

Edm P.H. (1949) Document.

me SERIES.

G.O. NO. 856 Edm.

Dated

11.2.49

[Despatch Abstract.]

College - National College, Trinapalli
Students three papers forwarded

Back Papers.

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

Further Papers.

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

Class
Prefix
Cable

Code. **INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT**

No

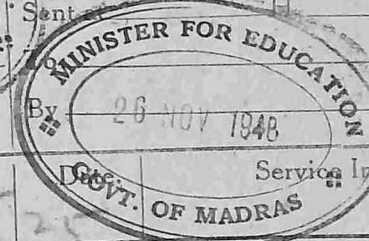
Recd. at

From

By

Office of Origin.

Office Stamp.



TO

8348

Educational Minister

Secretariat, Ho

Students struck ^{work} ~~work~~ resolution
passed abolish detention
- National College students

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, should be written after, but separated from the text

Eden Press, Cal.—No. 17 (5/5/47-48 P. C./5)—26-2-48—9,000 Bks.

B.H.#(G)

Rule for perusal
29/11/48 30/11/48 1-12-48

C-3.



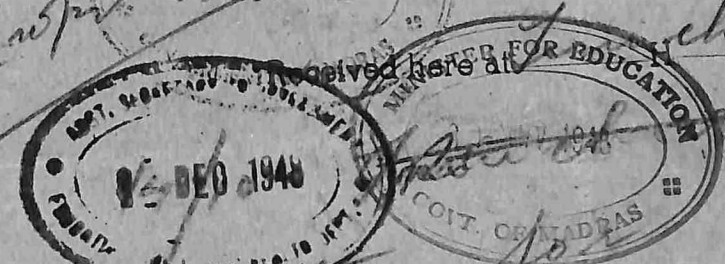
1200



Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department.

24/11/48

30 NOV



chirappalli

No.

M.

7.29.12

education

90073

Minister

Mandras

Police

among

wild

Have

students

dhanmaraja

The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram is—class of telegram, time added in serial number (in the case of foreign telegram only), office of origin, date, service instructions (if any) and number of words.

This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.

S Murthy & Co Printers Madras

PSG



Received here at _____ H _____ M.

90074

Goldenrock Railway workers condemn
brutal lathi charge against College
Students Stop demand open enquiry

= Labour Union

The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram is—class of telegram, time
dated in serial number (in the case of foreign telegram only), office of origin, date, service
instructions (if any) and number of words.

This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.

A. Murthy & Co. Printers Madras Q No. 286 30,080 B of 200 Leaves S-1-48 Paper Supplied by Government

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
PUBLIC (INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY) DEPARTMENT

Extract from The Hindu
of Madras, dated the 30th Nov 1948

**STRIKE IN TRICHY
COLLEGE**

**LATHI CHARGE ON
STUDENTS**

TRICHY, Nov. 29.
The strike situation in the National College took an ugly turn to-day when the police, led by Mr. P. K. N. Pannikar, Deputy Superintendent of Police, and Mr. R. S. Rajan, Inspector of Police, had to resort to a mild lathi charge to disperse the students on strike who numbered about 500. Professor A. Rama Aiyar, Principal, repeatedly appealed to the students not to disturb the peaceful atmosphere of the College and the other students who attended their classes, but to continue the picketing outside the College gate.

Earlier, the students on strike crowded the entrance to the College and later they squatted on the Quadrangle. They were perfectly peaceful and orderly except for occasional shouting. The Principal finally warned them of the consequences of police interference if they refused to listen to his advice. The students, however, refused. Thereafter, the Deputy Superintendent of Police and the Inspector of Police, who were present with a party of constables including a batch of reserve men, appealed to them to leave the College premises, but the students refused to do so. Thereafter, a group of about forty students were taken in a police lorry and removed to the Cantonment police station. They were later let off. Another large gathering of students continued to squat and refused to clear out. Thereupon, the Deputy Superintendent of Police, the Inspector of Police and other policemen bodily lifted most of them and took them out. Those who resisted were forcibly pushed out. The students then gathered a hundred yards away and refused to disperse. Small stones were seen thrown from outside the College. A mild lathi charge was made by the police in which several students received minor injuries. About ten of the injured were sent in a police van to the hospital. The crowd then dispersed.

In the afternoon, the classes went on with poor attendance. The large number of students who did not attend the classes, were persuaded by Inspector R. S. Rajan to leave the College premises.

The students of the National College, have been on strike since Thursday last demanding abolition of the selection examinations which are to commence in December.

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numerosa autem pueri et mulieres
epellat laniatores et alii laniatores
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South Indian Railway Labour Union, Golden Rock.

(CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE)

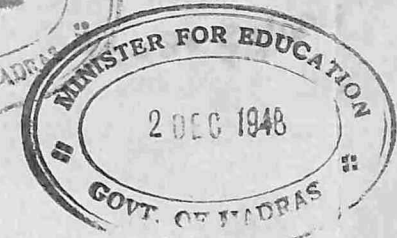
(BRANCH) GOLDEN ROCK 9

TELE

Ref No. L. U.

1st December' 1948 6

8 DEC 1948
To
The Minister for Education,
Government of Madras,
Madras.



Sir,

Please see below
I hereby communicate the resolutions passed at the Public meeting held at Golden Rock by the Railway Workers, after expressing their solidarity by going on strike for an hour from 7:00 to 8:00 A.M. on 30th Nov '48.

90260 The text of the resolution is appended below for favour of information and necessary action please.

Yours faithfully,

R. Balakrishnan
SECRETARY

Resolutions:-

"This meeting while congratulating the Golden Rock workers who responded to the call to strike work for one hour in sympathy with the striking students of Trichy National College on whom a fierce and inhuman lathi charge was made. This meeting while unequivocally condemning unwarranted attacks on the students on the part of the authorities, warns the Government, that the workers would not be mere onlookers on such fascist methods".

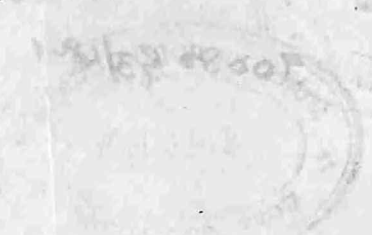
"This meeting urges the Government to, install a public enquiry and take suitable action against the guilty persons. This meeting at the same time appreciates the gallant student fighters who braving the brutal lathi charge and intimidation are standing firm to their just demands and assures the students of the support of the railway workers of Golden Rock"

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
PUBLIC INFORMATION AND PRESS
DEPARTMENT

10
South Indian Railway Labour Union

TELETYPE UNIT
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

24/1/48



For information of the Government of Madras, the following telegram was received from the Secretary, S.I.Ry. Labour Union, Golden Rock, Tanjore dated 1-12-48:

The Secretary, S.I.Ry. Labour Union, Golden Rock, Tanjore, has requested the Government of Madras to take steps to suppress the strike of the students of the National College, Tiruchirappalli.

The Government of Madras has decided to take the following steps to suppress the strike of the students of the National College, Tiruchirappalli:

1. The Government of Madras has decided to take steps to suppress the strike of the students of the National College, Tiruchirappalli.

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

Colleges - National College, Tiruchirappalli -
Students - Strike.

Memo. No. 90080 93/48-1 Edn., dated 8/1/48

P. 3, 5, 7 & 9
12/9/48

Copies of telegrams, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ report from the "Hindu" dated 30-11-48 and letter from the Secretary, S.I.Ry. Labour Union, Golden Rock, Tanjore dated 1-12-48 are forwarded to the D.P.I. He is requested to investigate the matter and submit a report to Govt. at a very early date.

To
2. His attention is in this connection invited to the instructions in para. 2 of Memo. No. 87837 93/48-1 Edn., ~~XXXXXX~~ dated 8-12-1948.

To The D.P.I. (with encl - copy of p.p. 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 e.f.).

Delayed 20/1/48

2/8/48

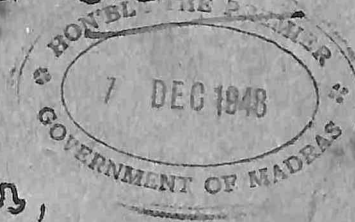
6/12/48

2/1/48

1/1/48

South-Indian Railway Labour Union -
Golden Rock. 13
B.P.H. Branch - Tiruchirappalli. Dec!
Dated. 3rd. Dec. 1948.

The Honble Premier,
Govt. of Madras,
Madras.



10 DEC 1948

Sir,
I am directed to forward you the
resolution passed unanimously at the
Public-meeting held on 1-12-48 being
moved from the Chair.

Yours faithfully,
M. V. R. S. R. S. R.
Secretary.

14

15

திருச்சி தேசியக் கல்வியாளர் மாணவர்களின்
 சூரிய மான் போர்ட்டுத் துறை உடைத்து,
 அவர்களின் உரிமைகளையும் மறுக்க வேண்டி
 டி சாதாரண மனநிலைக்கு திரும்பி
 ணவர்களுக்குப் போலீஸை எதிர்ப்பு
 களப்படுத்திப் பிள்ளைப்பாஸ் நாமய்யா
 செய்கையை கிடைத்தும், உண்மையான
 கக்கண்டிப்பதுடன் அவரை உடனடியாக
 கவனிப்பதில் இருக்க வேண்டுமென
 ரும், அச்சம் பவங்களைக் குறித்து பார
 பகர மறு ஏற்பாடுகளைக் கவனிப்பதை
 கட்ட வேண்டுமென்றும் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளு
 மென கிடைத்தும் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளு
 கிறது. கண்டித்த மான போலீஸின் செய்கை
 யையும் கிடைத்தும் கண்டித்துக் கொள்ளு
 வர்களின் சூரிய மான போர்ட்டுத் துறை
 பிழைகளை அகற்றவும் போலீஸுதவியும்தான்
 படி வேண்டுமெனப் பணியையும் எவ்வு
 ஸ்பந்தங்களையும் திரும்புகின்றவர்களை
 ணையும் கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறது.

From
 S. I. RY:
 LABOUR UNION
 TRICHY. BRANCH

From

Janab A. Abdul Khadir Sahib Bahadur, B.A., L.T.,
District Educational Officer, Tiruchirappalli.

To

The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.

Sir,

Subject:--Colleges - National College, Tiruchirappalli -
Students' Strike.

Ref:--Your R.O.C.No. 3608-B4/48 dated 21-12-48.

With reference to your Proceedings quoted above, I submit the following report regarding the students' strike in the National College, Tiruchirappalli. My report is based upon the report of the Principal of the College to his management, the report of the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Tiruchirappalli to the District Superintendent of Police and my own enquiries.

The students of the National College went on strike on the 25th November 1948 as a protest against the holding of the Selection Examination for students of the Senior classes. This was done when the Principal, Sri. A. Rama Iyer was away at Madras on University work and it is reported without his being given any notice of their demands by the students. The strike followed a similar strike at Madura started earlier in the American College, Madura. The local Communists and some of the strikers who had come from Madura had been egging on the students especially those in the College Hostel to strike. A good many pamphlets were distributed among the students exhorting them to strike. All of them were printed at the Railway Labour Press at Goldenrock. Most of these leaflets described the selection of candidates for the University Examination as a relic of imperialism and as part of a campaign of vendetta against particular students. The strike continued on the 25th and the 26th. The next two days (Saturday and Sunday) were normal holidays for the College.

2. Sri. A. Rama Iyer, the Principal returned from Madras on the 28th. It is reported that he conferred with his colleagues who were all agreed that there could be no surrender on the main issue, viz., the Principal's right to send up for the University Examination only such pupils as were fit and to detain those who had not shown sufficient progress. He met the members of the hostel and spoke to them trying to bring home to them the folly of their proposed action and warning them of the consequences. He also told them that the residents of the hostel should either attend the classes or leave the hostel as he did not want to allow the hostel to be used as the centre of disturbance. From his talks with his colleagues and with the students whom he met the Principal reports that he found that the students were out for mischief and that their picketing and demonstrations might take a turn for the worse on the morrow and might even be violent. So he sent a requisition to the Police seeking their aid if necessary to exclude from the College premises the strikers who were bent on preventing the other students from attending the classes.

3. When the Principal got to the College at about 9-30 A.M. on the 29th, he found about 100 students squatting on the ground in the quadrangle, grim defiance written on their faces and the passage to every class room was blocked by a solid phalanx of students. He appealed to the students several times to clear the passages but all in vain. The Police sub Inspector came with some men. He found that the strikers were blocking the entrance to every class room and physically preventing any student from entering the rooms. With the help of his men

he prevented this obstructive tactics of the strikers and made them clear the passages. The classes went on with a thin attendance (less than 300 out of 970).

4. When the Deputy Superintendent of Police and the Inspector of Police arrived a little later, they found about 600 students assembled in the quadrangle and shouting ~~and~~ making cat-calls, making it impossible for the classes to go on. The Principal again and again appealed to the students not to indulge in such hooliganism and told them that if they wanted they could stay away from the classes but they should not assemble in the college square and make normal work impossible by their shouting. This had no effect on the students who insisted that having paid their fees, they had a right to stay on in the premises and the Principal had no authority to ask them to go away.

5. The Deputy Superintendent of Police questioned some of the ring leaders to find out exactly what their grievances were and even told them that if they would set forth their grievances in writing in the form of a memorandum he would arrange for their discussing it with the Principal. But the leaders though they said they would do so only exhorted the strikers to continue their shouting and ~~and~~ *jeering*.

6. After a final unsuccessful appeal to the students at about 12.30 the Principal felt that he had no option but to request the Police to see that the strikers were expelled as they were getting more and more out of control and the loyal students who were attending the classes were getting panicky. He then gave a written requisition to the Deputy Superintendent of Police who was on the spot.

7. The Deputy Superintendent of Police sent for 2 sections of the armed reserve. He again appealed to the strikers to go out of the College premises. They remained adamant and some of them began to indulge in acts of hooliganism like breaking of College furniture. A final warning was given by the Deputy Superintendent of Police. About 50 of the strikers who were most vociferous were taken away in a Police lorry to cantonment Police Station to prevent further mischief. *then began further hooliganism and some stones* The others were also pushed back from the quadrangle. The strikers were thrown from outside the College. As the situation was deteriorating, a mild lathi charge was ordered. Those who sought refuge in the hostel were driven out and the premises cleared. It is said that some ten students were injured but only 7 were treated in the hospital for simple injuries as reported by the ~~additional~~ District Medical Officer whom I contacted. There had been no report of any serious injury.

8. In the afternoon the classes went on. The attendance was, however poor. Only 200 students attended. A tear gas squad had been requisitioned to meet any emergency but there was no need for its use. Such of the students as would not attend the classes but gathered in the College compound in the after-noon were persuaded by the Inspector of Police to disperse. The Police force was withdrawn in the evening and a party of 7 constables was stationed at the College on bandobust duty.

9. A case under Sec. 151, Cr.P.C. was registered against the 50 students arrested and taken to the Police station. Late in the evening the parents of most of the boys appeared at the station and gave an undertaking to see that their boys did not indulge in such acts of hooliganism thereafter. ~~Thus~~ The boys were then let off.

10. It is reported that the local Communists wanted to make capital out of the situation. So the Railway labourers of Golden Rock staged a sympathetic strike for one hour on the 30th. The Communists issued leaflets condemning the Police action and inciting the students to strike again and the students of other Colleges also to do likewise. They arranged a procession of the

students which went round the town showing Communist slogans and slogans condemning the Principal and the Police. Nearly 40% of the students of St. Joseph's College most of them residing in the College Hostel stayed away from the classes on that day but there was no demonstration in that College. At the end of the procession which consisted of Communists besides the students a meeting was held which it is reported was addressed by some non-student speakers also. There were posters put up at certain places calling Sri. A. Rama Iyer the Principal a bloodthirsty monster and demanding his immediate dismissal.

11. As the Police thought that the situation might grow worse if the students were allowed to continue their agitation under the lead of the Communists who were out to exploit the ~~situation~~ situation for their own ends emergent orders under Sec. 144 Cr.P.C. were obtained from the Town Stationary Magistrate banning all processions, meetings and other demonstrations for a month. On the 29th and 30th the Principal sent out letters to the parents of all students who had failed to attend the classes on the 29th requesting them to persuade their sons to attend classes and examinations and conform to the College discipline. This appeal met with encouraging response. Also the saner section of the students began to have a revulsion against the vulgar attacks on their Principal by the undesirable elements. They also realised that they had been misled and were being exploited by interested outsiders for their own ulterior ends.

12. As a result of this it is reported that 3 student-leaders met the Principal at his house at 8-30 P.M. on the 30th, expressed regret for their conduct in having let themselves be misled by outsiders and appealed for generous treatment. The Principal felt satisfied that they were really penitent and wanted to take advantage of the change of heart that was in evidence. On the assurance that the strike had been called off, he went to the College the next morning and made the following announcement at a meeting of all the students.

"The students' strike has been called off. But with a view to ~~enabling~~ enabling passions to cool down, the College will be closed to-day for the December holidays, to re-open on 3rd January 1949 as scheduled. As the Selection examinations are not being held now every student of classes II and IV will be permitted to apply for the University examination on the distinct understanding that

(1) an examination will be held in February and the Principal will have the right to keep back the certificates of those who have shown no progress at all.

(2) The Principal must have the right to use his discretion in cases of shortage of attendance and

(3) The Principal's right to deal with cases of gross misbehaviour in future is unquestioned.

There will be no victimisation of anykind in the case of those who took part in the present strike." He addressed the gathering expressing his gratification at the happy ending of the whole affair and explaining how in the best interests of the students themselves he had to be stern in dealing with deliberate defiance- defiance of authority. The meeting was largely attended by the students who listened to the Principal's address attentively and behaved in an exemplary manner. At the end of the address one of the student leaders express their regret and the whole gathering stood up in solemn silence for 2 minutes as a mark of ~~penitence~~ *penitence*.

13. The college re-opened on the 3rd January as scheduled and ~~continues~~ conditions are absolutely normal as if no strike had taken place at all.

In the St. Joseph's College out of 436 students 37 were detained in the Intermediate and out of 156 none was detained in all ~~but~~ *Subjects*, but 8 were detained in some parts. The situation in that College is quite normal.

14. In conclusion, I submit (1) that the students who joined strike were victims of exploitation by the local Communists who were interested in fomenting trouble, (2) that many of them would not have joined the strike if intimidation had not been practised, (3) that the conduct of the strikers was not peaceful, but became violent at a certain stage, (4) that the Principal did his very best consistent with his dignity and responsibility to bring the students under control and to avert calling in Police aid, (5) that the Police officers also tried their best to persuade the strikers to clear out of the College compound, (6) that the Police had to make a mild lathi charge only when the situation was clearly getting out of hand, (7) that the force used was not excessive and only simple injuries were caused and (8) that the subsequent happenings and the happy ending of the episode justify fully the stand taken by the Principal throughout the affair.

S. Arumugam 17/1
District Educational Officer,
Tiruchirapalli.

Copy submitted to the Secretary to Government, Education and Public Health Department, Fort St. George, Madras for information in obedience to Govt. Memo.No. 87837-G3/48-1, Edn. dated 8-12-48.

Copy submitted to the Divisional Inspector of schools, Coimbatore.

ROC.NO.3608/E4/48.

Office of the
Director of Public Instruction,
Madras, Dated 20th January 1949.

From
The Director of Public Instruction,
Madras.

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVT.
24 JAN 1949
Sir,
The Secretary to Government,
Education & Public Health Department,
Madras.

Sub: Strikes - National College, Tiruchirapalli - Report
regarding the,
REF: Government Memorandum No.90080-G3/48-1 Education
dated 8-12-1948.

4611

I have the honour to invite the attention of Government to the report of 17-1-1949 of the District Educational Officer, Tiruchirapalli on the strike by the students of the National College, Tiruchirapalli (copy submitted direct to Government by the District Educational Officer) as per their orders in para 2 of Government Memorandum No.87837-G3/48-1 Education dated 8-12-1948 and to state that in view of the report that the students have called off the strike and the situation reported to be normal, no further action seems necessary.

Yours faithfully,

M. S. Arumugam
for Director of Public Instruction.

Ram.21/1.

2/1/1

PTO

22

E & H (G.3)

The main file on the subject has been circulated to H.H. (Edn) on 21/1/48. This may await its return till 30/1/48. H.M. (Edn) may see the D.P.I.'s report on p. 1 ante in continuation.

24/1/48
24.1.48
25/1/48

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159
2. 2.48



E

13

Secretary, E. & P.H.

Please see herewith the news about the strike in Trichy College. We may ask to be informed of the actual situation. I think we must issue a permanent order that in urgent situations like this, the D.E.O. may be asked to send reports of these matters one through the D.P.I. and one direct to Government for information.



159
1.12.48
H.M. Education.

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

Please see the telegrams on p.p.1, 3, & 5 e.f., extract from the Hindu, the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ on p.7 e.f., and the minutes of H.M. (Edn) thereon above, and the letter from the Secretary, S.I. Ry Labour Union, Golden Rock, on p.9 e.f. The D.P.I. may be asked to send an urgent report on the actual situation. A draft memo. is submitted for approval. Regarding

Regarding A on p.1 ante, a standing instruction ~~has been~~ ^{is proposed to} given to the D.P.I. in the matter - vide draft memo. in the L.F. However, the attention of Secy may be invited in the matter.

del 6/2/49
S 8/1/49
S 8/1/49

[Issued as Memo No. 9008 G3/421 Sh. dl - 8/12/68]

CNo. 92344/48. From the Secretary, S.I. Ry, Labour Union, dl 31/12/48

Please see the letter from the Secy, S.I. Ry. Labour Union, outp 13 of and the copy of resolution outp 15 of. It is seen from the report in the papers that the situation is now normal. However, the Secy's report in the matter may be awaited.

del 11/12/48
12/12/48
13/1/49

CNo. 3119/49.
PP-17-209

From the DFO, Tiruchirappalli, dl 17-1-49

Please see the letter from the DFO, Tiruchirappalli, outp. 17-20 of. May be circulated to G.H. (Secy) with reference to his minutes outp. 1 outp. for removal of the report. The Secy's report in the matter may be awaited till 30/1/49.

del 19/1/49
19/1/49
20/1/49



Since added as pp. 21-22 of.

28-1-49
G.H. (G3)
The Secy's report on the subject has been circd to G.H. (Secy) on 26/1/49. It may await its return till 5/2/49.

del 21/1/49
21/1/49
21/1/49

E+PH (B23)

~~the papers may now be~~
the papers may now be
Order (MS. 356) dated 11/2/49.
Recorded.

all
7/2/49
11/2/49
7.2.49

10/1/49

Sub:-

Colleges - National
College, Tiruchirappalli - Students
strike papers -
Recorded.

Why not send the papers
relating to strikes in
other colleges also?
10/1/49

The papers relating to the strike in the
American College, Madras, have already been
recorded. The papers relating to the strike in
the Madras College is ^{the} linked below. This
may therefore be recorded.
11/2/49 9.2.49 10/1/49

(*) R. No. 3293 Edn
23/12/48
atp 1/49 (A)