

Edw H. (1949) Department.

Edw (1949) SERIES.

G.O. NO. 853 Edw

Dated 25/3/1949.

[Despatch Abstract.]

University - Annamalai -
Engineering and Technology
Students - Strike - 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.

C.921/48-1



GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Guindy,
13th November 1948.

02479

Dear Mr. Subramaniam,

I am to send you the enclosed representation received from the students of Engineering and Technology, Annamalai University and to enquire if the request made therein could be examined urgently in consultation with the Vice-Chancellor of that University and the file circulated to H.E. the Chancellor with the advice of the Hon'ble Ministers concerned.

Yours sincerely,

P. Govindan Nair
(P. Govindan Nair)

M.V. Subramaniam Esq, ICS.,
Secretary to Govt, E&PH Dept.





From The Students of Engineering & Technology,
Annamalai University,
Annamalainagar.

To

The Vice-Chancellor,
Annamalai University,
Annamalainagar.

Sir,

We beg to bring to your notice the following grievances of the students of Engineering and Technology. At the very outset

we would like to remind you that we had submitted to you a memorandum on 21st September, 1948 regarding our grievances.

You were good enough to listen to our difficulties and to send us a reply in which you promised to redress our grievances as soon as possible. We are sorry to find, that no satisfactory solution has been found to our problems and hence this reminder.

1) STAFF: We had been looking forward to the appointment of a Professor of Civil Engineering since the sad demise of late Prof. K.S. Sitaraman. In our most important subjects like Theory of structures, designs of structures and structural drawing, practically no progress has been made. We are expecting to have someone who has got teaching experience as a professor, but we are sadly disappointed. We beg to remind that in our present staff there is no one who is capable of dealing with these subjects. And there are not a sufficient number of staff members in our departments and the need for appointing more members of the staff, well qualified and capable is keenly felt. Hence we demand the appointment of adequate number of qualified and efficient staff members, immediately in consultation with the Heads of our departments and professors concerned. We further demand that among the present staff those who are not technically qualified and experienced enough to deal with our Engineering and Technology subjects, be removed from service without delay. The Technology department urgently

needs the appointment of qualified and efficient staff with teaching experience in the existing vacancies and created to make the staff completely efficient. If the University finds it difficult to get persons with the required qualifications, the authorities should approach other institutions or the Government, both Provincial and Central, and attract qualified persons with offer of high salaries of pay. We demand also that better amenities including good living accommodation be provided for the staff members, as some of the appointed staff members have left the university being completely dissatisfied with the accommodation provided.

ii) EQUIPMENT: We have brought often to the attention of the authorities the need for equipping our laboratories at the earliest opportunity. Need we remind you that for students of Engineering and Technology, the practical work done in the laboratories is of greater importance than the theoretical knowledge obtained from the lecture classes. But strangely, the University authorities seem to have ignored the urgent need for completely equipping our laboratories. We demand that steps be taken to equip all our laboratories and workshops before the end of this year and that the Government's help be sought in this direction. We also demand that till the laboratories are ready, arrangements be made for the final and 3rd year students to have laboratory training in other institutions and that the expenses in this regard, be met by the University. We demand that a Committee consisting of the Heads of our departments and Professor be formed, immediately, and complete powers be vested with the said Committee in regard to the equipping of our laboratories and workshops.

iii) RECOGNITION: We demand that proper steps be taken by the Vice-Chancellor and the Heads of our departments to make necessary arrangements to invite the commission of the Institute of Engineers and secure the recognition of our Engineering and Technology degrees by the end of this academic year.

iv) ADMINISTRATION: We beg to bring to your notice the difficulties experienced by us due to the present system of management of the Engineering and Technology departments. For instance, our workshop classes are occasionally abandoned, due to lack of coal, as, even for such trivial things the Registrar has to be approached. Such instances can be literally multiplied. Much of this delay can be prevented by suitable modifications in the present administrative set up. We are of opinion that more authority be given to the Heads of our departments in the internal working of our departments and thus avoid much of the delay and confusion, caused by the present centralisation of authority.

These are, in short, our grievances. In vain, we have brought these to your notice often. We had hoped and you had promised that our demands would be satisfactorily met, but we were disappointed time and again and as a last resort we are forced to adopt a policy of direct action. We beg to inform you that until our demands are met we are resorting to an indefinite strike, from this day the 10th November, 1948.

We remain,
Yours faithfully,
Students of Engineering and Technology

Annamalainagar,
10th November, '48.

Copy to:- The Chancellor, A' University.
The Pro-Chancellor, A' University.
Education Minister, Govt. of India.
The Premier of Madras.
Education Minister, Govt. of Madras.
Syndicate Members.

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Students of Engineering and Technology

Annamalainagar,
10th November, '48.

Copy to:- The Chancellor, A' University.
The Pro-Chancellor, A' University.
Education Minister, Govt. of India.
The Premier of Madras.
Education Minister, Govt. of Madras.
Syndicate Members.

From
The Students of Engineering & Technology,
Annamalai University,
Annamalai Nagar.

To
The Hon'ble Minister for Education,
Government of Madras, Fort St. George, Madras.

Sir,

We beg to bring to your notice the following grievances of the students of the Engineering & Technology. A detailed memorandum submitted to the Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University regarding the above is herewith enclosed for favour of kind consideration and necessary action. In this connection we beg to request you to recollect the talk that we had with you on 11-11-1948 in your office.

Thanking you,

Dated 11-11-1948.

Enc. One.

Yours faithfully,

For Members of the Action Committee

B. Krishna Rao.

V. Krishna Rao

S. S. S.

Copy to:-
The Chancellor, Annamalai University.
The Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University.
The Minister, Govt. of India.
The Minister, Govt. of Madras.
The Minister, Govt. of Mysore.
The Minister, Govt. of Travancore & Cochin.
The Minister, Govt. of Bombay.
The Minister, Govt. of Madras.

The Students of Engineering & Technology,
Annamalai University,
Annamalai Nagar.

To The Hon'ble Minister for Education,
Government of Madras, Fort St. George, Madras.

Sir,

We beg to bring to your notice the following
grievances of the students of the Engineering & Techno-
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Chancellor, Annamalai University regarding the above
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Dated 11-11-1948.

Enc. One.

for Members of the Action Committee

iii) Recognition: We demand that proper steps be taken by
the Vice-Chancellor and the Heads of our Departments to
make necessary arrangements to invite the commission of the
institute of Engineers and secure the recognition of our -
Engineering and Technology degrees by the end of this academic
year.

iv. Administration: We beg to bring to your notice the -
difficulties experienced by us due to the present system of
management of the Engineering and Technology departments.
For instance, our workshop classes are occasionally abandoned,
due to lack of coal, as, even for such trivial things the -
Registrar has to be approached. Such instances can be literally
multiplied. Much of this delay can be prevented by suitable -
modifications in the present administrative set up. We are
of opinion that more authority be given to the Heads of our -
departments in the internal working of our departments and -
thus avoid much of the delay and confusion, caused by the pre-
sent centralisation of authority.

These are in short, our grievances. In vain, we have
brought these to your notice often. We had hoped and you had
promised that our demands would be satisfactorily met, but we
were disappointed time and again and, as a last resort we are -
forced to adopt a policy of direct action. We beg to inform
you that until our demands are met we are resorting to an -
indefinite strike, from this day the 10th of November 1948.

Annamalai Nagar
10th Novr. 1948.

Copy to:-
Chancellor, Annamalai University,
Pro-Chancellor, Annamalai University,
Education Minister, Govt of Madras.
Premier of Madras.
Education Minister, Govt of India.
Syndicate Members.

We remain,
Yours faithfully,
Students of Engineering & Technol

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We remain,
Yours faithfully,
Students of Engineering & Technology
10th Nov. 1948.
Vice-Chancellor, Anna Malai University,
Pro-Chancellor, Anna Malai University,
Education Minister, Govt of Madras,
Minister of Labour, Govt of India.

Do. 8/178.48.93 + Edm. 2 / 15.11.48

Dear Mr. Vice-Chancellor,
Anna Malai University - Engineering & Technology Courses -
Prerequisites for students -

Copies of the representation dated the 10th November 1948 addressed to you by certain students of the Engineering and Technology courses, have been received by H.E. the Chancellor and the Hon'ble Minister for Education.

Page 3-5 and 7-11 of

Annamalai University and I am
 to ask that a detailed
 Report may be submitted to
 Govt. at a very early date,
 on the allegations contained
 in the Representation. I am
 to ask that this matter
 may kindly be treated as
 very urgent.

Yours sincerely

To S. A. Chidambaram
 Baranatha
 Chettiar
 MA P.H.
 (with a copy of
 the memorandum
 from students)

15.11.48
 15-11-48
 15-11-48

E.P.A.



INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

NOTICE

This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram.

Handed in at (Office of Origin)				Date.	Hour.	Minute.	Service Instructions.		Office Stamps.	
Annamalainagar				10	9-45		9-45		10 NOV. 48	
To				honble Premier				Words		
				engineering Technology students						
				Annamalai University forced						
				Indefinite strike lack of						
				Staff equipment Pray Intervene						
				Recd. here at				H. M.		

N.B.:—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, is written after the text.
 A.P. Madras—6-48—10,000.
 acting Commr.

Annamalai University, Annamalainagar.

No.....

Dated 14th November, '48.

Enclosures:

From

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR,

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY, ANNAMALAINAGAR,

CHIDAMBARAM.

To

Hon'ble the Minister for Education,
Government of Madras,
MADRAS.

Hon'ble Sir,

purporting
On the 12th instant, I got a note from someone in the University ~~purporting~~ to be addressed from the Action Committee of the students of Engineering and Technology that you wanted to meet me urgently.

I received the note at 4-25 P.M. and despatched a telegram to you immediately as follows:-- "Kindly wire whether you require me to-morrow".

I find from to-day's newspapers that you had already left on the 12th instant for Eluru.

On the 10th November certain students of the Engineering and Technology departments met me and presented a memorandum on behalf of the students of the Engineering and Technology departments at 11-30 A.M. In that memorandum they wanted (1) the appointment of adequate number of qualified and efficient teachers, (2) removal from the service of certain persons not fully qualified or competent (3) better equipment for the laboratories, (4) arrangements for practical training in other institutions, (5) steps for securing recognition of the Engineering and Technology Degrees, (6) steps for avoiding delay in the Office of the Registrar.

I told them (1) that the University has been trying its utmost to get the full complement of teachers and had revised the scales of pay of teachers in the departments of Engineering and Technology (revised scales of pay: Professor: Rs.400-25-700 E.B.40-900/-, Assistant Professor: Rs.250-15-400-E.B.20-500/-, Lecturers: Rs.180-10-300/-), (2) that if there are persons in the departments not fully qualified or competent, suitable action will be taken on the receipt of reports from the Heads of departments concerned, (3) that steps were being taken by the Heads of departments in this direction, (4) that arrangements were being made for the practical training of the final year students at the College of Engineering, Guindy, (5) that the University had already invited the Institute of Engineers to send a Commission in January next for the purpose of reporting about the recognition of the Engineering degrees, (6) that steps had already been taken to avoid delay in the Office of the Registrar in regard to supply and equipment.

I have addressed a letter to you already regarding the loan of services of certain members of the Public Works Department of the Government of Madras for employment by this University on suitable terms that may be suggested by the Government in this behalf. I request that Government be pleased to take early action on my letter.

The University has already addressed the Federal Public Services Commission through the Madras Government for securing recognition of the degree of Engineering of this University. The Secretary to Government in the Education Department, on reminders sent by this University, had replied that the matter was under consideration of the Government of Madras. I request that the Government be pleased to recommend the request of this University for recognition of its Engineering degrees by the Federal Public Services Commission. I might mention that the Colleges of Engineering recently started at Coimbatore, Anantapur and Kakinada, since they belong to the Madras University, have no difficulties in the matter of recognition of the students that are under training in those Colleges. The Institute of Engineers, which has recognised the University of Madras, as a proper institution for imparting instruction and training in Engineering, has automatically recognised the Colleges at Coimbatore, Anantapur and Kakinada which are affiliated to the Madras University. If the Federal Public Service Commission recognises the Engineering and Technology degrees of this University, the Institute of Engineers, I understand, will consequently recognise the degrees of this University. Let me therefore request you kindly to commend our request to the Federal Public Services Commission and to secure for this University recognition of the degrees mentioned above.

This has already been done
W.S.

Yours faithfully,

A. S. Chettiar

VR.14/11.



INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

NOTICE				Charge to pay		Office Stamps.
This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram.				Rs.	As.	
Handed in at (Office of Origin).	Date.	Hour.	Minute.	Service Instructions.		Words.
annamalai nagam 12 4-55				X st		23
To				Recd. here at		H. M.

Honble T S annamalingam chettiar
minister for education
kindly wire whether you require
me tomorrow : chittiar
Chindambaram chettiar
ag. Vice-Chancellor

N.B. :- The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, is written after the text.
A.P. Madras-6-48-10,000.

Dr. A. Chidambaranatha Chettiar,
M.A., Ph.D.,
Ag Vice-Chancellor,



Annamalai University,
ANNAMALAINAGAR.

11th Nov. 1948.

8237 Sir,

I write to request you kindly to arrange to spare the services of some members of the Public Works Department who are Graduates in Civil Engineering and who can teach subjects for being employed as Lecturers on a scale of Rs.180-10-300/-. A higher start in the scale may be given to persons who are well experienced and qualified. The University requires about 5 persons.

May I request you kindly to let me know the conditions under which their services can be spared and also the names of persons whose services can be spared by Government for this purpose?

I understand that whenever there is shortage of teachers in the College of Engineering under the Government of Madras, the Madras Government spares the services of persons employed in the Public Works Department. A similar procedure may kindly be arranged to be adopted in respect of this institution also as the University is also intending to produce Engineers who will be useful to the country.

The University will be grateful if you will kindly make arrangements for the loan of services of 4 or 5 persons of the Public Works department for employment for a specified period, say, till the end of April 1949 under conditions which the Government may kindly suggest in this behalf.

Yours faithfully,

A. Chettiar

VR.11/11.

Hon'ble the Minister for Education,
Government of Madras,
Fort St. George,
MADRAS.

11 NOV 1948
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Co R 23
16-11-1948. Not for A

Dear Mr. Chidambaranatha Chettiar,

ASST. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
16 NOV 1948
EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.
85591

I have returned from tour this morning. I received your wire as follows:-

"Kindly wire whether you require me tomorrow."

I didn't understand the wire as I had not called you to meet me on the 12th. I also received your letter dated 11th instant with regard to borrowing some personnel for the Engineering College. You may apply with proper particulars through the proper channel when it will be considered properly.

Yours sincerely,
SA

To
Dr. A. Chidambaranatha Chettiar,
M.A., Ph.D.,
Ag. Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University,
ANNAMALAINAGAR.

Secy., SAH

Annamalai University, Annamalainagar.

No.....

Dated 18th November, '48.

Enclosures:



13

From

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR,

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY, ANNAMALAINAGAR,

CHIDAMBARAM.

To

Mr. M.V. Subrahmanyam, M.A., I.C.S.,
 Secretary to Government,
 Education & Public Health Department,
 Government of Madras,
 Fort St. George, MADRAS.

86237

Dear Sir,

Ref: Your D.O. No.84178/48-G3-1 Edn., dated 15th
 November received by me to-day.

Sub: Annamalai University - Engineering and Tech-
 nology Courses - grievances of students.
 --00--

I request you kindly to refer to my letter dated 14th November addressed to the Hon'ble the Minister for Education. Probably the letter was received in your Office later than the date on which your reply under reference was despatched.

On 22nd September the students of the Engineering and Technology departments presented me a Memorandum wherein they wanted:--

1. Retention of our present staff with higher scale of pay;
2. Appointment of a Professor of Civil Engineering in place of Mr. K.S. Sitarama Aiyar deceased;
3. Immediate steps for the full equipment of the laboratories;
4. Immediate steps for inviting the Institution of Engineers' Commission for the recognition of their degrees;
5. Better accommodation for the members of the staff;
6. Appointment of a qualified and experienced hand for Chemical Engineering.

After consulting the Head of the Department of Engineering, I sent a reply to them through the Head of the Department on 23rd September as follows:--

1. The question of revising the scale of pay was under the active and immediate consideration of the Vice-Chancellor and the concerned authorities;
2. that an advertisement for the post had already appeared and before the re-opening of the University for the second term a new Professor

P.T.O.

26
- 2 -
would have come in place of late Sri. Sitarama Aiyar;

3. that the Head of the department of Engineering and the Vice-Chancellor had taken up the question of equipping the laboratories more completely;
4. that the Institute of Engineers had been approached to send a Commission for inspecting the Institution in January next;
5. that the question of affording better accommodation for the Members of the staff was a matter to be taken up by the Members of the staff concerned with the University Authorities. However, all the available facilities of accommodation would be given to them.
6. Certainly, a qualified and experienced hand in Chemical Engineering would be appointed in place of Dr. Gulati who was to be relieved from 1st October.

I might mention that as stated in my reply

1. The scales of pay had been revised by the Syndicate and they are waiting ratification by the Senate at its meeting to be held on 2nd December. Advertisements of posts in the new scales had already appeared in the newspapers;
2. One, Mr. Nataraja Aiyar, had already been appointed to succeed Mr. Sitarama Aiyar;
3. the equipment necessary for the departments has now been ascertained and efforts are being taken to secure the equipment;
4. Dr. M.U. Pai of the Delhi Poly-Technic has been appointed in place of Dr. Gulati, as Professor of Chemical Engineering and Technology and he assumed charge on the date of the re-opening of the University for the second term on 18th October.

With regard to the Memorandum submitted to me on the 10th of November, let me say

1. that in the matter of appointment of one or two persons, apparently a wrong choice has been made. In these technical appointments the Head of the Department was consulted before the Board of Selection decided about the persons to be appointed, and the recommendations of the Head of the department were accepted. The students brought to my notice that in respect of one or two teachers, including the newly appointed Professor of Civil Engineering a wrong choice had been made.

I told them that suitable action would be taken on receipt of reports from the Heads of departments;

2. that the question of equipping more fully the laboratories is being examined by the Professors and Heads of Departments and will be decided by the Syndicate at an urgent meeting which I am calling for;
3. that with regard to recognition, on a request made by this University, Government have been pleased letter No. 58947 G3/48-4 d. 8-11-48) to forward with their support the application for recognition by Federal Public Services Commission;

- 12
- 3 -
4. ^{that} the Syndicate has already empowered the Heads of Departments to call for quotations of articles they require for their departments after getting the Vice-Chancellor's sanction to purchase them.

In fact, the University has never stinted to sanction funds required for the equipment by the Head of the Department from time to time.

The University has been anxious to secure suitable staff but, there seems to be a general paucity of technical men available for appointment. With the revised scales of pay which has been notified in the advertisements and with the request made to the Hon'ble the Minister for Education, in regard to the loan of services of some persons employed in the Public Works Department, the University hopes that there will be shortly available greater and fuller facilities for teaching the Engineering students.

Yours sincerely,

Accett

VR.17/11.

28

Dr. A. Chidambaranatha Chettiar,
M.A., Ph.D.,
Ag Vice-Chancellor,



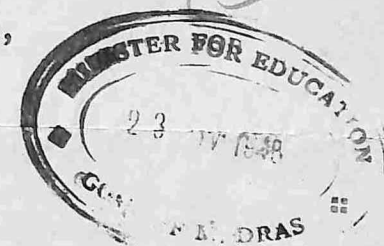
29

Annamalai University,
ANNAMALAINAGAR.

18th November, 1948.

To

Hon'ble the Minister for Education,
Government of Madras,
Fort St. George,
MADRAS.



87165-
Dear Sir,

I thank you very much for the kind letter dated 16th November '48, which I received to-day.

I am asking the students who sent a note to me saying that the Hon'ble the Education Minister had asked the student delegation which met him to request me to meet him urgently to explain the circumstances under which such an apparently false report was sent to me.

I sent yesterday a letter to the Secretary to Government in the Education Department a reply regarding the alleged grievances of the students of Engineering and Technology.

I have been trying by holding discussions with the representatives of the students and the Heads of the Departments of Engineering and Technology and the Professors of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering with a view to persuading the students to resume their normal work.

Yours sincerely,

Acchettini

VR.18/11.

The main file on the subject has been circulated to WH (Edu) + HE. May be added to that file as it relates.

25/11/48 lkh
26/11/48

27/11/48

D.O. NO. 84178-73/48-2-2..EDN. D/. 29/11/48...

Sub: University - Annamalai - Engineering and
Technology students - Strike - Report.

Ref: Dr. A. Chidambaranatha Chettiar's D.O.,
dated 18-11-1948.

I am desired to invite your attention to the Memo. presented to the Vice-Chancellor, by the students of Engineering and Technology, on the 10th November and to ask you to state what action has already been taken and what remains to be done yet, in respect of the students' grievances mentioned in the Memorandum and to send a report giving the Govt. an idea of the existing state of affairs. I am to ask that the matter may be treated as specially urgent and a very early report submitted.

Yours Sincerely

To Dr. S.G. Manavala
Ramanujam, M.A., Ph.D.
(Lond), D.I.C.,
Vice-Chancellor,
Annamalai University,
Annamalai Nagar.

84/178 G3/48 3

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

D.O.No. 84/178 G3/48 3 Edn., dated 15/12/1948.

Dear Doctor,

Sub:-University - Annamalai - Engineering and Technology students - Strike - Report.

I am to invite a reference to my D.O.No. 84/178-G3/48-2 Edn., dated 29.11.1948 on the above subject, and to ^{ask} ~~enquire~~ when your report may be expected.

Yours sincerely,

To
Dr. S. G. Manavala Ramanujam,
M.A., Ph.D., (Lond), D.I.C.,
Vice-Chancellor,
Annamalai ~~Univer~~ University,
Annamalainagar.

13/12/48

14.12.48

15/12/48

15/12



Dr. S.G. Manavala Ramanujam,
M.A., Ph.D., D.I.C.,
Vice-Chancellor.

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY
ANNAMALAINAGAR

22nd December 1948

Dear Mr. Subrahmanyam,

Sub: Annamalai University -Engineering
and Technology students - Strike-Report
Ref: Your D.O.No.84178 G3/48-2 En.
dated 29-11-1948.

I hope that the Government have
noticed the fact that the Memorandum under reference which was
presented to my predecessor in office is an unsigned one, and
that its whole tone and tenor are objectionable, quite apart
from the degree of truth or otherwise contained in its various
allegations. It 'demands' and dictates, and thus sets at
naught all discipline and decency in dealing with the executive
Head of the University.

I now proceed to state first the
action taken so far to meet the students' grievances: The
action taken by Dr. A.Chidambaranatha Chettiar has already
been reported by him in his letter to the Hon'ble Minister
d. 14-11-1948. The fact that scales of pay for Professors,
Assistant Professors and Lecturers had been increased and
that a request had been made to the Government to lend the
services of some members of the Public Works Department are
to be specially noted. Dr. A.Chidambaranatha Chettiar had met
the representatives of the Engineering and Technology students
and the Heads of the Departments and the Professors more than
once and held full discussions with them all. On the 15th



Dear Mr. Subrahmanyan,

Annammalai University - Engineering
and Technology Students - Strike Report
Ref: Your D.O. No. 8478/GS/15-2 Dn.
Dated 22-11-1948.

I hope that the Government have noticed the fact that the memorandum under reference which was presented to my predecessor in office is an unsigned one, and that its whole tone and tenor are objectionable, quite apart from the degree of truth or otherwise contained in its various allegations. It 'demands' and 'dictates', and thus goes against all discipline and decency in dealing with the executive head of the University.

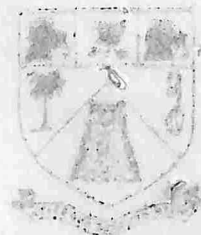
I now proceed to state that the action taken so far to meet the students' grievances: the action taken by Mr. A. Chidambaram Chettiar has already been reported by him in his letter to the Hon'ble Minister dated 14-11-1948. The fact that series of pay for professors, assistant professors and lecturers had been increased and that a request had been made to the Government to fund the services of some members of the Public Works Department etc. to be specially noted. Mr. A. Chidambaram Chettiar has met the representatives of the Engineering and Technology students and the heads of the Departments and the Professors more than once and held full discussions with them all. On the 15th



November he informed the students that he would take suitable action and would convene a meeting of the Syndicate to consider the several matters comprised in the Memorandum and appealed to the students to go back to their classes in the meantime. But the Action Committee of the students sent another memorandum to him on 16-11-1948 and made detailed demands under various heads and called for a written assurance from the Vice-Chancellor for their proposals. The Vice-Chancellor met again all concerned and notified to the students that the Madras Government had recommended this University's application to the Federal Public Service Commission for recognition of the B.E. and B.Sc.(Tech.) Degrees of this University. The teachers of the two Departments were requested to bring this fact to the notice of the students and persuaded them to resume normal work.

A special meeting of the Syndicate was held on 21-11-1948 to consider the memorandum received from the students. It resolved to request the Vice-Chancellor to consider the desirability of constituting a Standing Committee for matters relating to the Engineering and Technology Departments. It resolved further that steps should be taken to have the available equipment fitted up early. On 22-11-1948 the students were informed that the Syndicate had taken suitable action.

I took charge of my present duties at this stage



on the afternoon of the 22nd November. I met that afternoon
itself in a conference the representatives of the four year
classes of the Engineering and Technology Department -- one
for each year class -- and had a heart to heart talk with
them, trying to understand their points of grievance and
explaining the University's position, as I understood it.
It was possible for me to show that the University had done
what it could do under the peculiar circumstances of post-
war economic and financial prevailing to-day. There was a
feeling of general satisfaction at my explanation and my
assurances given to them that all their grievances will be
looked into and that I shall try to rectify most of their
grievances by the end of the academic year. Next morning
I addressed all the students of the University and after
explaining more elaborately my views on their chief griev-
ances I appealed for their hearty co-operation in my endeav-
our to maintain order and discipline and work for their
progress. Thereupon the students called off their strike
and resumed their studies.
Their grievances would now be chiefly dealt with
as follows:

1. Staff. (i) For filling of vacancy caused by the
death of Prof. K.S. Srinivasan. There is no qualified
person for a written on this subject and it is suggested that
Prof. K.S. Srinivasan, who retired as Railway Engineer, B.S.E.,
Kolkata, was appointed on one year's contract by the Railway



of Selection on Rs.400/- in the scale Rs.400-25-700-E.B.40--900,
as the best available man among the applicants. Dr. K.C.
Chakko, the Head of the Engineering Department, considers
him fully qualified. But the students seem to be too impa-
tient, and refuse to adjust themselves and give him a chance
to prove himself serviceable to them. The Professor has now
tendered his resignation, and an application is being made
to Government to lend the services on the usual terms of a
Senior Instructor in Civil Engineering well qualified for
promotion as Professor.

(ii) At the meeting of the Board of Selection held on
11-12-1948 proper men were selected after interview by and in
consultation with experts to fill up all the remaining vacan-
cies, and the appointment orders have been issued to them.
All the new entrants are expected to join duty on 15-1-1949.
In this connection I may mention that the students have
objected also to Licentiates teaching ^{for} any Degree course.
But it is understood that in some of the Government Engi-
neering Institutions such a practice is followed.

As for the seeking for Recognition of the Degrees
now, I am of opinion that at this stage when the time for
holding even the first final Examination has not arrived, no
Commission is likely to recognise the Degree, ~~awarded on~~
~~the basis of the first Examination~~. They would like to have



of collection on Rs. 400 - in the scale 400-25-700-E.F. 10-500.
as the best available man among the applicants. Mr. K.C.
Quince, the Head of the Engineering Department, considers
him fully qualified. But the students seem to be too impa-
tient, and refuse to adjust themselves and give him a chance
to prove himself serviceable to them. The Professor has now
tendered his resignation and an application is being made
to Government to fund the services on the usual terms of a
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promotion as Professor.
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11-12-1948 proper men were selected after interview by and in
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In this connection I may mention that the students have
objected also to the students teaching day before course.
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neering Institutions such a practice is followed.
As for the seeking for recognition of the degree
now, I am of opinion that at this stage when the time for
holding even the first final examination has not arrived, no
Commission is likely to recognize the degree awarded on
the basis of the first examination. They would like to have



R
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an idea of the standard of the Examination by scrutinising
question papers set for more than one examination and to
observe also the conduct and standard of the practical
examination. The time is not therefore ripe for applying
for recognition. This point which does not seem to have
been noted at first by the students has now been explained
to them, and they now understand the position aright.

P4 ante

Regarding the inadequacy of equipment, I may state
that nearly two-thirds of the total equipment required has
already been received, and that the remainder is either on
the way or has already been ordered, except a few items
which are not readily obtainable at present. However, in
order to ensure adequate instruction in practical work,
batches of students have been sent to the Technological
Institute at Bombay and the Engineering College at Trivand-
rum. Another batch will be having such instruction at the
Government Engineering College, Guindy, from 5-1-1949.

P5 ante

2. The other points raised in the memorandum relate to
the administration. Any statutory institution which is under
the necessity to work in accordance with numerous rules of
procedure,-- delay in varying degrees is sometimes inevit-
able. But as much as possible is being done within the
limits set by the rules for speeding up disposals. I am
paying special attention to this matter also..



There is an additional factor which deserves proper consideration. The Engineering and Technology Institutes of this University are infant institutions started at the instance of Government. It is not fair or proper for students or others to expect these young institutions to come up immediately to the level of the much older institution at Guindy. It is believed that if a comparison is made with the similar newly-started institutions at Coimbatore, Anantapur and Coimbatore, those at Annamalai Nagar will be found to be at least as good as any of them, and in some respects much better housed and equipped.

In the matter of recruitment of staff it has to be realised that experienced men in Engineering could be found only in long-standing institutions like the one at Guindy. The newly started Colleges have largely to recruit younger men without such experience. The pinch is beginning to be felt, I am told, even in Government institutions. Private institutions have, therefore, to be content with raw graduates, the other alternative being the recruitment of retired Government servants. This is what has happened in this University.

But due to the prevalence of a certain unhealthy atmosphere in this University, certain teachers themselves had made use of the above deficiencies and stirred up the students to start a strike. I feel that many of the students



194

There is an additional factor which deserves proper consideration. The Engineering and Technology Institutes of this University are infant institutions started at the instance of Government. It is not fair to expect for students over others to expect these young institutions to come up immediately to the level of the much older institutions at Guntur. It is believed that if a comparison is made with the similar newly-started institutions at Coimbatore, Bangalore and Guwahati, those of Annamalai will be found to be at least as good as any of them, and in some respects much better housed and equipped.

In the matter of recruitment of staff it has to be recalled that experienced men in engineering could be found only in long-standing institutions like the one at Guntur. The newly started colleges have largely to recruit younger men without such experience. The pinch is beginning to be felt, as is told, even in Government institutions. Private institutions have therefore to be content with new graduates. The other alternative being the recruitment of retired government servants. This is what has happened in this University.

But due to the prevalence of a certain unhealthy atmosphere in this University, certain teachers themselves had made use of the above difficulties and stirred up the students to start a strike. I feel that many of the students



194

allegations have no valid substratum. The students should have realised even when they joined this Institution that since this is a newly started one, it should not be expected to have the same experienced staff and same amount of equipment and facilities for practical training which the older institutions have built up in the course of several decades.

A // I have explained all these points to the students and I have reasons to believe that they have gained a clearer appreciation of the whole situation.

I have paid several surprise visits to the two institutes, and held more than one meeting with their staff to discuss in detail how the equipment already on hand can best be put to use in the two big blocks of buildings now available. I mean to devote special attention to the Engineering and Technology Departments, so that by the end of the current academic year their laboratories may be equipped fairly fully and the staff may reach its full strength, and efficient work ensured.

The putting up of a third block of buildings and the procurement of the remaining one-third or less of the items of equipment are the things that still remain to be accomplished. Increasing co-ordination of work in the Engineering Department has also to be achieved. But a beginning has already been made.

In conclusion, I wish to plead earnestly with



Government to give me unstinted and continued support
so that the goal of efficiency in every respect which
I aim at may be reached before the next academic year.

Yours sincerely,

S. G. Manavalak Ramanyiam

To

Sri M.V. Subrahmanyam, M.A., I.C.S.,
Secretary, Education & Public Health Department,
Government of Madras,
Madras.

20/4

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY
ANNAMALAINAGAR



Government to give me facilities and continued support
so that the goal of efficiency in every respect which
I aim at may be reached before the next academic year.

Yours sincerely,

S. G. Manavala Ramanujam

referred to and to clean the unhealthy
atmosphere in the University

Secretary, Education & Public Health
Government of Madras

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

5/

D.O.No. 8417843/48-4Edn., dated 6-1-49

Dear Doctor,

Sub:- University - Annamalai - Engineering and
Technology students - Strike - Report.

RS

P48cf

129-1

I am to invite a reference to the first sentence
of paragraph 3 on page 6 of your D.O. dated 22-12-48,
regarding ~~the~~ certain teachers who had ~~stirred up~~
stirred up the students to start a strike, and to
request you to send a report as to ~~the~~ steps have been
taken by the University to clear that unhealthy
atmosphere and correct these teachers.

To
Dr. S. G. Manavala Ramanujam,
M.A., Ph.D. (Lond), D.I.C.,
Vice-Chancellor,
Annamalai University,
Annamalainagar.

Yours sincerely,

taken by you to correct the teachers
referred to and to clean the unhealthy
atmosphere in the University-

Yours sincerely,

RS

4.1.49

5/1/49

6/1/49

52

Dr. S.G. Manavalakumaran, M.A., Ph.D.,
Vice-Chancellor.

Annamalai University,
Annamalainagar,

17th January, 1949



Dear Mr. Subramaniam,

P51 ante
3320

Ref: Your D.O. letter No. 84178-G3/48-4,
Education dated 6th Jan., 1949.

Sub: University - Annamalai - Engineering
and Technology students - Strike -
Report made.

--00--

P51 ante

In reply to your D.O., I am to state that as Laws and Regulations of the University stand, it is almost impossible for the Vice-Chancellor to take any direct action against teachers who mis-behave. Under the Act, only the Syndicate is empowered to suspend or dismiss any Member of the staff and it so happens that in this University the Syndicate is composed to nearly half of its strength of the teachers of the University and usually they are in a majority at the meetings of the Syndicate owing to the absence of one or more of the non-official and ex-officio members. It was to bring home to you this aspect of my difficulty that I addressed to you sometime ago a D.O. asking for clarification whether in such cases the teacher-members of the University could be asked to retire from the meeting when any question affecting a member of the staff had to be discussed.

It seems to me that no steps should be taken at present in regard to those members of the staff who stirred the students to start the strike, until the beginning of the Summer vacation

P.T.O.

P42 of 102
Annamalai
along
Calendar

separate file
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when the matter may be taken up for consideration. As there is difficulty in obtaining suitable men with proper qualifications particularly on the technical sides, it is better not to take any ^{official} action for the present. But, I am watching the further conduct of the men.

Yours sincerely,

S. G. Manavalas Ramanujan.

VR.17/1.

Mr. M.V. Subramaniam, I.C.S

Secretary, Dept of Education
Public Health
Amoy Street, Madras.

D.O.No. 84178 G2/48-5 Genl-15/2/49. E.& P.H.(G.3) -----

Dear Mr.Govindarajulu,

Sub:- University - Annamalai - Engineering and Technology students - Strike. -----

I am to forward a note in connection with the amendments to the Annamalai University Act, and to ask that the suggestions made in the note may kindly be considered by the Committee appointed by the Govt. in G.O.No.3232 Edn., dated 17-12-1948.

Yours sincerely,

To Sri S.Govindarajulu Naidu,
(Vice-Principal,
Law College, Madras) &
Convener of the Committee
appointed by Govt. to con-
sider amendments to the
Annamalai University Act.
(with enclosure-copy of
note).

3 photocopies

8249

9-2-49

PPS-6ygm

Note for consideration by the Committee appointed in G.O.No.3232 Edn., dated 17.12.1948.

PP1-11cf
P33cf
P39cf

Monp45cf

P51cf
PP53.54cf

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issue

In November last, the students of the Engineering and Technology courses in the Annamalai University went on a strike to show their dissatisfaction with the administration of these departments. The Vice-Chancellor who was asked to send a report on the strike, stated that he had explained the situation to the students and that the trouble had ended, but that he noticed a certain unhealthy atmosphere in the University as a result of which certain teachers themselves had made use of the ^{deficiencies in equipment and staff} differences and stirred up the students to strike. The Vice-Chancellor was asked to ^{report} specifically ^{about} as to the steps taken by him to correct the teachers referred to and to clear the unhealthy atmosphere in the University. From his reply, it is observed that he is labouring under a difficulty in this regard ^{though he appears to have intended some} ~~It now appears that he has some~~ proposals ~~which~~ ^{the second I have considered in possibility of} which would go towards the ^{improvement} solution of the situation and he would apparently require these proposals to be discussed with the Syndicate of the University. In this connection, he would like to have a discussion of the connected points in the Syndicate in the absence of the teacher-members of the Syndicate and he has ^{therefore} suggested that these members be asked to retire from the meetings ^{of} of the Syndicate when these matters are discussed. ^{the question was} At present, however, ^{as the law was then} the Vice-Chancellor has no power to exclude any member or class of members from the meetings of any University body. The Vice-Chancellor has been told so and he has been asked to raise this question ^{point} at the meeting of the Committee which will ~~shortly~~ discuss amendments to the Annamalai University Act, with a view to suitable legislation being considered in this connection.

2. ~~On any event,~~ ⁹ in the Government's opinion,

58

-2-

the situation in the Annamalai University as disclosed from the facts stated above is indeed unhappy. It would therefore appear necessary that ^{Suitable} ~~proper~~ proposals should be evolved in connection with the amendments ^{to} ~~of~~ the Annamalai University Act which would ~~shortly~~ be considered by the Committee recently appointed by the Govt. for the purpose ^{so as to avoid} ~~with a view to avoiding~~ the a state of affairs such as this.

RS
8/2/49
P 249

9-2-49

W 7/11/48

Special.

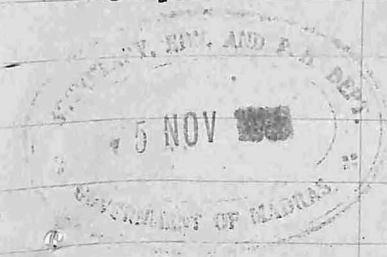
Secretary, E. & P.H.

Note file
AS 14 30 1

Please see herewith the representation from certain students of the Annamalai University Engineering College. If what is contained in it is true, it is very bad indeed. The matter may be referred to the Vice Chancellor for consideration and report. He may be asked to send an early reply in view of the fact that there has been a great deal of agitation over it.

15/11/48
H.M. Education.

84178



CPA (83)

Please See also P.S.'s Do. on p. 1 of the same subject -
2. The draft Do. below
for approval -

W 15-11-48
W 15/11/48
S 15/11/48

PP 13-14

[Issued as G.O. No. 84178/48-1 Edn
dt- 15/11/48]

CNO. 84379/48. From the Action Committee, Annamalai-nagar, telegram, dt- 10.11.48.
P 15

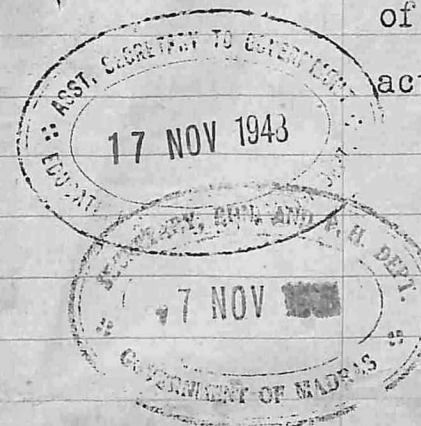
Please see the telegram on p. 15 of the detailed report of the V.C., Annamalai University, called for in the Do. on pp. 13-14 of may be awaited till 20/11/48.

W 16/11/48
W 16/11/48
W 16/11/48

Secretary, E. & P.H.

Please see herewith a letter from the Vice-Chancellor of the Annamalai University. With reference to 'A', the actual position may be put up.

H.M. Education.



C.No.85437/48. From the Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University, dated 14.11.48

" " " " " " telegram dated 12.11.48.
" " " " " " dated 11-11-48
" " " " " " dated 18.11.48.

Please see the letters from the Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University, on p.p. 17-18 c.f., p.21 c.f., and p.p.25-27 c.f., the telegram on p.19 c.f., the copy of D.O. of H.M.(Edn) on p.23 c.f., and H.M.'s minute above. The students of the Engineering and Technology courses of the Annamalai University want redress in the following directions:--

- (1) the appointment of adequate number of qualified and efficient teachers,
- (2) Removal of unqualified and incompetent members of the teaching staff from service;
- (3) better equipment for the laboratories,
- (4) arrangements for practical training in other institutions;
- (5) Securing recognition of the Engineering and Technology degrees of the Annamalai University; and

(6) ~~steps to be taken for avoiding delay in the administration of the office of the Registrar so as to avoid inconvenience due to delays -~~

(1) Appointment of staff - The students desire that a suitable person should be appointed as Professor of Civil Engineering in the place of the late Prof.K.S.Sitaraman. The Vice-Chancellor states that one Mr.Nataraja Aiyer has already been appointed to succeed Mr.Sitarama Aiyer. As regards the demand of the students for the appointment of efficient

efficient persons as members of the staff, the V.C. reports that the scales of pay of the staff has been revised by the Syndicate and that the ratification of the same by the Senate ~~xxxxxxxx~~ at its meeting on 2nd December, 1948, is awaited. He states that advertisements ^{of posts} in the new scales had already been made in the papers. No action seems necessary in this direction.

(2) Removal of unworthy members of the staff from service -

The V.C. states that if there are persons in the departments who are not fully qualified or competent, suitable action would be taken on receipt of ~~the~~ reports from the heads of departments concerned. He states that in the matter of appointment of one or two persons, apparently a wrong choice has been made, that in these technical appointments, the head of the department was consulted before the Board of Selection ~~was~~ decided about the persons to be appointed, and that the ~~xxxxxxxx~~ recommendations of the head of department were accepted. He also states that the students complained against the appointment of one or two teachers including the newly appointed Professor of Civil Engineering and that he has already told them ^{that} suitable action would be taken on receipt of reports from the heads of departments. No further action seems therefore necessary on this at present.

(3) Equipment of the laboratories.- The Vice-Chancellor states that the question of equipping more fully the laboratories is being examined by the Professors and Heads of Departments and will be decided by the Syndicate at an urgent meeting which he will be calling for. No action therefore seems necessary in this direction also.

(4) Provision of practical training - The V.C. states that ^{he has already told the students that} arrangements were being made for the practical training of the final year students at the College of Engineering, Guindy. No further action seems called for.

(5) Recognition of the degrees of the Annamalai University:- The V.C. states that the University had already invited the Institute of Engineers to send a Commission in January next for the purpose of reporting about the recognition of the Engineering degrees. ~~The~~ With reference to the portion marked A on p.18 e.f., it is submitted that the University's request for the recognition of the Annamalai University Engineering degrees (B.E., and B.Sc.(Tech)) for purposes of the All-India Competitive Engineering Examinations has been forwarded to the Federal Public Service Commission with the Government's support. Please see the letter on p.p.19-20 e.f. in the L.F. The reply from the Federal Public Service Commission ~~may be~~ awaited.

(6) Steps to be taken for avoiding delay in the administration of the office of the Registrar. - The Vice-Chancellor states that steps have already been taken to avoid delay in the office of the Registrar in regard to supply and equipment. He points out that the Syndicate has already empowered the heads of Depts. to call for quotations of articles they require for their departments after getting the V.C.'s sanction to purchase them. He states that the University has never stinted to sanction funds ~~xxxx~~ required for the equipment by the Head of the Department from time to time.

2/ The Vice-Chancellor states that the University has been anxious to secure the services of suitable staff but there seems to be a general paucity of technical men/for appointment. He states that with the revised scales of pay and the loan of members of the P.W.D., ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ the University would be able to give greater and fuller facilities for teaching the Engineering students. As regards the loaning of the services of the members of the P.W.D., please see the V.C.'s letter on p.21 e.f., and H.M's reply D.O. to the V.C. on p.23 e.f. If and when proper proposal

are received by the Govt., through they may be considered. then. As the Vice Chancellor is fully cognizant of the needs of the students and has taken suitable action, ~~no special action seems to be called for in these matters, either on the part of the Govt. or the Chancellor.~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ file may now be circulated to H.M. (Edn)

and H.E.

19/11/48
24/11/48

25-11-48

1/11/48
1/11/48
1/11/48

84178/48

I am not so very happy over the affairs of the Annamalai University as the above note write make out. The new V.C. may be asked to give us an idea of the existing state of affairs.

These routine notes that every thing is alright & will be alright do not help. A alone may be done & on receipt of that report, may be further circulated to H.E.

of the interim

This may be done if any interim circulation to H.E. is necessary, he may be informed that a report has been called for.

may be treated as special

TSA

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28-11-48



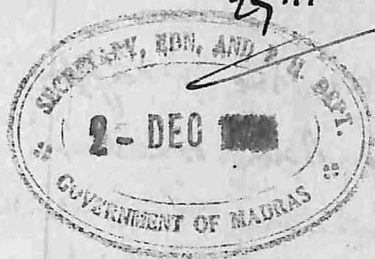
Richard W. Hughes

Please see the minutes of H.M. (Edn) on p. 6 ante. With reference to A on p. 6 ante, a draft D.O. is subd. for approval. After issue the file may be circulated to H.E. for perusal.

29/11/48

29-11-48

29/11/48



1/12/48

[Issued as D.O. No. 84178 Q3/48-22 dt 29/11/48]

The V.C., Annamalai University, has not yet sent his reply to the D.O. on p. 31. A draft D.O. remains for approval.

LO 15/12

13/12/48

15/12/48

14-12-48

P33 of

[Issued as D.O. No. 84178 Q3/48-3 Edn dt 15/12/48]

C.No. 96424/48 PP35-494

From the V.C., Annamalai University, dt 22/12/48.

Attention is invited to the minutes on page 6 ante - As ordered by H.M. in his minutes

PP35-494

The new Vice-Chancellor has submitted his report. The file may now be circulated to H.M. (Edn) and H.E. with reference to the minutes of the former reference.

27/12/48

As required by H.M. in his minute on page 6 ante, the New Vice-Chancellor has submitted a report on the action taken for redressing the grievances of the students of the Engineering and Technology courses of the Annamalai University. The students' memorandum will be found on pages 3 - 5cf. The action taken is briefly indicated below:-

(1) Appointment of a Professor of Civil Engineering and other staff.

A retired Railway Engineer who had the necessary qualifications was appointed Professor but he has resigned. *The Vice Chancellor has stated that an application is being made to the Government to lend the services of a Senior Instructor in Civil Engineering well qualified for promotion as Professor. This application has since been received in the Secretariat and is being dealt with separately. Action has been taken to appoint other staff as well.*

(2) Provision of equipment.

Two-thirds of the total equipment required have already been received and the remainder is either on the way or has been ordered. It is seen that steps have been taken, in the meantime, to ensure that lack of essential equipment does not stand in the way of the students receiving their instruction. No further action seems necessary in this regard.

(3) Recognition of the University degrees in Engineering and Technology.

The University sometime ago made an application to the Federal Public Service Commission for the recognition by the Commission of the B.E. and B.Sc.(Tech.) degrees of the University as suitable qualifications for recruitment to all India services. The application has been forwarded to the Commission with Government support. The Vice Chancellor points out that the time is not ripe for the recognition of these degrees. The Federal Commission's reaction to the application may be awaited. No special action is immediately called for.

(4) Delays due to the present rules of administrative procedure.

The Vice-Chancellor observes that delay is inevitable sometimes in respect of administrative matters, but that as much as possible is being done to speed up disposals. He is paying

special attention to the matter.

2. It may also be seen that the Syndicate, at a special meeting on 21-11-48 has resolved asking the Vice-Chancellor to consider the desirability of setting up a Standing Committee for matters relating to the Engineering and Technology department of the University. The Vice-Chancellor has not indicated whether he proposes to appoint a Standing Committee. The Vice-Chancellor observes that he has explained matters to the students and he has "reasons to believe that they have gained a clearer appreciation of the whole situation."

3. In one passage in his letter the Vice-Chancellor refers to the unhealthy atmosphere in the University and remarks that certain teachers themselves had stirred up the students. He may perhaps be asked to keep a watch of the activities of the teachers and to report their cases to the Syndicate if they persist in their undesirable activities - This is for orders.

4. The case may be circulated to H.M.(Edn.) and H.E.

With regard to the statement at 'M' on p.45

that "certain teachers themselves have made use of the unhealthy atmosphere in the University and stirred up the students to start a strike", I think we may call for a report as to what he has done to correct these teachers. Certainly, it is a matter for the University but it is up to us to get information about it. We may call for a report from more detailed information about the steps taken by the Vice-Chancellor to get clear that atmosphere.

The papers may now be

Order MS 853 Serial-25.3.49

Recorded

22/3/49

22.3.49

22/3/49

University - Amman
Engineering and
Technology students -
Strike Papers -
Recorded.

36