

Growth OF Education under Kamaraj Ministry

P. PushpaLatha

Dr.M.GloryBai

Reg.No.18113111082003

Associate Professor and HoD

Ph.D Research Scholar-Full time

P.G and Research Centre in History

Dept. of History and Research centre

N.M.C.College Marthandam.

N.M.C. College Marthandam.

Affiliated to ManonmaniumSundaranar

University, ManonmaniumSundaranar University, Tirunelveli-627012

Tirunelveli-627012

Tamil Nadu,India

Tamil Nadu,India

Abstract

Kamaraj who reached the zenith of his life through hardwork was born at Viruthunagar on 15th July 1903 as the son of Kumaraswamy Nadar and Sivakami Ammal. His original name was Kamatshi. He had his early education in the government primary school during his 5th year and during 6th year. Kamaraj felt the indispensability of education towards the socio economic welfare of the society. To remove the ignorance of people he made education compulsory up to the age of eleven. To help the poor students free education free uniform and noon meal were introduced. This gave a golden opportunity to all the poor children to become literate. Since the funds for education were insufficient he proposed to collect donations from well-wishers and common people. For this purpose alone Kamaraj held 133 conference and was able to collect six crores and 47 lakhs of rupees as donation. The whole amount was dedicated to the growth of education .In addition to this two medical colleges and two engineering colleges were started by him. Poor students who had their education in medical colleges engineering colleges and agricultural colleges were offered loans without interest for their education . Because of his efforts towards the improvement of educating among poor people. Kamaraj was praised to be Kalvikanthiranthavar

Introduction

Education is one of the important tool for social changes . It should aim at the harmonious development of hand heart head hand by manuel labour heart by moral education and head by the curriculum they study.The education policy of Kamaraj were very much influenced by Mahatma Gandhi s education system .Democracy presupposes that the people should take an intelligent interest in the affairs of the country.It 1953 the new elementary education policy was introduced in Madras by C.Rajagopalachari Kamaraj was against this new experiment.New elementary education the importance and scope given to manuel labour can be considered as a similarly

between them. C.Subramaniam the education at that time attested in the Assembly that the system was wedded to Gandhian ideal of learning through activity.

Primary education

The Minister of Kamaraj decided to impart compulsory and free education for all children till they completed 14 years of age. For this purpose the Government of Madras constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Dr. R.M.Alagappa Chettiar to examine and suggest the way and means of implementing the compulsory education.

Kamaraj the Chief Minister of Tamilnadu to open schools in all villages with a population of 500 and above . 12267 centres with a population of 500 and more were provided with one or more schools in the year 1961-62.

It is wonderful to note that the number school going students enrolled in the schools got almost doubled within a period of 8 years. The enrolment of school going students in elementary schools was about 1924874 in 1955-56 and figure almost doubled in 1962-63. The government of Madras adopted the scheme proposed by the government of India to promote education in rural areas by creating single teacher schools. Under this scheme relief was provided to unemployed youth force of rural areas. Kamaraj Ministry made considerable progress in promoting primary education by creating more single teacher schools in schools centres.

Secondary education

The Government of Madras headed by Kamaraj understood the need to provide secondary education all over the state and to meet the demand for secondary schools. A notable feature in this expansion of secondary education was that majority of the new schools were located in rural areas.

Another noteworthy achievement of Kamaraj Ministry was the reorganization of secondary education. The new scheme provided the opportunity for a student to learn mother tongue or a classical language and Hindi besides English. Diversified courses were also introduced in the secondary schools with the object of providing technical education at the secondary level . This made secondary education not merely academic but also technically oriented.

The new scheme provided for a new pattern for the secondary education which consists of 11 years of which 7 years were spent at the primary level followed by 4 years of higher Secondary stage. This new pattern provided for subjects like Mathematics General science Social studies under compulsory subjects.

Secondary education made considerable progress during the time of Kamaraj's rule as Chief Minister. In 1954-55 there were 1031 Secondary Schools all over Tamilnadu. But by the year 1962-63 the number rose to 1920 a sharp rise indeed. The number of students learning in the Schools also shot up proportionately.

Technical Training Institutes and Other Colleges

The Government of Madras realized the need to provide for more trained teachers to meet the demand in primary and secondary education. It came forward to open more number of training schools both for men and women.

Madras state had 28 arts colleges in the year 1947. The number raised to 50 in 1961. The number of teacher training institutes were 156 in 1947. In 1953 to 54 there were 140 training schools of which 76 were for men and 64 for women with a total intake of 19250 scholars of both sexes. Even after the division of Andhra State Kerala State and Karnataka State from Madras State it had 146 training institutes. Kamaraj Ministry took steps to spread technical education among the people. 10 Engineering Colleges were opened. Except it Medical colleges Veterinary medical Colleges and Agricultural colleges were also established.

Mid-Day Meal Scheme

Educational development is the only instrument for the development of our country. Kamaraj knew this fact very well so he ordered to provide free education to all children upto 14th age. The school mid-day meal scheme was approved in November 1957 as a voluntary movement eligible for government assistance.

The scheme was also eligible for central assistance upto 50 percent of the cost. It created a congenial atmosphere in the rural areas for learning. The school became an integral part of the locality for which every one had responsibility. This movement indeed helped in a great way to bring the socio economic awareness among the local people needs of the school. No wonder the success of the scheme made the former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to congratulate the authorities for arranging such a scheme with a good response from the public.

Kamaraj and Free Education Free Uniform and Free Concession

Free education was given to Children of poor parents from 1956 onwards. From 1960 onwards the poor students were given free education upto 11th standard. Free uniforms were provided from 1969 students. This scheme had great social implication that the school children should not feel depressed or inferior by visible signs of economic disparity and should feel equal

and elated . In all these special efforts were made to enroll children from rural areas Harijan and backward communities.

Conclusion

Kamaraj Ministry education of men and women. Their contributions in the field of education and welfare measures is immense. It was the Kamaraj ministry belief that education was the only means to eradicate the social evils that enslaved the poor people. So they started many primary secondary and technical institution was started. Because of his efforts towards the improvement of educating among poor people. Kamaraj was praised to be Kalvikanthiranthavar

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