

Educational (1898) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 459

Dated 26-7-98

INDEXED.

Received T 23/10/98
26/7

W 2
21/7/98

1242

[Despatch Abstract.]

That the evils complained of against the compulsory character of the Primary Examⁿ by the Jodavari Dist Teachers' Assocn will cease to exist under the "fixed grant" system which it is proposed to introduce from next year.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Cr. 1139/98

Educational (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 862

358/97
220/95
714/95

From

The Dir. of Pub. Instruction,
Madras.

Order.

No. 7860

Dated 22 July 1897.

Received 26 JUL 1897

Registered 27-7-97

Enclosures two

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Resubmitting the resolutions of the Godavari District Teachers' Association and expressing his opinion on the compulsory character of the Primary Examination.



BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	358	○	29 6 97
	376	-	20 6 96
	844	-	24 10 95
	712	-	23 8 95
	220	-	13-3 95
	664	-	25 10 89

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

To
 This Excellency
 Sir Arthur Eliot & Havelock G.C.M.G.; G.C.98;
 The right honourable Governor-in-Council
 Fort St George
 Madras.
 4 MAR. 1897
 CHIEF SECRETARY
 GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

May it please your Excellency:— On behalf of the Godavari Teachers' Association of which we have the honor to be Secretaries, we most respectfully beg to state that we have herewith submitted a resolutions regarding Primary Examination, passed at the Godavari District Teachers' Conferences held at Rajahmundry on the 2nd & 3rd January 1896 and 1897, with memorial which describes the various disadvantages, with a view that your Excellency will be highly pleased to remove those difficulties.

Memorial (Primary Examination)

The Government was pleased to introduce this Primary Examination in 1889 with the intention of getting passed men for small appointments.

As there has been a rule that all pupils of the 4th Standard should appear for this examination, the teachers represented their difficulties to the Government and to the Director of Public Instruction and the Government

Some teachers are afraid of holding responsibility
 The highest possible distance will not
 be less than 40 miles to the Centre and these
 young boys cannot walk so long a distance
 nor are they bold enough to leave their parents
 when they go to such a distant place. Some
 boys have to travel on boats. The ill-paid
 teacher has to undergo the whole expenditure
 caused in supplying his pupils with bandies or
 boats, food at new places, a building and
 such other necessities, holding himself
 responsible for the boys' health & wealth.

The teacher has to travel the whole
 distance with 2 or 3 stops. He has to pay
 Rs 5 in famine days or Rs 4 in ordinary
 days for each day and for himself and
 has to stay at the Centre for at least
 3 days. The provincial grant allotted to
 his school might have been earned by
 girls in the III, II, I and Infant Standards
 and he has to receive nothing by the 4th
 Standard. Even there may be something
 left, his expenditure will be greater
 than the amount he gets. Hence the
 teacher is greatly discouraged.

The common expenditure of a
 pupil who appears for 1 optional
 Subject will be :—

	Rs	As	P
Examination fee — — — — —	0	8	0
Boat charge Coming from & going to his place }	0	4	0
Cost of food for $5\frac{1}{2}$ days at Rs 5 a day	1	11	6
If passes, cost of Certificate — — —	1	8	0
Total	2	15	6

at paper who applied for admission
subject actually spent at Tanuku Centre
where examination was conducted for 4 days
the teacher has to spend all this for a boy
if he refuses to pay.

In our humble opinion, the
following facts will not be out of place
in the memorial. Once a boy in the
Tanuku Centre went to the Gadavari Canal
to quench his thirst and fell into it. A
cattle driver at a near place came
and saved his life. Once a snake bit
a candidate and we cannot see the
difficulties which the teacher had to
overcome then. By God's favour, the boy was
saved. Once thieves robbed the candidates
of their jewels & books and clothes. Every
year there have been instances which
prove the burden and responsibility of
teachers.

After all, the discouragement which
the boys experience is, however, greater than
the pleasure of going to an examination.
As the examiners are mostly College professors
Tahsildars, Sub-Registrars and Magistrates
these young boys are greatly afraid & entering
the examination hall and their answers,
however intelligent the boys are, are usually
given out of great nervousness and
consequently cause them to fail in the
examination. In addition to this, it
has been in the practice of examining
one of the compulsory subjects first and

of driving away those boys who fail in it. Hence these little examinees are on the first day discouraged.

As this is oral examination, questions put at one centre are quite different from those at another centre and also questions put to some boys at the same centre are quite different to those put to other boys who are called on the next day. However skillful the examiners may be, there is no least possibility to think that all different questions put at different centres and all the questions in one and the same subject put on different days at the same centre are equidifficult.

The examiners being generally graduates and being accustomed to English talking generally, these young village boys cannot understand those questions even the examiners explain them with half knowledge of vernacular.

The candidates, therefore, have great fear from the beginning. The teachers, with whom the boys are familiar, are ordered not to stand within the premises of the Examination Hall. There are instances which the boys actually cry when their teachers are ordered to go away. How can those little boys be expected to pass the examination? Every principle of the examination creates great discouragement to the boys.

Every year an average number of

This Res.
is the same as
that recorded
in G.O. no 376
of 20th June 96
vide page 4

all pupils of the 4th Standard to appear before
the Primary Examination Board and pass
the examination to enable them to earn grants
are unnecessarily causing a great deal
of inconvenience and trouble to the school
going population, this Conference urges
the necessity of giving managers of schools
the option of submitting their pupils to the
Primary Examination or getting them
examined by the Inspecting Officers".

Resolution passed at the Second
Godavari District Teachers' Conference held
on the 2nd & 3rd January 1897.

"That this Conference re-affirms the
resolution of the last Conference and
requests that the Government will be
pleased to direct that Inspecting Officers
may examine 4th Standard class for
Residual Grants in situ and that it may be
left to managers of schools either to submit
their boys for Grant Examination by Inspecting
Officers or sending them up for the Primary
Examination.".

Office of the Godavari
District Teachers'
Association - Talapady
22nd February 1897

We most respectfully beg to
remain
most respected Sir
Your Excellency's most obedient
& most loyal subjects.

P. Ramachandrasea
P. Ramachandrasea

Secretaries.

From
 The Secretaries
 Godavari District Teachers' Association
 Tallapady
 The Right Honorable
 Governor-in-Council
 Fort St. George
 Madras.

Dated 22nd February 1897
 Despatched 26th Feb 1897

That this Conference re-affirms the
 resolution of the last Conference and
 requests that the Government will be
 pleased to direct that the Government
 may examine the standard class for
 results to be sent in due time and that it may be
 left to the discretion of the Government to select
 their staff for the examination.

Subject.
 Submitting extracts
 from the resolutions passed
 at the Godavari District
 Teachers' Conferences held
 on the 2nd & 3rd Jan 1896 & 1897
 with memorial.

Primary Examination

Enclosed 2 to C to 862 20/10/97

Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction.

Read-Letter from the Secretaries, The Godavari District
 Teachers' Association, Tallapady, dated 23rd February 1897.

No 6373 dated 16th July 1897.

Recorded with the remark that if a
 manager want results grants for the fourth standard pupils
 he must send them up for the Primary Examination.
 Exception is given only in exceptional circumstances.

(Sd) D. Duncan,
 Director of Public Instruction.

That this Conference re-affirms the
 resolution of the last Conference and
 requests that the Government will be
 pleased to direct that the Government
 may examine the standard class for
 results to be sent in due time and that it may be
 left to the discretion of the Government to select
 their staff for the examination.

2. The Secretary,
 Teachers' Association, Tallapady.

22 February 1897

Primary Examination

C 10862857

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,

Madras, 22nd July 1897.

No. 7360

From J.E. Bilderbeck Esq. M.A.

~~THE HONOURABLE MR. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc.~~

AG. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,

Madras,

To

The Secretary to Government,

Local and Municipal Department,

Fort St. George.

SIR,

In reference to G.O. No. 353 Educational, dated the 29th ultimo, transmitting to me for remarks a memorial from the Godavari District Teachers' Association, in which the Primary Examination is criticized and condemned to its compulsory character, I have the pleasure to inform you that a letter from the same association was received in this office and disposed of in Director's Proceedings No. 6373, dated 16th June 1897, a copy of which is enclosed.

2. As matters now stand, the Primary Examination, under article 2 of the Primary Examination Notification, dated 23rd August 1895, is both a "public" test and a Departmental Examination. In the latter capacity it is employed as a test of the eligibility of pupils for the fourth standard for results grants, and, consequently, as a compulsory examination for results grants in so far that every pupil presenting these papers is required to appear for the Primary Examination, exemptions being allowed only in the case of boys in the Agency tracts and of girls, who are exempted for grants in their several schools administered by the Inspector, and not

Enclosed herewith 8825049

by the Primary Examination Boards.

3. The history of this examination in its chief features was clearly outlined by Dr. Duncan in his letter, No. 12162, dated 13th December 1894, recorded in G.O. No. 230 of the 13th March 1895, and in this G.O. Government emphatically declared itself in favour of a compulsory examination.

4. If, as acting Director, I may be allowed to express an opinion in the matter, I should like here to say that it appears to me that the scheme of the Primary Examination, regarded as a Departmental Examination, is open to serious objections. Among these objections, I may indicate the cumbrous character of its machinery, the inconveniences and injustice in which it frequently involves masters and pupils - evils which, with perhaps a touch of exaggeration, have been described in the memorial under reference - and, lastly, the most important of all, the injury that it cannot but cause to a sound system of elementary education, by providing, as it does, a powerful but unwholesome and demoralising stimulus to exertion in the case of pupils who are mere children. While my

own prepossession are not in favour of the retention of the Primary Examination, on the other hand, I am strongly of opinion that, in the interests of a stable and consistent policy of educational administration, it would be inexpedient to reopen this question so soon after the institution of a few more years, if on its present footing. The experience of a few more years, if it does not condemn the present system, may serve to show in what directions improvements may be made and evils inherent in the system may be minimised. Further, it is a part in the that the examination now plays an important part in the educational machinery of this Presidency by regulating the distribution of grants and that, if it is to be given up, the work now performed by it must fall on the Inspecting agency which would probably have to be greatly strengthened, or at all events, reorganised.

The memorial is herewith returned. The honour to be,
Sir,
I have the obedient servant,
Your most
B. B. S. S. S.

G.
25 A
500-2-9-87.

C. 22-4-98
RD. 25. 4. 98

Question with ref. to 25
has been whether this may not be
it has not been passed. It is a
H.M. ✓ System, now before H.M. When
those at hand, he has
up at once. H.T.
15-7-98

now
H.T.
22-7-98

FOR ORDERS.

Educational DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT.

Compulsory character of the
Primary Examination.

In one of its letters disposed of by G.O. no 358 Ed. 29th June 1897, the Godavari District Teachers' Association requested that the Fourth Standard boys might not be compelled to appear for the Primary Examination at the appointed centres and this was referred to the D.P.S. for remarks. Mr. Biddlewick who has replied to this when acting as D.P.S. remarks that his own prepossessions are not in favour of the retention of the Primary Examination as a departmental examination but that he is strongly of opinion that in the interests of a stable and consistent policy of educational administration, it would be inadvisable to make this

So soon after the institution of the examination on its present footing. The experience of a few more years, he says, if it does not condense the present system, may serve to show in what directions improvements may be made and evils inherent in the system may be minimised.

He also notes that if the Primary examination were to cease & serve to test the eligibility of pupils of the fourth standard for results grants the examination of the fourth standard would fall on the Inspecting Agency which would probably have to be greatly strengthened or reorganised.

It will be seen that the A. J. D. P. D. admits the existence of the evils complained of by the Association and hopes that they may be minimised in future.

It may be noted that if the "fixed grant" system were introduced, the examination of individual pupils for results grants would cease and with that the evils complained of by the Association. The following order is now being

I have not seen any order with respect to the "Fixed Grant" system. I mentioned in favour of it, but I presume it was cancelled when other numbers.

JL
24.4.98

submitted for approval.

Order No 459 of 26-7-98

The Govt considers that the evils complained of by the Association will cease to exist under the "fixed grant" system which it is proposed to introduce from next year.

SLN
H. I.
21.4.98

Note for H. M.

I much regret the loss of this paper in the office. The fact is, the only Ed. CA got "stuck" in his work, the Asst. Secies were constantly changed, while Plague work & Municipal Bd. gets kept me too busy to do myself the Drafting on these old papers. However, they are being rapidly looked off now, & in a few weeks more there should be few or no papers pending from 197.

The Godavari District Teachers' Association (p. 1)

D. P. D. 940.

Des. 2
29.7.98

When given for copying 26/7
When copied 327.7
When examined 189
When signed 26/7

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189 ,

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy heading only.