

6/2/62



LETTERS

Primary Education

Sir—Fifteen days' C.L. are available to primary teachers, which is granted by the T.E.O. As reported by the T.E.O. sometimes teachers were found to go on C.L. putting an application in the school without prior approval or information to the T.E.O. and after availing of C.L. the application was withdrawn if it was not marked or taken away by the T.E.O. and the leave period was shown as duty in the teachers attendance register. As the teachers' working place or residence is not always near T.E.O.'s headquarters it is not always possible to go on C.L. with prior approval. In such a case, the teacher needing C.L. must send the leave petition by a registered post so that he can produce the receipt as a proof. The teachers' attendance roll should be verified by the local managing committee and public opinion regarding a teacher's activity must be verified or taken into account.

It is learnt from the Thana Education Officer that at present schools are short of F.P. teachers. The authority should employ as quickly as possible minimum number of teachers to balance the bare need. The F.P. education should by no means be neglected. F.P. teachers' job is a transferable one. Is it really a transferable job? Is transfer of a teacher indispensable? I think not. We can reason out that we have inherited the present system of administration from the British rulers whose policy was to divide and rule. Now do we want harassing the teacher or education? We definitely want educating our future patriots, scientists, teachers, social workers, and to make them honourable citizens. Sometimes teachers are transferred to mete out punishment. Now it has become a custom to transfer a teacher frequently. Sometimes many teachers are transferred in a day or two and the order is cancelled the next morning. This type of transfer has introduced corruption into both the administration and the employees. So the transfer system should be abolished.

Preference should be given to appoint both local and female teachers. The appointment of a female teacher is more desirable than a male. Because female teachers have got more fascination for children and education. So better service can be expected from them than from the male ones. There are also many reasons for getting better service from the female employees. The females by their physiological make-up and genetic constitution are less corrupt, sincere and less interested in politics than the common employees. In the U.K. most of the employees, sometimes even cent per cent, in banks, shops, schools, borough offices, etc. are ladies. So first preference should be given to appoint a lady teacher. If a lady teacher is not available, then a male from the same village. As the nature of the job is a transferable one, so the female though willing tries to avoid getting the job. Lady teacher should be posted at her own village school. If we do not find normally any female teacher we can approach or request an educated woman if there is one in the village where the school is. In district towns, subdivisional towns, thana headquarters we will not face trouble to get female teachers. The appointment of a female teacher in the above-mentioned places depends on the goodwill and sincerity of the authority. If a teacher is selected from the same village or from the villages around the school we can expect better services from him.

First the local teacher definitely has got some fascination for his own school. Secondly, he will not bother about his home and face the trouble of procuring a lodgings. On the other hand, if a teacher is employed in a far-off school, in that case he needs a lodgings. In these hard days it is difficult to get a lodgings with free food. Under the circumstances the teacher stays away from the school asks for frequent leave and resort to corruption.

At least to minimise corruption teachers should be posted in their own village schools or posting should be done according to the will of the teachers.

Contingency money varies from Taka 25 to 45 depending on the status of a school. Teachers have to procure attendance register for themselves and for the students, chalk duster, etc. The amount of contingency money should at least be Taka one hundred.

Most of the schools do not have adequate sitting arrangement. Some schools do not have either chair or bench or even black board. Normal education cannot go on under this condition for which only the authority is responsible. In some schools chairs, benches, black boards and even the doors are stolen. The public should be very careful to protect the property belonging to a school. Yours etc.—M.M. MOLLAH Dacca.

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