

[B. Shrinandan Pd. N. S. Sharma]

IMPARTING OF FREE PRIMARY EDUCATION BY THE SARAN
DISTRICT BOARD.

Babu SHRINANDAN PRASHAD NARAYAN SINGH SHARMA: Sir, in view of the decision of the Government accepting my entire proposal which has been communicated to me as the chairman of the district board of Saran by the Ministry of Education in their letter no. 672, dated the 28th July 1928, I think there is no necessity of moving this resolution.*

MIDDLE SCHOOLS IN *KHAS MAHALS* AND IN THE ESTATES UNDER
THE COURT OF WARDS.

Mr. KESHIARI PRASHAD SINGH: Sir, I rise to move:

This Council recommends to Government that in *khass mahals* as well as in the estates under the court of wards in this province middle schools, either English or vernacular, be opened.

This resolution has been moved because Government stands condemned for better management of the estates not as a Government but as one of the landlords. Here Government's capacity is not of a Government but of a landlord. Therefore I will ask that Government has been in season and out of season been complaining against the big zamindars that they are lacking in the interest of education among the tenant classes. The Government, I think, as landlord stands condemned because the question as to how many middle schools exist in the *khass mahals* has not been answered. I suppose, Sir, there are 343 villages belonging to the *khass mahal*. Now the total income must be lacs and lacs. I will ask Government that since its occupation what it has done regarding their education. I think Government as landlord can give us an example of a model landlord in imparting or making education free in its own zamindari, and so far as my information goes, it has not done anything in the cause of education. It has not cared for educating the *khass mahal* raiyats and it is no better than the other zamindars or landlords who are less educated and who are said to be adverse to the interest of their raiyats in respect of their education in their own zamindaris. This resolution is put by me in order to draw the attention of Government.

* This Council recommends to Government that the Saran district board be allowed to impart free primary education up to the middle vernacular standard in all managed middle English schools of the board.

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The attitude of Government towards this resolution will show whether they have sympathies with the tenants and raiyats of *khas mahals* from whom, so far as I have been able to ascertain, Government takes the highest rental as compared with that paid by tenants not living in *khas mahal*. If time will come for moving a further resolution of the same kind I shall point out to this House whether Government is willing to impart education to its own tenants as a civilised landlord as it is managed by the ablest officers. They have a number of able officers, from the District Magistrates to the Deputy Magistrates for the administration and collection of rent from the *khas mahals*. I would appeal to Government to take a keen interest in educating their tenants, so that they may learn how to make their labours more profitable and how to use modern science in the art of agriculture. If Government have not opened any middle school, either English or vernacular, I would ask them to do so immediately. I know two difficulties may be offered from the side of Government benches: the Education Minister may say "I have full sympathy with the resolution but my hands are tied in the absence of funds". The new Finance Member may say "Look here, I shall raise no objection but there is a paucity of funds". Have not Government in ancient days and has not the Muhammadan Government before the advent of the British spent a portion of their revenue for the education of their tenants? I should like to see free education introduced in the *khas mahals* and the cost of education which Government will have to bear will be very small in proportion to the income which they derive. I can speak with authority and knowledge that the income from the *khas mahal* areas of the district of Shahabad Sadr subdivision is above Rs. 55,000. There are four *khas mahal* lands in that district. One is in Arrah Sadr; another is in Bhabhua; one is in Buxar and there may be more; and there are *khas mahal* land also in the Sasaram subdivision. Government can very well open and maintain four or five schools in the *khas mahal* land from the income which is derived from these areas and can show to the people of India that they are in favour of imparting free and compulsory education in Government land. It is only proper that when Government have been getting a big profit out of these *khas mahal* lands for at least 100 years that it should come forward and spend sufficient money upon the education of its tenants and thus show to the neighbouring zamindars that Government is doing this as an example for others to follow.

[Mr. Keshari Pd. Singh]

With these words, Sir, I move this resolution and I feel certain that Government will not be so callous as to reject this most reasonable and most sacred resolution for the benefit of the *khas mahal* tenants. I commend the resolution for the complete adoption by this House.

Maulavi ABDUL GHANI : میں اُدکی اجازت سے یہہ ترمیم
پیش کرتا ہوں کہ جو تجویز پیش ہوئی ہے اسمیں بجائے
" vernacular schools on urdu English or vernacular "
and non-urdu basis " الفاظ رکھ جائیں

جس تجویز کو میرے محترم درست نے پیش کیا ہے مجھے اُس سے
اختلاف نہیں ہے ۔ صرف در ایک لفظ کا ہیر پھیر ہے ۔ ہاں اتنا ہے کہ
انگریزی اسکول کے زائد کھولنے کے ساتھ ہم نہیں ہیں جس قوم کی خاص
زبان نہیں ہوتی رہ زندہ نہیں رہ سکتی ۔ اسلئے ہمکو ضرورت ہے کہ ہم
اپنی ملکی زبان کو ترقی دیں ۔ مڈل انگلش تک تعلیم حاصل
کرنے سے ہمکو کوئی ایسی صلاحیت نہیں ہو جائیگی کہ ہم اُس زبان میں
سوچ سکیں اور اپنے خیالات کا اظہار کرسکیں ۔ اسکے لئے ہائی اسکول کھلے
ہوئے ہیں ۔ کافی سامان ہے اور کونسل نے بھی اس پر ایک تجویز منظور
کی تھی کہ اپنی ملکی زبان کی ترقی کے لئے ورنا کولر اسکول کھولے جائیں ۔
چنانچہ پروگرام بھی تیار ہوا ہے ۔ اس پروگرام کے ذریعہ سے ۵۵۰ مڈل
ورنیکولر اسکول گورنمنٹ نے کھولنے کے لئے تجویز کیا ہے ۔ اب انگلش اسکول اور
کھولنے کی طرف ہماری رغبت نہیں ہونی چاہیئے ۔ صرف ورنیکولر اسکول کھولے
جائیں ۔ اُردو اور غیر اُردو در زبان کے لئے مڈل اسکول درکار ہیں ۔ اُردو
اسلئے کہ مسلم بچوں کو آسانی نہیں ہوتی ہے دوسری زبان میں تعلیم
حاصل کرنے میں ۔ گورنمنٹ نے بھی بارہا اپنی تعلیمی رپورٹ میں اس کمی کا
تذکرہ کیا ہے ۔ ابھی پنج سالہ رپورٹ میں گورنمنٹ نے ان الفاظ میں
ادا کیا ہے ۔

" The proportion of Muslim education has always been low
so far middle stage is concerned and this is no doubt due to absence
of facility of instruction in Urdu "

اس سلسلہ میں میں یہہ عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ لوکل بورڈز کو
اختیارات ابتدائی تعلیم کے دیدئے گئے ۔ نظم ونقص اس کے ساتھ ہے

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۵۵۰ مڈل اسکول میں ۵۲۵ اب تک کھل چکے ہیں جسمیں سے آرڈر مڈل اسکول اب تک صرف ۱۹ کھلے ہیں مجموعی اخراجات recurring Rs. 7,26,569 ہیں آرڈر کے اسکول کے اخراجات صرف

The Hon'ble the PRESIDENT : ممکن ہے کہ اسمیں کونسل کا کچھ تعلق ہو۔ لیکن یہ رزلیوشن کے حد کے باہر ہے۔ یہ رزلیوشن صرف خاص محال میں اسکول کھولنے کی استدعا کرتا ہے۔ اور دسترکت بورڈ نے کتنے اسکول کھولے اور کتنے آرڈر اسکول کھولے۔ یہ موقع دسترکت بورڈ پر آرڈر اسکول نہ کھولنے کے حملہ کرنیکا نہیں ہے۔ میں یہ نہیں کہتا کہ آپ اس پر کسی دوسرے موقع پر تقریر نہیں کرسکتے۔ لیکن اسوقت اسکا موقع نہیں ہے۔ میں ادب سے یہ عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ : Maulavi ABDUL GHANI میرے دروازے دھان بند ہیں۔ گورنمنٹ یہ کہتی ہے کہ ہم کچھ نہیں کرسکتے تو اب گورنمنٹ کی باری آئی ہے اسلئے میں گورنمنٹ کی ترجمہ مبذول کرانا چاہتا ہوں کہ گورنمنٹ کے سامنے یہ تجویز پیش ہے۔ گورنمنٹ اب تو خیال کرے جب اسکے اختیار میں ہے۔

لیکن دسترکت بورڈ کے کارنامے بیان : The Hon'ble the PRESIDENT کرنیکا یہ موقع نہیں ہے کہ انہوں نے کہاں کہاں زیادتی کی ہے۔ میں اسوقت اسکے کہنے کی اجازت نہیں دے سکتا۔

بہتر۔ میں بھی گورنمنٹ سے درخواست : Maulavi ABDUL GHANI کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔ کہ ہمارے محرک کے یہ موقع بہم پہنچایا ہے کہ گورنمنٹ کے اختیار میں ہے کہ رزلیکوار سکول کھولے۔ اسمیں آرڈر اسکولوں کا بھی خیال رکھے۔ ان الفاظ کے ساتھ اپنی ترمیم کو ہاوس کے سامنے پیش کرے امید کرتا ہوں کہ وہ اس کو قبول کریگا۔

Mr. R. E. RUSSELL : Sir, I do not think that Government can fairly be accused of callousness towards their own tenants in matters educational or anything else, but still they are unable to accept the resolution which is just before them. The hon'ble mover distinguishes between the two roles which Government play—first its role as Government and, secondly, its role as the landlord, and his whole argument is based on that. But this involves a discrimination between the interests of Government's tenants and the interests of the general public which Government cannot admit.

[Mr. R. E. Russell]

The control of primary education throughout the province and of middle education in most districts has been handed over to the district boards. The expansion of education is regulated according to definite programmes framed by the district boards under the guidance and approval of the Ministry of Education, and these programmes are meant to cater for the educational needs of the whole province, for Government estates and wards estates just as much as for other areas. For this purpose, the boards are financed in two ways. They receive their income from the cesses to which Government contribute just in the same way as other landlords do, and in addition to that they receive all the money that Government can spare from the general revenues for education. This money is placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Education and is distributed to the district boards.

Now, Sir, the mover of the resolution apparently desires to divert a disproportionate amount of the funds available for education generally in order to provide special facilities for Government estates. If I heard him right, he stated that free education ought to be given in Government estates irrespective of what is possible elsewhere. He seemed to think that the income which Government receives from these estates is swallowed up by Government and is not used for ordinary public purposes. But, Sir, the revenues from Government estates are treated just in the same way as other revenues; they all go into the general purse. Since Government already give the Ministry of Education every penny which can be spared for education, it is obvious that if they are to undertake special programmes for *khas mahal* estates, they can only do so by taking back some of that money from the Ministry and using it for schools in the estates. This could be done only at the expense of and to the detriment of other parts of the province. It is idle to think that Government can add more money to the funds which they have given to the district boards for education. They cannot do so. I think if I were to accept the proposition that money was to be taken from other areas in order to pay for the *khas mahal* areas the Hon'ble Minister would be the first to object and I imagine that every representative of the district board in this House would follow suit. Apart from this it would not be for the best interests of education to do so. The development of schools must be regulated by a programme which takes into consideration the needs of the whole district, and the necessity for establishing schools in any particular place must to some extent

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depend on the requirements of the surrounding tracts. It is impossible therefore to make a rule that a Government estate must have so many schools irrespective of its immediate surroundings. There may be a middle school within half a mile of the boundary of the estate which would serve it as well as one inside the estate. The needs of Government estates therefore cannot be dealt with separately, and discretion must be left to local bodies subject to the control of the Ministry to develop their educational schemes in accordance with the general needs and not at the dictates of the Government estates. If the interests of Government estates are not sufficiently catered for by the district boards, the Collectors are on the spot and they can make representations in the proper quarter if they think that the Government estates are being neglected.

The resolution mentions the case of wards estates, but as far as I was able to hear the speech of the hon'ble mover, he omitted that portion of his resolution—at any rate he did not deal with it in detail. The position in wards estates is clear. It is hardly necessary for me to remind the House that wards estates are not the property of Government. Government manage these estates as trustees for the owners. If there is a surplus in the revenues of the estate they are justified in spending a part of it for the benefit of the estate, but the revenues of the estate are not at their disposal to deal with as they like. They can only be spent in such a way as a wise and prudent landlord would spend them if left to himself. Government do, as a matter of fact endeavour to see that solvent estates make reasonable contributions towards schools in the district. But it would be improper for them to go beyond that or to put pressure upon them to divert excessive amounts for that purpose. If they did so they would be accused and rightly accused of using the wards' money for saving their own pockets for purposes which should be financed from public funds. On these grounds therefore it is impossible for Government to use their position as trustees for wards estates to compel them to spend more than they do at present. I must therefore oppose the resolution.

Babu KAILASH BIHARI LAL : Sir, I rise to give my support to the resolution. I take this opportunity to inform Government about the grievances of some *khas mahal* people in my district. There is a *khas mahal* village called Tintanga in which there is no school, and I know that only recently the people of the *khas mahal* village were running from the chairman

[B. Kailash Bihari Lal]

of the district board to the district inspector of schools and from the district inspector to the chairman and none of them gave them any help. Perhaps the new rules of the Education Department regarding opening of middle schools provide that schools may be opened at the cost of villagers helped by private funds. Perhaps, the district board of Bhagalpur has exceeded their programme or perhaps they are running at present on a deficit and they have got no money to open new schools and the chairman gave the reply that they have to look for private funds. Now, the poor people in their helplessness had no other course but to approach the district inspector for Government help and the district inspector showed his helplessness also. It has been pointed out by the Hon'ble Member for Government that they have got their door open before the District Magistrate and I may inform Government that they approached the *khas mahal* Deputy Collector also. The Deputy Collector was pleased to refer the matter to the chairman again and the chairman gave the same reply. Now the position that resolves itself is that either they have to look to their own purse or they have to depend upon the district board. They cannot depend upon any zamindar. Ordinarily in places where there is no school and the people want a school, they approach the landlord and they surely get some help from the landlord of the place. It has been rightly pointed out by the hon'ble mover of the resolution that Government is the landlord and as landlord Government have got ordinarily to discharge the duties of a landlord first and then that of Government. They should not think of taking the *khas mahal* income in the Government treasury. They have first to discharge the duty as a landlord and then to take the revenues of the *khas mahal* in their treasury. If they were to discharge their duties in this way, then of course there would be some difficulty in apportioning some amount for education and other necessities. Of course this trouble should not be grudged because they have got extra income. If they have to pay some amounts for education, it should not be grudged. As I have now brought a specific instance before Government, it deserves their consideration. The people in the *khas mahal* areas have got no other source, they have got no other place to knock at except at the door of Government and Government have to discharge the duties to their *khas mahal* people. With these words, I support the resolution.

The Hon'ble Sir SAIYID MUHAMMAD FAKHR-UD-DIN, Khan Bahadur: Sir, Mr. Russell has already given

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a reply but inasmuch as in the course of his speech the hon'ble mover referred to the Ministry of Education. I also wish to speak a few words. The hon'ble mover is probably under the impression that Government do not pay any cess like other ordinary landlords. But as a matter of fact Government do pay cess for their *khas mahal* estates just in the same way and in the same proportion as the other landlords do. The management and administration of all primary schools, including middle vernacular schools and in some districts including middle English schools also has been entrusted to the district boards and the cess which is payable by Government *khas mahal* estates all go to the district boards. They supplement their resources by Government grant which is given whenever funds are available and they administer all primary schools. In fact, we have found Maulavi Abdul Ghani was just now complaining against the district board. But the case which has been put forward by the hon'ble mover has been put on a different footing. He wants that Government should start the opening of the middle vernacular and middle English schools, independent of any control by local bodies. I think this would be going against the policy which was enunciated long ago and which has hitherto been pursued. The district boards have to open primary and middle schools with all the available funds. If Government were to open these middle schools in their estates who is going to take charge of them? If the hon'ble mover wants that Government should manage these schools without any reference to the local bodies or to the Ministry of Education that would be most objectionable. If Government were to give any money out of the income of their estates I would certainly welcome but the money will have to be handed over to all the district boards. It is for the district boards to open schools in the *khas mahals*. But I do not think it would be desirable that Government should spend any amount from the income of the *khas mahals* or from the income of wards estates with a view to open middle schools in the *khas mahals* and put them under the control of the tahsildar or *khas mahal* Deputy Collectors. If funds are available they should certainly be distributed among the district boards according to certain rules which have been laid down and which are being followed for such distribution. I do not understand how and why preferential treatment should be accorded by Government to the tenants or residents of *khas mahals*. All peoples should be treated alike and all the money that is available should go to the local bodies. After all, the outer income

[Hon. Sir S. M. Fakhur-ud-din]

from Government *khas mahals* goes to the provincial treasury. I am therefore sorry that I cannot lend my support to this resolution.

Mr. KESHARI PRASHAD SINGH: Sir, I have heard the criticisms of the Revenue Secretary and the Hon'ble Minister with regard to my resolution. They have not answered my question. It would have been reasonable if the Revenue Secretary had said that out of the income from *khas mahals* Government spend a certain amount in cesses. In my resolution I advocated free education and I said that whatever amount Government might contribute as cess they paid much less cess when compared with what is paid by other zamindars. The point was whether Government as a landlord should take education into their hands and thus encourage neighbouring landlords to promote education in their own estates. Now, I can cite a case where there are schools managed by the district board; there are other schools in which aids are given by the people of the villages. As regards the management of the schools through the district boards I have a good deal to say in this respect. It is impossible for them to make education free in their schools because they cannot meet the expenses. But the Education Department should make education free and compulsory in *khas mahals*. Therefore I say that the answer has not been given to my question. The proper answer is that the Revenue Secretary does not know what is the percentage of cess which Government as a landlord pay to the Government of Bihar. He does not reckon the income of the total *khas mahal*. The saving is much more in *khas mahal* land owing to the fact that there is a rack-renting system prevailing in the *khas mahals*, and a foreign Government has no sympathy with the tenants. I wanted that in return for the heavy rent which they are realising they should open free and compulsory schools. As regards the court of wards I am thankful to my hon'ble friend for reminding me of my omission. He says that the court of wards is a trustee. But as a trustee they subscribe liberally towards Government functions. They are all dealt with by the Board of Revenue. But there are estates in which there are profits and no debts. Is it not proper for my friend to aid or open schools in those estates. For example, there is the estate of Chainpur in which there is a large accumulation of income but not one school has been opened or aided. My point is this that in the court of wards the trustees are to see that the income and expenditure should

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meet. It will be for them to show that they left the estate better than at the time when they originally took it. Therefore I trust that in the court of wards estates also Government should open middle schools either in English or in the vernacular.

Mr. R. E. RUSSELL: Sir, I do not know why the hon'ble mover should impute to me ignorance of the rate at which cess is paid in Government estates. I do happen to know the figure which is 6 per cent. of the annual value of lands,—exactly the same as that which is paid for other lands.

Mr. KESHARI PRASHAD SINGH: In my own estate I pay 50 per cent. and I can produce papers to prove it.

Mr. R. E. RUSSELL: I am afraid the hon'ble member does not understand the way in which cess is calculated in his own estate. The cess cannot be imposed at a higher rate than one anna in the rupee, and if the hon'ble member likes I will try to explain to him afterwards how it is calculated. It would however unduly waste the time of the House if I went into this question in greater detail here. It is not strictly relevant to this resolution.

I think on this resolution we have been talking somewhat at cross purposes. I do not think the speakers on the other side have realised that there is only a certain amount of money to spend on education. Whether it goes to the Government estates or whether it goes to the general public the amount is still the same. Now the suggestion has been put forward that Government being a landlord ought to act as a landlord first. They should say that they get so much revenue from a particular estate and will spend so much on education in the estate first and hand over the balance to the public revenues. If that is done it really means that the amount which Government hold back to spend in the Government estate is deducted from the amount which they could hand over to be spent on education in general. Government think it is unfair to do that. The hon'ble mover thinks it is fair. That is a difference of view and we can only continue to disagree.

One other speaker mentioned the hard case of a village called Tintanga in Bhagalpur. This is a small place and there seems no obvious reason why Government should specially divert money to it. But apart from that there was a Government

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training school there and it has now been washed into the Ganges. That seems to indicate that Tintanga is not a very favourable site on which to build a school.

Babu KAILASH BIHARI LAL : Sir, on a point of information can Government give us any information as to what is the population in the village of Tintanga ?

Mr. R. E. RUSSELL : If the hon'ble member will put that in the form of an interpellation Government will try to answer it.

The Hon'ble the PRESIDENT : The question is :

That this Council recommends to Government that in *khas mahals* as well as in the estates under the court of wards in this province middle schools, either English or vernacular, be opened.

Since which an amendment has been moved :

That for the words " schools, either English or vernacular " the words " vernacular schools on Urdu and non-Urdu basis " be substituted.

The question is :

That the amendment be made.

The motion was adopted.

The Hon'ble the PRESIDENT : Now the question is that the following amended resolution be adopted :

This Council recommends to Government that in *khas mahals* as well as in the estates under the court of wards in this province middle vernacular schools on Urdu and non-Urdu basis be opened.

The motion was negatived.

APPOINTMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE MR. U. M. SEN'S REPORT.

Babu NANDKISHORE DAS : Sir, I would request you to allow Babu Godavaris Misra whose name occurs down below the list against the same resolution to move it.

Babu GODAVARIS MISRA : Sir, I rise to move :

This Council recommends to Government that a committee consisting of officials and non-officials be appointed to examine the report of Mr. U. M. Sen, Financial Expert, deputed by Government to test the figures relating to the revenue and expenditure of Ganjam submitted by the Government of Madras early in 1927, and to submit their report by the 31st of July, 1929.