

Confidential

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Director of Public Instruction, Bengal.

27th February

Sir,

I have the honour to reply to your confidential letter No.1741 A dated the 24th February 1930, regarding the Principalships of the Krishnagar and Hooghly Colleges.

You mention the names of five members of the staff of this College as possible choices. I am afraid that an expression of opinion as to their relative fitness for the posts must be largely a matter of guess-work. I should however be inclined to set aside Messrs Zachariah and B.M.Sen. The first named is a man with very sound ideas on Educational matters, but would I think be too reluctant to assert himself to prove an altogether satisfactory Principal. Moreover his departure would greatly weaken the History Staff and would probably lead to troublesome rivalry between the other members of that department. Mr. B. M. Sen I regard as very much of a specialist. I do not think he is of a type which would find much interest in the general administrative work of

of a college; and he will be needed here to take charge of the Mathematics department when Mr. S. P. Das takes leave.

The remaining three I should place in the following order: Mr. A. K. Chanda, Mr. R. N. Sen, Mr. P. C. Mahalanobis; Mr. Chanda is a man of energy and common sense though perhaps not a model of discretion. As we expect to have two special appointments in the English department filled up by the beginning of next session, it will not be difficult to spare him. Mr. R. N. Sen and Mr. Mahalanobis are in strong contrast: the former appears to be as placid as the latter is excitable. The transfer of either would leave the charge of an important department in what I consider rather unsatisfactory hands; but if one of them must go, I should recommend the transfer of Mr. R. N. Sen rather than that of Mr. Mahalanobis, both because I think the first named on the whole the better suited for the charge of a college, and because I am particularly unwilling that Dr. S. Datta (who has not yet a permanent appointment) should be placed at the head of the Physics department.

My choice would therefore fall on Mr. Chanda and Mr. R. N. Sen. I have not spoken to either of these gentlemen on the subject, and do not know what they feel about it.

I may add that Dr. S. N. Das Gupta is anxious to obtain the Principalship of Hooghly.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Offg. Principal, Presidency College.