

GOVERNMENT OF THE
CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR



REPORT
ON THE
STATE & PROGRESS OF EDUCATION
IN THE
CENTRAL PROVINCES & BERAR
FOR THE YEAR
1939-40

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No. 153-GR.-S.
GOVERNMENT OF THE
CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Nagpur, the 14th March 1941.

READ—

The Annual Report of the Director of Public Instruction, Central Provinces and Berar, on the state and progress of education in the Central Provinces and Berar for the year ending the 31st March 1940.

RESOLUTION

During the year under review the number of educational institutions increased by 243 and that of pupils by 17,572. The number of Muslim pupils increased by 2,703.

2. Considering their population and importance in the Province, the aboriginal tribes were poorly represented in the University examinations. A scheme for the provision of better and more suitable educational facilities for these tribes is being prepared by Mr. W. V. Grigson, I.C.S.

3. The weak points in the administration and control of primary education, which were mentioned in the previous year's report, still persist. Transfers of teachers continue to be in general excessive, and otherwise also the conditions of their service are unattractive. The local bodies will, it is hoped, give due consideration to the advice of departmental officers and co-operate with them in raising the standard of primary education.

4. A very considerable fall in the enrolment of pupils in Vidya Mandirs is ascribed to economic reasons, but the subsidence of the first flush of enthusiasm for a new idea is also likely to be partly responsible. Those Vidya Mandirs, which are not economical and efficient, are being closed. The Central Provinces and Berar Vidya Mandir Act received the assent of His Excellency the Governor in March 1940. The basic syllabus is being tried out on a restricted scale and its financial and administrative implications are being studied under controlled conditions.

5. Government note with satisfaction that there is a striking increase in the number of girls reading in schools and colleges. The policy adopted by the department in 1937 of admitting girls freely into boys' schools has resulted in an increase of girls in high schools in towns, where no separate girls' high schools exist.

It is too early to say whether co-education in secondary schools and colleges has proved altogether a success. The more modern amongst the parents clearly welcome it.

6. Government records with regret that many of the new schemes sponsored have not elicited the amount of public support that might have been expected. This dictum applies more particularly to the Vidya Mandir scheme, adult education and the scheme for continuation classes. Other schemes, such as the Physical Welfare scheme, could not be proceeded with owing to financial stringency.

D. R. RUTNAM,

Secy. to Govt., C. P. & Berar, Education Dept.

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