

Educational (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 262

Dated 2nd Apr. 1895.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

MR. NASH'S QUINQUENNIAL REPORT ON EDUCATION IN INDIA

Communicating to the Director of Public Instruction despatch from
the Secretary of State making certain observations on -- .

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CURRENT No. 349
Educational Dept.

In the Govt. of India (Hindu)

H.M.

Order 2 April 1895, No 262.

Communicated to the
D.P.D. in continuation of G.O. by
the 6th Sept-94 no 727 Ed.

No 139

Date 14
Recd 19
Sept 19
Spt. 7.

22/5/95

DESPATCHED
5 APR 95
To the Secy to the Govt. of India
Copy to the Secy to the Govt. of India

Subject

Forwarding Copy of Secy of Studies
despatch on the revised of the state
propos of education in British India

22/5/95

INDIA OFFICE,

London, the 24th January 1895.

Public (Educational).
No. 4.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor General of India in Council.

MY LORD,

I have received the letter of your Government, No. 6, dated 11th September last, forwarding copies of a Review of the state and progress of education throughout British India during the five years 1887-88—1891-92, together with your Resolution thereon.

The review is of great interest, and I concur in your commendation of the care and ability exhibited by Mr. Nash in its compilation. The resolution of your Excellency in Council has dealt fully with the most important points presented in the review, and by adding the figures for 1892-93 has brought the information as nearly as possible up to date. I have nothing to add at present to the orders contained therein, and I must express my satisfaction at the efforts which have been made to further the progress of education during the period under review. The results, however, do not appear to me to be in all respects proportionate to those efforts.

3. During the five years in question the number of pupils attending public educational establishments has risen by only 12 per cent., as against an increase of 24 per cent. in the previous quinquennium; and, as your Excellency in Council remarks, there has been no substantial change in the proportion of students in colleges and in secondary and primary schools respectively. Yet it is primary education which, in accordance with the recommendation of the Education Commission, has been regarded as having the chief claim on the State; and the expenditure on it from public funds has increased by 17 per cent., as compared with an increase of less than 7 per cent. on secondary education. The education of the bulk of the children is said to come to its end with the primary course, and it is not altogether satisfactory to find that there has been no substantial increase in the number of pupils in that stage.

4. I observe with regret also that, in spite of the greatly increased expenditure on training schools, your Government is again compelled to notice the deficiencies of the teachers, especially in primary schools. The adequacy, moral as well as mental, of the teachers is of vital importance to good education, and the remarks of the Director of Public Instruction in the Punjab, which are quoted on page 363 of the review, appear to me to present an ideal which it should be the object of all training schools to realise.

5. The condition of education in the North-West Provinces and Oudh is another regrettable matter which has been brought to light by this comparative Review. Both in the number of scholars attending primary and secondary schools, and in the proportion they bear to the population of school-going age, there has been a marked retrograde movement in that Province during the period in question. Notwithstanding an increase of expenditure amounting to nearly 5 lakhs, the number of pupils under instruction has diminished by 47,000.

6. On the whole, however, the result of this exhaustive Review is decidedly encouraging. The increased expenditure from fees is a welcome sign that the people are learning to appreciate the value of education, and to rely more upon their own resources, and less on the State and the generosity of

CHIEF SECRETARY
10. MAR. 1895
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

others. Female education, in spite of the difficulties with which it is beset, continues to make progress. The introduction of inspectresses for girls' schools has been attended with such success in Madras that the experiment will no doubt be repeated in other parts of India; and I trust that in this, as in all other respects, while the dictates of sound policy and the feelings of the people receive due consideration, no effort will be spared to promote the instruction of the women of India.

7. It is with great satisfaction also that I observe that not only are the Muhammadan community as a whole becoming increasingly sensible of the advantages of education, but that individuals of the wealthier classes among them are showing a greater inclination to help the poor by providing pecuniary support for their schools.

8. The chapter of the Review dealing with technical education is of considerable interest. Technical education is supported by your Government as an extension of general education, and industrial education is countenanced so far as it is of a nature applicable to the service of existing industries. On this principle the Local Governments have been working during the period under review with results which appear to be generally satisfactory, though the industrial surveys recommended by the Education Commission have not been carried out in all the provinces, and where executed have not yet had time to produce much practical effect. In regard to technical education, with special reference to agriculture, Dr. Voelcher's report is of too recent a date to allow of much progress having been made. I fully agree with your Excellency's Government that this question is one which cannot be forced, but should be dealt with gradually.

I have the honour to be,

MY LORD,

Your Lordship's most obedient, humble Servant,

HENRY H. FOWLER.

No. 139.

COPY forwarded to the Government of Madras

for information, in continuation of this Department Resolution No. ² 224-235, dated the 7th September 1894.

HOME DEPARTMENT,

EDUCATION;

Calcutta, the 14 March 1895.

By order,

L. M. Thornton

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India,

When given for copying _____
When copied _____
When examined _____
When signed _____ } 189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189 ,

DATED

CURRENT No.

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ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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