh and Gandhi Ashramam (referred to in the District Educational Officer's letter) and countersigned by the Revenue authorities to prove their authenticity may be accepted for purposes of the concessions ordered in Government Memo No.10935-49-3 C1 Edn., dated 13-7-1949. In this connection, I may point out that the G.O.No.Ms.1950 Edn., dated 6.8.1948, Government ordered that converts to christianity from the Harijans may be granted the concessions under rule 92 of Madras Educational Rules to which they were formerly eligible, provided the conversion is either of the parent or of the pupil concerned. The intention is that it would be easier to verify the claims of the pupils, if the incidence of their conversion is within living memory so that the abuse of the concessions contemplated under rule 92 of Madras Educational Rules may be checked. Government have also stated that such conversion certificates should be issued by the officers empowered to grant the income certificates under rule 92 of Madras Educational Rules.

(A)
(L)
21

b) In these cases of reconversion the determining factor for assigning a caste on reconversion should be the caste to which the pupils belonged originally before their conversion to Christianity and the claims for assigning castes other than those to which they belonged before conversion cannot be accepted for purposes of fee concessions under the rule.

I request that Government may consider the above factors and issue necessary instructions on the question.

Yours faithfully,

Thirumalai

1/2 for Director of Public Instruction.

KHR.8.10.

p.t.o.

8/10
8/10

E&P.H (C1)

The main file on the subject is in circulation. This may lie over till the main file is received back. Try to get the file soon.

SR
24/10/49

25/10/49

Show in determining list
O.R.M. 26/10/49

It has been decided to grant the concessions sanctioned in Memo No. 10935-49-3-C1, Edn dt 13-7-49 only to reconverts to Hindus after 5 years of such conversion. The file with a draft order has been circulated. This may lie over till orders issue in that case.

29/X/49

31/10/49

Show in exclusion list

Orders have since been issued in Govt. Memo. No. 66670/49-1C1 Edn., dated 4-11-49. ~~No further action is called for in this letter. The papers may be added to the main file~~ (C. No 66670/49). A draft memo to the D.P.I. is submitted.

8R
5/11/49

Please put up the papers quoted in p 1st

5/11

No papers required since released from another file is put up

8R
7/11/49

O 1-Roc.S1.144-49/J2 dated 13-8-1949 of the
District Collector, Salem.

Welfare - reconverts to Hinduism - official recognition
reconversion - procedure - information - called for.

I enclose a copy of resolution No.1 passed at the Meeting of the District Harijan Welfare Advisory Committee held on 30-7-49 at Harur. It is learnt that certificates of reconversion granted to students are being forwarded to you by Headmasters on application by students for giving official recognition to such reconversion and for changing the name, religion and community in the records of the school. Please let me know what the present procedure adopted by you is and what are the organisations recognised by you as competent to reconvert families to Hinduism and grant certificates therefore.

Resolution:- Proposal by Sri Narayana Rao, Headmasters of schools in the District may be instructed to consider the certificate of reconversion to Hinduism given by the District Harijan Sevak Sangam and by the Gandhi Ashramam Pudupalayam Tiruchengode as enough proof of the present Religion of students in their schools, who were christians once and now proclaim themselves to be reconverted to Hinduism.

Resolution: It was understood that there is a recognised procedure for reconversion to Hinduism. The Collector suggested we should ascertain what the present procedure was in giving official recognition to such reconversion" and bring up the case again before the committee.

Sd.xxx
for Collector, Salem.

Rc.71-27-D/49 dated 29-8-1949.

Submitted to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

2. In Government Memorandum No.10935-49-3 Cl Edn., dated 13-7-49 communicated in your proceedings Roc.1882-E4/49 dated 5.8.1949, it is said that there is no objection to Christians (Harijan converts) who are reconverted to Hinduism being granted the full fee concessions provided that other conditions are satisfied.

3. The Collector, Salem wants to know which are all the organizations that are authorised to reconvert such persons to Hinduism and what is the procedure to be adopted in regard to changing their names, castes etc.

4. Orders are solicited whether the District Educational Officer can permit the change in the names and castes of pupils on the strength of the certificates of reconversion, countersigned by the Revenue authorities, as issued by the organisations referred to in para 3 above.

Sd. --
District Educational Officer, Salem.

(True Copy)

for Director of Public Instruction.

8/10

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~~9~~ 12 ~~21~~

Telephonic message by / post dated 14th November 1949.
No.2611 E4/49.

From
The Director of Public Instruction
Madras.

To
The Assistant Secretary to Government
Education and Public Health Department
Fort St. George, Madras.

18 NOV 1949

Sub:- MADRAS EDUCATIONAL RULES -- Full fee concessions to Harijan converts reconverted to Hinduism - grant of -

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Ref:- Govt., Memo., No.66670/49-1 C1 Edn., dated 4--11--1949.

90044

Kindly let me know whether the orders in the above Government Memorandum may be considered as having been passed on my letter R.C.No.2611 E4/49 dated 5-10-1949.

For Director of Public Instruction.

SJ/15/11.

16/11/49.

E.& P.H.(Cl).

MEMO. NO. 77919/49-1Cl EDN., DATED 25-11-49

Sub: HARIJAN CONVERTS TO CHRISTIANITY - Reconversion to Hinduism - Fee concessions.

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p 17 ante

Read: Letter from the D.P.I., No. 2611 E4/49 dt.5-10-49.

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P.5 ante

The attention of the D.P.I. is invited to Memo. No. 66670-Cl/49-1, Edn., dated 4-11-49, according to which Harijan converts to Christianity reconverted to Hinduism shall be granted full fee concession only five years after such reconversion. / The pupils should be assigned the caste to which they belonged before the ~~actual~~ initial conversion to Christianity and certificates of reconversion to Hinduism from well established and recognized bodies only should be admitted for purposes of grant of the concession.

SECRETARIAT, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
25 NOV 1949
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

25/11

To

The D.P.I.

3 spare copies

[Add to (N) after issue]

~~16~~/~~24~~/11 12.7 (E r L)

23/11/49 S

23/x'

24/11

E & P. H. Dept

26 14

Memo No. 101898/49-1C1 Edn. Dt. 3-1-50

M.E.R. – Grant of fee concessions to Harijan Converts reconverted to ~~[illegible]~~ Hinduism.

From the D.P.I. O.C. T.T. No 2611 E4/49. Dt 27.12.49

p10/N

The D.P.I. is informed that the full fee concessions granted to Harijan Converts reconverted to Hinduism consequent on the issue of the Memorandum No 10935/49-3 C1 Edn, dated 13.7.49 will have to be cancelled in view of the orders issued in Govt Memo No 66670/49-1 C1 Edn Dt 4.11.49.

p1/N

p5/N

To

The D.P.I.

(2 copies) Spare dld 7-1-50

3/1/50

3/1/50

9 25 E

POST COPY OF TELEPHONIC MESSAGE (NO.2611 E4/49)

Office of the Director of
Public Instruction, Madras.
Dated 27--12---1949.

From
The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.

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

30 DEC 1949

10/898

Sub: Madras Educational Rules - Grant of fee concession to Harijan converts ~~to~~ reconverted to Hinduism.
Ref: 1. Govt. Memo.No.10935/49-3 C1 Education dated 13-7-49.
2. Govt. Memo.No.66670/49-1 C1 Education dated 4-11-49.

Please let me know urgently whether full fee concessions granted to Harijan converts to Christian reconverted to Hinduism consequent on the issue of Government Memorandum No.(1) quoted above will have to be cancelled in view of the orders issued in the Government Memorandum No.(2) quoted above.

28.12.49
For Director of Public Instruction.

vs.28.12.

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9 27

SECRET

No: Dy. F. 28/50-A.I(C),
Government of India,
Ministry of Education,

16 JAN 1950

New Delhi 3, the 11th January, 1950.

From
The Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

8311

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

Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith an extract from the Report of the Press Section of the Legation of India in Berne, Switzerland, for information.

Yours faithfully
M. L. Kapur
(~~J.K. Asghar~~)
for Deputy Secretary

R.K.7/1/50

EXTRACT

Some of the clerical papers complain that the principles of complete equality of all faiths as embodied in the Indian constitution are not being observed in practice in some provinces. The example of the Director of Public Instruction in Madras is cited who is said to have issued an order on the 24 March, 1949, to the effect that the assistance to Harijan students in the form of remission of school and college fees will be given only to Hindu Harijans and not to those who have embraced Christianity. The same official is said to have issued another order on the 5th August, 1949 saying that those Christian Harijans who become reconverted to Hinduism will be eligible for the remission. The "Courrier" of Geneva comments; "These measures represent a flagrant violation of the principles of a "Democratic and secular" state which pretends to treat all its subject on a footing of complete equality".

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E4P.11 (C1)

The Govt. of India have forwarded an extract from the Report of the Press Section of the Legation of India in Berne, Switzerland, for information - vide p. 3 ante. Attention is invited to the D.O. to the Govt. of India at pp 15-16 of B (N) and also orders issued in Memo. No. 66670/49-1C1 Edn. dated 4-11-49. No action is therefore seems called for. This may be filed with (N).

p 15 of (N)

SR
18/1/50

18/1/50

19/1/50

POST COPY OF TELEPHONIC MESSAGE No.2611 E4/49 31

Office of the
Director of Public Instruction
Madras. 1-2-1950

17

From
The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.

Secretary
~~Jan~~ Feb 7 - 1950
Education & Public Health

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

9393

Sub:- M.E.R.-Fee concessions to Harijan converts reconverted into Hinduism-cancellation of concessions-

Ref:-Government Memo. No.101898/49-1 C1 Education dated 3-1-50.

p 268 of (N)

Please let me know urgently whether the amount involved in the grant of fee concessions to Harijans will have to be recovered or whether, it is sufficient if the concessions are stopped due to the cancellation consequent on the issue of orders wkkk in the Government Memo. quoted above.

4.2.50
For Director of Public Instruction.

MSR 3/2

E&P.H(C1)

19/11

Memo No 9393/50-1C1 Edn., dated 10-2-50

Sub:- M.E.R - Fee concessions to Harijans converts reconverted into Hinduism - Cancellation of Concessions.

Ref:- From the D.P.I., P.C of T.M No. 2611 E4/49 dated 1-2-50

The D.P.I. is informed that fee concessions already granted to Harijan Converts prior to the issue of orders in Memo. no. 66670/49-1C1 Edn., dated 4-11-49 need not be recovered and that ~~the concessions~~ it is sufficient if the Concession are stopped.

To
The D.P.I.
Madras

2m 13/2

9/2/50

10/2/50

Note:- After issue the papers may be filed with (N).

9/2/50

10/2/50

No 63

Edn & P.H. Dept.

M. E. R. — Rule 92 — Grant of full fee concessions to Harijan converts reconverted to Hinduism.

C1

19

SECRETARY, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
31 AUG 1949
66670
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Secy Ed & P.H.

Please see the Swatantra dated 27th Aug 1949 Pages 7 & 8 relating to fee Concessions to Harijans & Converted & reconverted Harijans. Examine that & let me see the papers. Let HM (Ford) also see

KM
31/8

Put up file & Swatantra

31/8

The article referred to above is copied at (M).

Kind attention is invited to the orders issued in

pp 19 – 20 of (A) Govt. Memo no. 10935/49-3 C1 Edn dated 13.7.49

pp 1-3 n/f of (A) and the notes leading to the issue of the Memo.

Rp
3.9.49

It ~~may perhaps be not out of place to invite~~ Attention is also invited to the minutes of H.E. the Governor General at pages 9-10 of Go. 2526 Edn dated 31.10.38 which were recorded when he was the Premier of this Province in 1938.

(H)

Rp
3.9.49

7/9/49 S

2

The reference in the article in "Swatantra" is obviously to orders of Government (1) confining the increase from half fee to full fee concession only to Hindu Harijans, and (2) allowing Christians re-converted to Hinduism the benefit of full fee concession.

A/19-20 CF

The argument in respect of the first is that when the poverty line is the basis for full fee concessions, there is no reason to discriminate against Christian Harijans whose economic status is not changed by merely embracing Christianity. We have sought to anticipate this objection by placing the additional expenditure as a charge on the Harijan fund which is meant only for Hindu Harijans. This of course does not meet the provision in the constitution of religious impartiality.

× Linked file pp 4-5 NF

|| A

Personally, I am not in favour of full concessions to any one, Hindu or non-Hindu Harijan. They tend --

(1) to make the parents even less concern with the education of their children than before. When a fee however small, has to be paid it can be expected that the parent will take the trouble to see that the child studies properly and obtains some value for the money spent on him.

(2) although the amount of fees, in the elementary stages at least, is inconsiderable, as far as the parent is concerned, it is very considerable in the aggregate as far as Government is concerned. The question is whether the expenditure of a large aggregate amount in this manner is justified if it does not really promote education in any proportionate manner.

It would seem to me more appropriate to revert to the half fee concession and allow the full fee concession to all Harijans, Christians or Hindus according to their proficiency which may be judged by a minimum attendance at school, say of 80 per cent. The financial commitment is not likely to increase while there will be the definite advantage that not only the full but the half fee concession

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will be in favour of children really anxious to benefit by their education. This point can be considered if H.M. so desires by the Cabinet.

The second reference is to the award of full fee concession to Christian Harijans who revert to Hinduism. In this connection the note of the present Governor-General when he was Premier at pp 9 and 10 of the G.O. at Flag 'H' summarises the position very fully. If any one is prepared to change his religion for merely economic considerations he is worth very little and certainly deserves no special concession from the State. However, as the G.O. has already issued ~~for~~ the ~~current~~ change, if any, may be made in the next year and in connection with the general question of full or half fee concession, as may be decided.

12/9

H.M.(E.&L.)

Full fee Concession to Harijans need not be re-considered. What is the provision in the Constitution for religious neutrality referred to at A on page 2.

Re re-converted Harijans the matter can be re-examined. But I would like to discuss the matter with HM (RD) and the Dr. Harijan Welfare

KM
18/9

The file may be circulated to HM (R.D)

R.M 1419/49
S/15/9

12.7 (R.D)

SECRETARIAT, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
13 SEP 1949
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

SECRETARIAT, EDN. AND P.H. DEPT.
14 SEP 1949
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

148

Returned to dept on 4.10.49

H.M. discussed with H.M.(R.D.), The Harijan Welfare Officer and the Additional Secretary, Public. It was agreed that change of religion for purely monetary advantage should not be encouraged. It was also agreed that the number of pupils who change their religion in this manner cannot be very considerable for which reason any special treatment for them was liable to create a totally wrong impression. Time is the only factor to test if the change of faith is real. It was accordingly decided that the order issued should be modified to come into effect only five years after the reconversion, the reconvert in the meanwhile being treated as a backward class. A draft will be put up accordingly.

27/x

A draft Memo is submitted.

28/x/49

29/10/49

29/x

H.M. (E & L)

H.M. (R.D) ✓

H. Pr.

BB 29/11/49

3/11

Issued as Memo no. 66670/49-1C1 Edn
dated 4-11-49

4 NOV 1949

CF

p. 5 ~~ate~~

Educational concession - Grant to Harijan converts on reconversion to Hinduism.

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pp1-3 cf

D.O. from the Prime Minister's Secretariat D/S/670
dated 23-9-49.

Remarks of the Chief Secretary

Please let me see the papers.

K.R.M.
26--9--49.

p1 cf

(U) in LF II

Prior to the issue of G.O.No.1667 Education, dated 29-6-48, Harijans in secondary schools were eligible only for half fee concession. Converts to Christianity or to any other religion from the castes included in Group I (Harijans) of the appendix 17-A to the M.E.R. also were eligible for all fee concessions for which Harijans were eligible. In G.O.No.1667 Edn. dated 29-6-48 the Govt. ordered that Harijan pupils in secondary schools may be granted full fee concession from 1948-49 and the cost on account of the concession met from the Harijan Uplift Fund. Since the cost was to be met from the Harijan Uplift Fund it was ordered that the concession newly granted to Harijans in secondary schools would be applicable only to Hindu Harijans and converts will be eligible only for half fee concessions as before. This seems to have had the effect of making certain Harijan converts change their faith by getting themselves reconverted to Hinduism. H.M.(E & L) and H.M.(Fin) ordered that Harijan Christians reconverted to Hinduism may be allowed the educational concessions which Hindu Harijans were entitled to. - Vide Memo. No.10935-49-3-C1 Edn. dated 13--7--49. Attention is also invited to the notes on pp 1-3 NF of (A)

BR No 157.

(U) in LF II

(A) in LF I

As a result of an article entitled "The Cautious Prude" appearing in the weekly magazine Swatantra Madras dated 27-8-49 the grant of full fee concessions to Christian Harijans reconverted to Hinduism is being re-examined. H.M.(Edn & Law) minuted as follows:-

copy at M in LF I

6

"Reconverted Harijans. The matter can be re-examined. But I would like to discuss the matter with H.M.(R.D.) and the Director of Harijan Welfare".

p 3 N.F in L.F. I

The file which is under ~~fx~~ circulation to H.M.(R.D.) has been got back from him and is submitted below:

Slip kept below

For orders whether that file may be sent to the Chief Secretary at this stage or after H.M.(R.D.) has seen it.

O/p 5/x/49

The file may be sent to the Chief Secy for perusal. After it is received back, it may be circulated to H.M.(E&L) and ~~H.M.~~ H.M.(R.D.) for orders with reference to the D.O. on page 1 C.F.

5/10/49

Addl Secy,

C.S.

5/10

E&P.H.U.O
74607/49-1C1
5-10-49
(with two linked files)

Chief Secretary.

Seen thanks. As a reply has to be sent to the Secy to the Prime Minister, the file may be treated as "Special".

In the meantime, an interim reply may be sent to Mr. A.V. Pai. Will E&P.H. please do this?

6/X/49

E&P.H.

Issue interim reply below. 6/10

H.M. (Edn Law) ✓ (a.i) ⊕

H.M. (R.D.)

7/10

22/6/x

ⓧ [Issued as D.O. 74607/49-2 dated 6-10-49]

ADDITIONAL SECRETARY ... EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
6 OCT 1949
76801

7

Please see the decision of the Govt on p 4 N.F in the L.F. The position may be explained to the Private Secretary to H.P.M. for India.

A draft D.O. is submitted.

O/p 28/x/49

29/10/49

S 29/X

H.M. (E & L)

I have made certain alterations in the draft. There can't be a Xian Harijan. If so there must be a Brahmin Xian!!

3/10

58/29/x

XXX

pp 15-16 C.F

[Issued as D.O. No. 74607/49-3C1 Edn. dated 4-11-49]

A reply has been sent to Sri A.V. Pai, I.C.S. with reference to his D.O. to the Chief Secretary - vide pp 9-10 c.f. The file may now be sent to the Chief Secretary for perusal.

7/11/49

O/p 7/11/49

8/11/49

S 9/XI

C.S.

10/4

E&P.H.U.O
74607/49-4C1
9.11.49

E&P.H. (C1)

The papers may be added to the linked file and G.O.Ms. 3507 Edn. dated 14-11-49 Recorded.

12/11/49

12/11/49

14/11/49

87858
10 NOV 1949

Abolished
I.E.R. - Rule 92 - Grant of full fee concessions to Harijans converted to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]