CHAPTER VII

PRIVATE EFFORTS IN PRIMARY EDUCATION
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PORTUGUESE MEDIUM

Regulations of 1907

In 1907 the government declared that all the educational establishments not administered by the state were to be considered as private schools or private establishments of education. In order to set up a new private primary school it was necessary to apply to the Inspector of Primary Instruction at least a month in advance along with the following documents:

a) Academic and professional qualifications required to work as a teacher.
b) Certificate of non-criminal record issued by the police authorities.
c) Certificate of good character
d) Denomination, if any, of the proposed institution
e) Names and qualifications of other teachers along with health certificates that none of the teachers suffered from contagious diseases
f) Health Officer's certificate regarding the suitability of the proposed school premises.

Licences - Private schools working without proper licences or authorization were to be immediately closed down by the government authorities and the directors of such unauthorized schools were to be suspended as teachers for one year in the first instance.

Inspection and supervision - Teachers and directors of private schools of all sorts were under legal obligation to use only government prescribed text books and follow the same programme of studies followed in the official schools. All private schools were to submit themselves to government inspection and supervision.
regarding course of study, teachers, syllabus, text books and hygienic fitness of the school premises.

Disciplinary action for default - Any teacher from the private schools found guilty of preaching against the security of the state, undermine the respect and dignity of the Portuguese nation, religion and laws of the state or if a teacher's words, actions or example were found to be detrimental to the interest of the state, the government was to immediately close down the school. This action was to be taken if the teacher found guilty were the owner or the director of the said school. If the teacher, found guilty, were only an employee, he was to be suspended from teaching in any school. The same punishment was to be meted out to anyone found violating the academic and hygienic conditions in the school.

Disciplinary action in the shape of punishment described above was to be taken only after the teacher or the director concerned was given a chance to defend himself. The Inspector of Primary Instruction was to enforce the punishment only after obtaining the approval of the Supervisory Committee on Public Instruction.

The conditions laid down in the Regulations of 1908 in relation to the private primary schools, were, in fact, applicable to such schools in any media.

Concessions to untrained teachers

According to the Regulations of 1907, those teachers who did not possess a Diploma of Normal School, a Diploma of Lyceum Studies or a Diploma in Theological Studies or any other equivalent diploma, were not allowed to teach even in private schools. That
order was to be effective five years after the date of the Regulations of 1907. The time limit of five years was given with a view to enabling the teachers in the private schools to get themselves suitably trained on their own.

The period of concession having been over with the academic year 1912-1913, the government had ordered all the untrained teachers in the private schools to stop teaching, but on their appeal, taking shelter under a past law, the government allowed them to continue teaching without obtaining the necessary teaching qualifications. In their appeal the teachers had pointed out that the government order dated 5-8-1879 and the subsequent regulations dated 5-8-1893 had required a teacher to possess only the lyceum course to work as a teacher in private educational establishments.

Portuguese medium private school in the new conquests

Even after the proclamation of the Republic, there did not seem to be any enthusiasm in the new conquests to set up Portuguese medium primary schools. There is however evidence of only two such institutions in the new conquests during the twenty years following the Republic.

A notable institution that was set up following the Republic, to impart instruction in Portuguese medium at the primary level, was the League of Propagation of Instruction at Ponda. It was an educational society, aimed at bringing about amity among all the sections of the society, by undertaking a number of social and welfare activities. Education was the most prominent activity of the society that was undertaken by the League of Propagation of Instruction.
In 1917, Antonio Jose de Almeida school of Ponda, run by the League of Propagation of Education, was allowed by the government to run the following courses:

a) Grade I of Portuguese primary and up to 3rd year of lyceum
b) Six standards of Marathi
c) Six standards of English (of the seven year matriculation course).

The only other institution in the new conquest, set up to impart instruction in Portuguese medium, was the Portuguese Shikshalan Prassarac Maratha Samaj at Cacora in Sanguem taluka. It was founded in 1928. The memorandum of the association stated that the aim of that education society was to strengthen the Republican rule in Goa and to promote Portuguese education in Goa.

**Provincial Congress and private schools**

At the Provincial Congress held in 1917, one Mr. Luiz de Menezes, read a paper on the private efforts in education. The paper referred to a number of private institutions, among others Sacred Heart of Jesus, Sacred Heart of Mary, etc., which imparted primary instruction. The institutions under reference were run, it was stated, mostly by Catholic priests who were qualified with only a course in theology. Mr. Menezes stated that the primary instruction was the basis of formation of a well-informed, intelligent and responsible body of citizens, who would develop their own life and strive for the uplift of others, according to the principles laid down in the Portuguese constitution. As such, it was desirable that the primary instruction should be exclusively left to the care of the state. In no circumstances
should primary education be left to the private bodies, as they did not offer the minimum guarantee that the regulations laid down by the government would be observed and that there was no guarantee that the private bodies would work to achieve the objectives laid down by the Portuguese constitution.

Provincial Congress was only a forum for deliberations and discussions. Their suggestions were only recommendatory and as such were not binding on the government. There is no evidence at any stage that the government accepted the views of the Provincial Congress nor was there any move on the part of the government at any time, to ban private enterprise in primary education.

Private schools in 1930

No authentic records are available regarding private educational institutions. In a very informative book published in 1930 in Marathi, the author states that in 1930, there had been in Goa not more than ten Portuguese private primary schools and almost all of them were in Salcete taluka itself. He also mentions that some sort of Portuguese medium private schools were attached to the churches but the scope of such schools was limited to imparting knowledge of reading, writing in the Roman script, music and singing.

The author of the book mentioned in the above paragraph was evidently not well informed regarding Portuguese medium private primary schools, for the government figures for the year 1930-31 give a different account. The table on the following page gives the total number of such schools and their enrolment sexwise.
### Table XVIII

**Portuguese Private Primary Schools and Their Enrolment in 1950-51**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old conquests</th>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Bardez</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Ilhas</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Mormugao</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Salcete</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong>:</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>846</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New conquests</th>
<th>Nil</th>
<th>Nil</th>
<th>Nil</th>
<th>Nil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total for Goa:</strong></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>846</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Observations**

1. There were in 1950-51 twenty private primary schools in Portuguese medium and all of them were in the old conquests. There was not a single such school in the new conquests.

2. The total enrolment in the above schools was 846 of which 594 were boys and 252 were girls.
Private schools in 1940

There were sixteen Portuguese medium private primary schools in 1939-40. All these schools were clustered in Bardez and Salcete talukas of the old conquests only. Following is a table showing the number of such schools in each of these talukas and the enrolment in those schools in the year 1939-40.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Conquests</th>
<th>Enrolment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Bardez</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Salcete</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Conquests: Nil

Total for Goa: 16 407 215 622

Observations

1. There were sixteen Portuguese medium private primary schools, all of which were located in the old conquests. There was not a single school of such type in the new conquests.

2. Of the total enrolment of 622 students, 215 were girls, which means nearly 30 per cent of the students were girls.
3. Taking into consideration the total enrolment of 622 students, the average enrolment per school works out at approximately thirty nine students.

4. There were no private schools in Portuguese medium in any other part of the old conquests in 1940.

Private schools in 1951 onwards

Details pertaining to the number of Portuguese primary schools privately conducted and the enrolment in such schools has not been available for the years between 1940 and 1950. Whatever information that is available is only sporadic and in patches. However, following is a table which shows the total number of private Portuguese primary schools conducted between 1951-52 and 1961-62. Their enrolments for the respective years are also shown. Unfortunately, no details are available regarding the distribution of those schools territorywise.

**TABLE XX**

PORTUGUESE PRIVATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND THEIR
ENROLMENT BETWEEN 1951-52 AND 1961-62

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1951-52</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952-53</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953-54</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>582</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954-55</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955-56</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956-57</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957-58</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>528</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958-59</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959-60</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960-61</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961-62</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: N.A. = Not Available.
Observations

1. One interesting fact that can be noted from the table on the previous page is that the total number of private Portuguese schools has considerably fallen in 1951-52 and in 1960-61 compared to the number of such schools in 1950 and 1940. The enrolment also has shown more or less a fall for the same period.

2. The total number of schools and the enrolment has more or less shown a consistent fall between 1951-52 and 1960-61. It is an indication that the private schools were not popular during the period under reference. An important reason for this phenomenon could be that the enforcement of compulsory registration in the official schools from 1956 onwards had affected the private schools.

3. 1961-62 shows a sudden spurt in the number of private schools in Portuguese medium. Apparently, the government had allowed private schools to enrol students due to its own inability to accommodate all the students in the wake of compulsion.

PRIVATE EFFORTS IN PRIMARY EDUCATION

URDU, KONKANI AND OTHER MEDIA

Urdu schools

No information is available about any Urdu medium private primary schools up to 1925. According to the government reports there were two Urdu schools in 1925, one at Panaji and the other one at Ponda. That year the government made a provision in the
budget to grant an annual subsidy to each of those two schools to the tune of Rs. 1,200/- per annum. The subsidy was to be given subject to the condition that the schools concerned were to submit themselves to inspection and supervision by the government.

In 1955 there were four Urdu primary schools in Goa. They were situated at Panaji in Ilhas taluka, Ponda in Ponda taluka, Valpoi and Nanuz in Satari taluka. A government order No. 823 dated 5-1-1955 that only the above mentioned four schools would be given the subsidy. The subsidy was to be withdrawn if the total strength of any of those four schools were to fall below thirty students. Acceptance of government supervision and inspection was a pre-condition to be eligible for the subsidy.

Though the schools were subsidized, the students frequenting those schools were required to pay monthly tuition fees fixed by the respective schools. Children of poor parents, who produced a certificate to that effect, were exempted from any payment. The certificate was to be obtained from the Village Headman and had to be countersigned by the Namlatdar of the respective taluka. No students were admitted to any Urdu medium school unless they produced a certificate of vaccination.

Casual inspection of Urdu schools - For casual or occasional supervision of Urdu schools, the Department of Primary Instruction were to appoint a Local Representative and in the absence or non-appointment of such a Local Representative, a member of the Local Committee of the government primary school, was to be charged with that function.
Examinations - The annual examinations were to be conducted in the same manner as those conducted in the government primary schools. The jury was to be appointed by the School Committee (Conselho Escolar) in consultation with the Local Representative. The grading of the pupils in the examination was to be according to the official grading scale viz., Sufficient, Good and Very Good. The annual examination results were to be registered in a Register Book and were to be countersigned by the Chief of the Department of Primary Instruction. The examinations were to be held in the 2nd fortnight of April every year.

Classification of Urdu schools - Based on the enrolment in the schools, Urdu schools were classified in 1956 as follows:

- No.1 - Panaji school
- No.2 - Valpoi school
- No.3 - Ponda school

The government also laid down that a teacher, once appointed in any Urdu school, had to remain in one place for at least three years. They were not allowed to exchange their postings.

Position in 1940

Just as in the case of Portuguese medium private schools, it is also difficult to obtain details regarding the Urdu schools or schools in other media conducted privately. The table on the following page shows the total number of Kokani, Urdu and Gujrati medium schools during the year 1959-40 along with their enrolment. The enrolment is presented sexwise and conquestwise.

*Note - Private Marathi medium primary schools are dealt with in Chapter VIII.
TABLE XII

PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND THEIR ENROLMENT IN 1959-60

CONQUESTWISE, MEDIUMWISE AND SEXWISE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Conquests</th>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Enrolment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kokani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Bardez</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Ilhas</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Salcete</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Total:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Conquests</th>
<th>Enrolment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kokani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Ponda</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Sanguem</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Sanquelim</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total for Goa: | Enrolment |
|               | Kokani    | Urdu     | Gujrati  |
|               | Male      | Female   | Male      | Female   |
|               | 7         | 26       | 54       | 97       |

Observations

1. There were three Konkani medium schools in Goa in 1959-60 viz., two in the old conquests and one in the new conquests. The total students enrolled in them were twenty six male and fifty four female.
2. There were three Urdu schools in Goa of which one was in the old conquests and the other two were in the new conquests. The total number of students enrolled was ninety seven male and forty two female.

3. There was one Gujrati medium school in Goa at Panaji in 1939-40. The enrolment of that school was twenty with eleven male and nine female students. The school was run by the Gujrati business community of Panaji.

From the total number of Konkani schools viz., three and the total enrolment of eighty students in those schools, one may say that Konkani was, as a medium of primary education, not popular in Goa up to 1940.

Subsidy to another Urdu school

In 1955 the government opened a Portuguese-Urdu mixed school at Ponda, whereupon the subsidy given to the Urdu medium private primary school was withdrawn. The subsidy, earlier given to Ponda Urdu schools, was transferred to another newly created Urdu school at Betul in Salcete taluka.

Anjuman Nurul Islam Association

Anjuman Nurul Islam Association was the only Urdu educational society in Goa existing in the government records from 1957 onwards. This society ran private Urdu primary schools at Panaji, but was not given any subsidy earlier due to its refusal to submit itself to government supervision and inspection. In 1957, the society accepted the said condition upon which it was given a subsidy of Rs.3,000/- per annum. The grants were to be given in monthly instalments.
Statistical returns by private schools*

In 1949 the government ordered all the private schools to submit detailed statistical returns with a view to check up the registration, carry on the inspection and to prepare a register of private schools. The order stated the following:

1. No private educational establishment was to function in the territory of Goa without submitting the following data up to the 15th of June of that year:

   a) Name and locality of the educational establishment and hours of work.
   b) Government’s order number permitting the opening of the school.
   c) Name, nationality, date of birth and qualifications of the director of the establishment with the authority permitting him to work as the director of the institute.
   d) Medium of instruction.
   e) Whether Portuguese was taught in the institute and if so, the name and the qualifications of the teacher concerned.
   f) Names, dates of birth, nationality, educational and professional qualifications of all the teachers teaching in the institute. Attested copies of certificates were also to be attached.
   g) Number of class-rooms and whether the school building had been considered fit by the Health Officer or Deputy Health Officer.

2. Proformas for submitting the above data were to be obtained from the Government Printing Press at Panaji.

3. On obtaining the requisite information, a talukawise register was to be maintained by the Department of Primary Instruction of the private educational establishments in an alphabetical order. Schools were required to submit these statistical data by 30th of April every year, failing which the schools were liable to be closed.

*Note - The statistical returns were to be filed by private schools of all media.
CRITICAL APPRAISAL

The Regulations of 1907 and the Provincial Congress of 1917 had encouraged the existence of private primary schools in Portuguese medium. However, their contribution does not seem to be much useful and valuable. In 1930 and 1940 there were twenty and sixteen such schools respectively and their enrolment figures were 846 and 622 respectively. There were no such schools in the New Conquests at all and the preceding data relates only to those in the Old Conquests.

In 1958-59 only three private Portuguese primary schools existed according to Government records. This was due to the compulsion of enrolling all the children in the Government primary schools. However, the number of such schools went up to ninety during the last year of the Portuguese rule. It was due to the fact that the Government had recognized the instruction imparted in such schools as fulfilling the requirements of compulsory education. The Government was compelled to do so due to a paucity of government schools and teachers.

Speaking in general terms, the contribution of private Portuguese primary schools has not been a significant one.

One important fact must be mentioned here and that is in relation to Konkani medium schools. There were only three Konkani medium schools in Goa in 1939-40 with a total enrolment of twenty six male and fifty four female students. There is no evidence of any other effort in this regard later and upto the time of liberation. This means that Goans in general had not accepted Konkani as a medium of primary education before liberation.
NOTES

14 Year Book of Portuguese India 1926-29 op. cit. pp. 260-268.