

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL

Confidential

OFFICE OF THE PHYSICAL DIRECTOR, BENGAL.
Writers' Buildings, Calcutta.

DEPARTMENT.
GROUP.
BRANCH.

No.....913.....

FROM

J. BUCHANAN, Esq., M.A.,

Physical Director, Bengal,

TO

The Principal,

Presidency College.

Calcutta, Dated the 10th April 1933.

Subject:—

Sir,

I have the honour to report upon the work of Babu Krishna Chandra Mazumdar, officiating Physical Instructor, Hare School. A special inspection was considered necessary by the Headmaster and myself in view of the deplorable exhibition made by the school team in the annual physical training competition for Calcutta schools.

Krishna Babu joined his appointment in the Hare School at the beginning of January, 1933, succeeding an officiating Drill Master whose work was most efficient. He had an advantage, therefore, in taking over a school where the discipline was good and in which the pupils had shown themselves to be well-trained in physical activities.

I carried out the special inspection on the afternoon of 5th April, 1933, and have to report as follows:—

Record of work. The physical instructor could produce no records of the lessons he had taught to his classes during the last three months.

Plans. He had nothing to show that he had made up any programme of work for the ensuing months, nor did he appear to have thought one was necessary.

Lessons. In teaching physical training it is usual to follow a definite plan so that each lesson will include activities of different kinds. The physical instructor outlined the plan that he followed in the case of all classes, but this was quite different from that followed in his teaching of the two classes I saw at work. The plans for these two classes actually differed from each other.

Exercises. Immediately after he had taught two classes I asked Krishna Babu to repeat the exercises he had just taught. He had only the vaguest of notions, making random statements which proved that he had not even prepared these lessons.

References. Krishna Babu stated that he followed generally the scheme of work laid down in Dr. Noehren's book, "Physical Activities for Schools". Regarding the work he had just taught to class VIII, he gave as a reference the chapter devoted to activities for boys of class VI. Even then, there was nothing to show that his ideas were taken from this chapter.

Teaching methods. As a teacher Krishna Babu is distinctly poor. He did not show any of the personality, confidence, or teaching ability that are required of a physical instructor. His explanations were not clear, the few demonstrations that he gave were careless, and he allowed many mistakes to go uncorrected. After making all allowances for the heat of the afternoon, the response of the boys to his teaching was decidedly ineffective.

Discipline. The boys were quiet and well-behaved, but not always attentive. I believe their quietness and good behaviour were due more to my presence than to the powers of control of the instructor, and this is supported by the headmaster's opinion, stated verbally.

In the circumstances, I have to report that in my opinion, Krishna Babu is inefficient, and is not likely to improve. His notion of his work seems to be that each class can be dealt with spontaneously as it appears, without reference to the capacities of the boys or to what they were taught in the past, and that preparation of a systematic course of lessons is unnecessary. If he continues in the school, the deterioration in the work of the pupils which has been so marked during the last three months, is likely to continue.

I therefore recommend that his services should be dispensed with, and that a more efficient trained physical instructor should be appointed in his place.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

James Buchanan.
Physical Director, Bengal.

Forwarded through the Headmaster, Hare School, for favour of his remarks and recommendation.

James Buchanan.
Physical Director, Bengal.