

Local & Muni. / (1898) Department.

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G.O., No. 1872

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DESPATCHED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Education

Communicating to the Sdy. Comr. all Muni. Councils & the Muni. Comrs of Madras J.D. R.D. accepting the views taken by the Director of Pub. Instr. & the B. of Revenue that the proposal that every boy & girl seeking admission to a recognised school should be required to procure an extract from the birth register should be deprecated.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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Government { 1898 } of Madras. LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1898.

Enclosures

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G.O., No. 187 L., 1st February 1898.

FEBRUARY.

Birth Register.

Communicating to the Sanitary Commissioner, all Municipal Councils and the Municipal Commissioners of Madras, Government Order, Revenue Department, accepting the views of the Director of Public Instruction and the Board of Revenue that the proposal to require every boy and girl seeking admission to a recognized school to procure an extract from the — should be deprecated.

Government {1898} of Madras.
LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL.

Proof for approval.

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G.O., No. 187 L., 1st February 1898.

FEBRUARY.

Birth Register.
Education.

*Does this refer
to Education
or Birth Register?
11/1/98
Communicate to
Birth Register*

Communicating to the Sanitary Commissioner, all Municipal Councils and the Municipal Commissioners of Madras, Government Order, Revenue Department, accepting the view taken by the Director of Public Instruction and the Board of Revenue that the proposal that every boy and girl seeking admission to a recognized school should be required to procure an extract from the birth register should be deprecated.

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Local & Munl. (1898) Department.

CURRENT No. 130 L

From

The Revenue Department,

Order No. 187 L 2.98

Communicated to the Sanitary

No. 141 Misc.
10th-January.

Commissioners, all Municipal Councils

and the Municipal Commissioners of

Dated 10th January. 1898.

Madras.

Received

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SUBJECT.

Accepting the view taken by

the Director of Public Instruction and

the Board of Revenue, as regards the

proposal that every boy & girl seeking

admission to a recognised school should

be required to procure an extract from

the birth register.

To

The Sanitary Commissioners

All Chairmen of Munc. Councils

Collectors

The President, Munc. Comm. Madras

Revenue Department

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following Proceedings

of the Board of Revenue, Revenue Settlement No. 9826, this 4th 9th December 1897 on the following papers:-

1. Board's Proceedings, No. 2782, 4th 22nd Sept. 1897.
2. the following letter from the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, to the Secretary to Govt. Educational Dept. No. 12925, 4th 22nd Nov. 1897.

With reference to para. 3 of G.O. No. 513, Cus. 4th 1st July 1897 I have the honour to state that I am not in favour of the proposal made by the Board of Revenue, in para. 11 of Resolution No. 89, 4th 2nd Feb. 1897, that every boy and girl seeking admission to a recognised school should be req^d to produce an extract from the birth register. The most important of the arguments urged by the Board in favour of proposal is that it will develop and improve the registration of vital statistics. This improvement in the registration of vital statistics will not, I fear, be so great as the Board seems to imagine, and will be more than counterbalanced by the following remarks, he far outweighed by the injury that might be done to the cause of primary education in the country.

2. In the first place, the total number of boys and girls who attend school is very small

in proportion to the total number of children born in the country, the number of boys under instruction on the 31st March 1897 being, according to the last report on public instruction, only 26.7 per cent of the male population of school age and that of girls, 4.3 per cent of the female population of school age. The improvement in the registration of vital statistics which might result from the introduction of the rule proposed by the Board would therefore be almost unappreciable; while, on the other hand, the spread of primary education in rural tracts would be seriously affected. Few, even among educated parents, can be expected to procure the necessary certificates at the time of the birth of their children and to preserve them till their children attain school age; while the uneducated masses can hardly furnish correct particulars to the village registrars of births, to enable them to identify the entries relating to individual children and to furnish them readily with attested extracts from the birth registers. Further, the majority of parents are so indifferent to the education of their daughters that they would not take the

trouble of producing the necessary extract from the birth register. Thus, a very large number of boys and girls would be ineligible for admission to recognized schools and would be denied the benefit of even elementary education, in case the rules proposed by the Board were strictly enforced.

3. Secondly, the proposed rule would improve only the registration of births and would leave that of deaths in its present state; and hence the primary object of improving the registration of vital statistics which is to aid the calculations of District officials as to the progress of a famine or pestilence could not be gained.

4. Thirdly, the production of the necessary extract from the birth register is not such an easy matter as might appear at first. Unless special facilities were given for the grant of such extracts, parents would be put to unnecessary inconvenience, even if these extracts were given free of charge. Further, the petty officials who may have charge of the birth registers might be tempted to cause a great deal of annoyance to parents, when they come to see that so much importance is attached to extracts from the birth registers.

5. Fourthly, the certificate of identity is another difficulty in the way of the proposed rule being enforced. This difficulty has been recognised

by Government in G.O. No. 513, Revenue, dated 1st July

July 1897, already referred to.

6. Lastly, Government itself, in passing orders on the Board's Resolution referred to above, has held that it is not possible to insist at present upon the production of attested extracts of birth registers from Candidates for the Public Services Board in Municipalities. I am, therefore, unable to approve of a similar condition being enforced in the case of boys and girls including those in rural parts, who seek admission to schools. I do not think that this country is yet ripe for a measure of this kind, nor can a rule like the one proposed by the Board of Revenue be enforced in this country for many years to come, without causing serious injury to the cause of primary education.

Resolution: The Board, as now constituted, concurs with the Director of Public Instruction in deprecating the proposal that every boy and girl seeking admission to a recognised school should be required to produce an extract from the birth register.

Order thereon No: 141, Dins dated the 10th January 1898

The Government accepts the view taken by the Director of Public Instruction and the Board of Revenue.

(True Extract)

As: ^{Indarjambach} Secretary to Government

Local & Municipal Dept.
Educational Dept.

1 copy sent to Press.
1 copy for signature.
1 copy despatched in print.

1/2/98
12/2/98
15/2/98
16/2/98

AD AGAIN G.O. No. 130

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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