

Report on the subject of raising the rates of fees in Govt College in Bengal requested
31/7/68

From E. C. Bayley

Esq, Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, to the Secretary to the
Government of Bengal, - (No. 413, date Simla, the 13th July 1868.)

SIR,

The Governor General in Council has noticed in the Calcutta University Calendar for 1868-69 the difference which exists between the systems of levying fees followed at the Calcutta Presidency College (page 122), and at the Agra College in the North-Western Provinces (pages 139 and 140).

2. At the latter College, "the fees of students vary with the income of the parents: those whose monthly income is Rupees 3; and those who have only Rupees 30, pay 1 Rupee, all incomes under Rupees 30 are charged with annas per month." At the Presidency College "the monthly tuition fee is Rupees 12, except in the case of students holding Junior Scholarships, who pay only Rupees 5 a month."

3. His Excellency in Council observes that, not only is the instruction given at the Presidency College of a very high order, so that it possesses considerable pecuniary value in Bengal Proper, but the College is very generally believed to be frequented by the sons of very wealthy men. If, therefore, any regard is paid to the amount of the parent's income, it is probable therefore, any regard is paid to the amount of the parent's income, it is probable that the uniform fee of Rupees 12 taken at the Presidency College is much too low for a large class of students. At all events there is no sort of relation between a payment of Rupees 5 by a parent earning Rupees 100 a month at Agra, and a payment of Rupees 12 by a Bengal Zemindar, or Pleader in good practice.

4. As the Government of India has just undertaken a great expense for scholarships in England, it seems to be proper to enquire into these anomalies.

5. In a Province like Lower Bengal there may be difficulties in enquiring into the income of the parent and regulating their payments accordingly. In that case a system similar to that of the French "Bourses" or "Bursaries" might be reported to the normal fees might be much raised, but a deduction made in favor of proved inability in the parent to pay it.

6. Under these circumstances, I am directed to request that the Lieutenant Governor xxx enough to favor the Government of India with his opinion xxxxxxxxx

7. I am also desired to request that His Honor will re-consider the question of the fees paid for education in the Government schools in Calcutta, in order that they may be increased on the event of its being found necessary to do so.