CHAPTER IV

FORMATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TRAVANCORE
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It was decided to devote one full chapter to study the origin of one small university - an honour which is not done to the larger universities and unitary universities commanding more sophisticated technical know-how. This is because the formation of the University of Travancore is a crucial landmark in the history of higher education in Kerala and because it laid the foundation on which the Universities of Kerala became independent of the University of Madras and chartered a positive and locally relevant path of their own.

INTERIM REPORT OF THE TRAVANCORE UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE

The Government of Travancore by its order E.3983, dated 23.11.1917 appointed the Travancore University Committee under the presidency of Mr. L.C. Hodgson, to investigate and report on the question of the creation of a separate University of Travancore. The Committee consisted of seventeen members including the President.¹

¹ T.A.R. - 1917-'18, p.68.
The session opened with a speech from the Dewan on 20.2.1918. The Committee concluded its deliberations and submitted an interim report in 1919.

There were three colleges preparing for University degrees in the State. Three others prepared candidates upto an Intermediate stage. There was one other institution, the Sanskrit College, which was not connected with any university, but which might be incorporated into a local university if one existed. Should the Government at any time open central institutions in Medicine, Agriculture, Forestry, Technology and Commerce, these schools when started, might also be incorporated in the university. On the 10th August, 1919, there were about 1,225 students reading for a full degree in Travancore, and 191 students reading for diplomas. In addition to these, there were many Travancore students (as many as 233 in 1917-18) reading in colleges outside the State. The number of students and the variety of the work of a university standard done in the various institutions would in the opinion of the Committee justify establishment of a University in Travancore.

2. T.A.R. - 1919'-20, p. 73.
The various colleges situated within the state were then affiliated to the Madras University with its headquarters located at a distance of about 600 miles from them and as colleges they had no representation on the governing bodies of the university. The Committee recommended that the locality of the proposed university should be as near the capital of the state as possible. Thus it was feasible to establish a University of the unitary type in which all its teaching was given in the various departments.

The Committee was of the view that the proposed university should be residential. The Committee inspected several sites for the university and finally a site suitably situated beyond the seventh mile-stone on the main road to Nedumangad, named by the Committee the Aruvikkara site, was approved as the most suitable. The place was in extent nearly 1,875 acres, which area would afford ample space for all immediate university purposes and allow for future expansion.¹

It would be necessary, in order to secure a more intimate relationship between students and teachers, to organise a system of tutorial work. The tutorial work should not be organised by departments, but should be built into and form an integral part of the residential system.

The proper authority for deciding the necessary qualifications for admission to the University was the university itself. The Committee therefore resolved that admission to the university should be by means of a Matriculation examination conducted by the university and that this examination should be a test of general education.

The various departments of the university should provide instructions in:

1. Languages: Modern and Classical. Modern Languages include English, Dravidian languages, and Classical languages including Sanskrit
2. Mathematics, pure and applied
3. Chemistry, pure and applied
4. Physics
5. Natural Science including Botany, Human Physiology, Zoology and Geology
6. History
7. Geography
8. Economics
9. Philosophy
10. Law
11. Teaching
12. Medicine
13. Engineering
The Committee was of opinion that the university should provide courses and examination for degrees in Arts and Science, Law and Teaching. For Arts and Science degrees, they also proposed intermediate examinations. Course and examinations should also be provided for research. It also recommended for starting of studies in Agriculture, Forestry, Technology and Commerce at the right time.¹

The Committee resolved unanimously that the university should be self-governing and that it should consist of the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, an Academic Body, an Executive Body, a Legislative Body and the Convocation. There should also be a students' representative council. The Vice-Chancellor was to be appointed by the Chancellor.

The Academic Body should consist of 'the Vice-Chancellor and members of the several teaching activities of the university and others who may be co-opted by the academic body'. This body should sanction the courses of study, look into the efficiency of the whole of the teaching and control the necessary examinations and make recommendations for degrees (except honorary degrees).

¹. ibid., pp.5-6.
The Legislative body corporate of the university, should be composed of the Chancellor, the Dewan, the Chief Justice, the Director of Public Instruction, all members of the Executive body, members nominated by Government, members elected by municipalities, members jointly elected by the Popular Assembly, Representatives of Registered Graduates and Representatives elected by Secondary Schools.

The Students' Council forms part of the university organisation in as much as it has the right to represent officially to the Vice-Chancellor the needs of the students.¹

Finally the Committee was of opinion that the then condition of education in the land warranted the establishment of a university.²

Six members of the Committee submitted their dissenting memorandum. For some reason or other they dissented from establishing a local University for Travancore.³

On a careful consideration of the report, the Darbar decided that action on the recommendations of the Committee should be deferred pending the changes likely to

1. ibid., p.7.
2. ibid., p.9.
be introduced in the Madras University consequent on the findings of the Calcutta University Commission. The Travancore University Committee was accordingly dissolved at this stage.\(^1\)

When there was delay in publishing the Travancore University Committee Report the press continuously reiterated the need for a University for Travancore:

"The compact nature of Travancore, the facilities for communication within its limits by land and by water, the absence of multiplicity of competing vernaculars and above all, the conspicuous educational advance of the State must combine to place the State in exceptional position of advantage in regard to the starting of a university."\(^2\)

"If we have more universities, there would be better supervision over schools and colleges and the result will be more young men would gain admission at present. The fact is that the Madras University is doing the work of half a dozen if not more universities when you consider the area of service ... we hope that one result of the discussion will be to hasten the decision of the Travancore Darbar regarding the establishment of a university for the State."\(^3\)

There was no active response from the part of the Government till 1923.

\(^{1}\) T.A.R. - 1919-20, p.73.
\(^{2}\) The Hindu, Monday 18th October, 1920.
\(^{3}\) United Indian States, Madras, Wednesday 3rd November, 1920.
The question of establishing a University for Travancore was taken up by the Legislative Council in Travancore, by a resolution moved by one of its members (Mr. T.K. Velu Pillai) for the establishment of a teaching and residential university in Travancore. The discussion on this resolution, which took place on the 22nd and 23rd November, 1922, showed that the Council's attitude was one of sympathy towards the idea. The resolution called on the Government to recognize the immediate necessity for establishing a teaching and residential university in Travancore and requested them to take prompt action to fulfill that object. The resolution was withdrawn by the consent of the Council on an assurance given by the Director of Public Instruction, on behalf of the Government that a Committee would be appointed to examine and report on the question. It was in accordance with this promise that a Committee consisting of officials and non-officials with Rao Bahadur K.A. Krishna Aiyangar, B.A. & B.L., as Chairman was appointed to consider the question of the provision of a University for Travancore.¹

¹ T.A.R. - 1923-'24, p. 96.
In August 1923 the number of students working for degrees of the University of Madras in Travancore colleges was 2,179. In point of linguistic, ethnic and cultural unity, and the possession of common tradition stretching over centuries, Kerala could compare favourably with any other part of India. The Committee says: The material in students for a new University in Travancore, if one started with the present Intermediate grade and if it reckoned upon the restriction of the annual migration, would alone be sufficient to bring it at the start to a level which the provincial Universities took about thirty years to reach. These are points which, from a mere statistical basis, might justify the creation of a university whether for Travancore alone or for the whole of Kerala and reinforce the verdict of our predecessors in the feasibility and desirability of a separate University for Travancore.¹

The new university should provide suitable provision for higher teaching and research. Every teacher in the University was to be a research worker as well; he was to awaken in the student a genuine intellectual curiosity by imbuing his teaching with the spirit of enquiry. It should

also be possible for the University to conserve some of its activities for the investigation of problems of local importance. The proposed University should be a university with ideals, higher than merely conducting examinations.\(^1\)

The Committee recommended for a federal type of university. If a Pan-Kerala University was to be formed, the Committee recommended that Travancore, Cochin and Malabar should each have a recognised university centre at which the constituent colleges of Arts and Science should be concentrated.\(^2\)

The Committee was of the view that there was sufficient justification for Travancore proceeding with the formation of a new university. It further recommended that the new university should embrace, from the commencement, the area composed of Travancore, Cochin and Malabar.\(^3\)

The Committee strongly recommended that no place outside Travancore should be considered for the head-quarter of the university. About 150 acres of Government land in

\(^1\) ibid., pp.145-159.
\(^2\) ibid., pp.160-185.
\(^3\) ibid., pp.186-204.
Trivandrum were said to be then in the occupation of either educational institutions which would form part of the university. Another 150 acres was available at Awkulam about three miles from the College of Arts and Science. Similar large parcels of land were available in other suburbs of Trivandrum. Should an immediate start be desired, with the fullest possible accommodation, an ideal addition to the grounds and buildings of the collegiate institution in Trivandrum would be the large area, literally next door to H.H. The Maharaja's College of Science, then occupied by a battalion of the Nayar Brigade. Accordingly the Committee recommended that the University with its head offices, be located in Trivandrum whatever be the type chosen for it.\(^1\)

If a federal university was started with only three university centres, the second grade colleges far away from these centres, would have to be satisfied with being preparatory institutions. The Committee suggested that they should convert themselves into collegiate schools offering a continuous four-year course of instruction. Instead of three years of high school and two years of Intermediate, it should be possible to give the fullest preparatory training for entrance to the university or technical courses.

\(^1\) ibid., pp.208-234.
in four years of continuous and systematic instructions in these institutions, to those who wished to continue their studies in the university, others being certified a year or so earlier by Government for employment or admission to technical institutions.

The length of the pass course in the university was closely related to the question of the length of the pre-university course. If the Intermediate course was kept as it was in Madras as two-year course, it would add an additional year to the period required to take the first degree. This was why it became necessary to think of splitting the Intermediate course as kept in Mysore University adding one year to the high school and one year to the college, making the degree course one of the three years.

One of the chief functions of a Faculty would be to maintain a suitable balance between the interests and the competing demands of its departments. A university could be regarded as a teaching body only if due prominence was given to the faculties in the control of all its academic work. In many respects this Committee justified all the academic developments recommended by the previous University Committee.
The Committee was of opinion that the time was not ripe enough to start university colleges of Agriculture and Forestry in Kerala. Should however, Malabar and other portions of British India come to be associated with the new university, it might perhaps be possible to think of a central Agricultural College and a Central Forest College. But it recommended the institution of diplomas or certificate courses in Agriculture, Forestry and Ayurvedic Medicines.

It would hardly be desirable for a new university in Kerala to start an Engineering college. The outlook in regard to a Medical Faculty in Kerala was hardly more encouraging. The Committee suggested that it would be more economical to all the students of Agriculture, Forestry, Medicine and Engineering with scholarships for foreign study than to found expensive colleges for their benefit in the new university. It justified the formation of a local college of commerce.

The previous Committee had recommended the formation of a Faculty of Oriental Learning on the lines of the Faculty of that name at the Hindu University of Benares. This Committee recommended a similar Faculty.

The new University might help to focus the attention of its research students on matters appertaining to Kerala.
The Committee stressed the significance of research in the new university even from the beginning itself. Its research side should be kept in close touch with the ordinary teaching of the university.

It would be possible to establish an effective coordination between the university and certain institutions or departments, e.g., the Industries Department and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and Geology and to link up their laboratories and research sides with those of the university.

The Committee envisaged two classes of safeguards (i) to enable the university to maintain its reputation and the integrity of its standards and (ii) safeguards needed to prevent deterioration resulting from the absence of suitable academic freedom within the university itself. The new university should enjoy a large measure of autonomy and it should not be a department of the State. Real freedom for a university would connote as an essential condition of its attainment and retention a large measure of financial independence. 1

One of the grounds on which the formation of a separate university for Kerala has been planned with the hope that the new university would offer for the development of Malayalam.

1. ibid., pp. 306-308.
One argument for the founding of a university for Kerala was the scope it offered for the development of Malayalam language and literature. The Committee, however, did not favour the idea of imparting instruction at the university stage in the vernacular and relegating English to the position of a second language. It was their considered view that in the university course the medium of instruction and examination, except in regard to languages other than English, should be English. It was mainly for keeping in line with the other universities of India and considering the practical difficulties in the way of the external examination already recommended.¹

In regard to the women's education the university courses of study for men and women should be the same; for women there should be a wide range of choice and some subjects as appeal to women more than to men such as Domestic Science, Music, etc., should be included in the optional subjects for university courses.

The Committee recommended that due provision be made in the university for the formation of a University Training Corps. But in order that the experiment might succeed the spread of the Scout Movement in the schools

¹ ibid., pp.312-319.
must be earnestly encouraged by the Department of Education. "The necessity for proper attention to physical health is obviously even greater in the case of girls than boys. It is often the girl of poor physique who takes to higher education."¹

The Committee recommended to have a provision for adult education either in the form of University Extension lectures or tutorial classes.

The Committee approved the recommendations of the previous Committee that the University of Travancore should be a self-governing body, in the sense of securing for it full autonomy in its external affairs and freedom from such tacit dependence as would arise from having to depend for its work on annual subventions from Government.

The Committee was of the view that the strength of a senate should be neither very small nor very large. A good executive in the University should necessarily be small in size, say twelve. Its members should have seats both in the Academic Council and the Senate.

¹ ibid., p.334.
The Academic Council should consist almost exclusively of those engaged in teaching. All academic work should be entrusted with this body. The members of the Syndicate should have seats in this Council.

The Committee agreed with the previous Committee in thinking that the Chancellor of the University should be the Ruler of Travancore for the time. There should also be a Pro-Chancellor. The Committee suggested that the position of Pro-Chancellor should be filled by the Ruler of Cochin, if Cochin wanted to join.

To a modern University the Vice-Chancellor is the main wheel. The duty of inaugurating the University, of making its first appointments, of guiding the deliberations of its various councils and Boards, and of co-ordinating the activities of its several parts, would devolve upon the Vice-Chancellor. In the best interest of a teaching university the position of Vice-Chancellor should be filled only by an eminent teacher. Considering the volume of work do be done in the university, the Committee recommended a well paid Registrar and whole time Vice-Chancellor. 1

1. ibid., pp. 339-363.
Though the Travancore University Committee of 1923 submitted a detailed report on the type and functions of the proposed university in Travancore, no genuine step had been taken to establish such a university as the scheme required consultations with other governments. Many changes had taken place since the submission of the report.

In the light of the above facts the Government of Travancore appointed the Education Reform Committee as per G.O., R.O.C. No. 3088 of 30/Edn, dated the 21st December, 1932. The Committee consisted of Mr. R.M. Statham, M.A., I.E.S., C.I.E. (Chairman), Mr. K. Sivarama Panikkar, B.A., L.T., General Manager and Inspector of Nayar Service Society Schools (Member), and Dr. D. Jeevanayakom, M.A., L.T., Ph.D., First Grade Lecturer, Training College, Trivandrum (Secretary). ¹

The Committee was constituted to enquire into the then educational system and the reforms to be effected in education. It was not intended to prepare for Government detailed statements of the cost of individual items of reform. ²

¹ File No. 813/Edn/33, 1933, Government of Travancore (Trivandrum: Directorate of State Archives, Nalanda).
² Ibid.
The only reference to expenditure was the request that Government might be pleased to call for from the Chief Engineer's plans and estimates for turning the Maharaja's Colleges for Women into a residential institution.¹

The Committee submitted its report in June 1933, which was subjected to discussion by the members of both Houses of Legislature.²

In 1933 there were at least 600 students undergoing University courses of education outside the State, the largest number being in colleges in the Madras Presidency, Cochin coming next with 117.³ The degree courses in the Travancore Colleges and more particularly the honours courses, were limited in number and variety. There was a high demand for admission to the existing courses. But the colleges could not satisfy such a need for higher education. So a good number of Travancore students were compelled to make use of collegiate institutions outside their own state. They sought admission in Madras, Andhra, Annamalai, Mysore, Bombay, Agra, Banaras, Lucknow and Rangoon Universities.

¹ File No. Dis. 704/34, 1934, Government of Travancore (Trivandrum: Directorate of State Archives).
² T.A.R. - 1933-'34, p. 191.
³ File No. R. Dis. 442/34, 1934, Government of Travancore (Trivandrum: Directorate of State Archives)
The Committee was of the view that affiliation of the colleges in Travancore to Madras University affected the character and length of the intermediate and degree courses of study, the entrance examination to the colleges and the courses of study in the high schools of the State. Besides, the Travancore Colleges failed to sustain high academic standards.¹

The Committee recommended that the College for Women be reduced to the second grade and converted into a residential institution, providing accommodation for all post-intermediate women students in Trivandrum. The Committee also recommended the amalgamation of the degree courses of the Science and Arts Colleges.

These recommendations were placed before the Advisory Board at its meeting held on 20-12-1933, and the Board resolved that the Women's College be reduced to a second grade college, and made residential, and that there should be a complete amalgamation of the Science and Arts Colleges when suitable accommodation could be provided.²

Judged by the standard of admission to the intermediate classes and by the age and quality of the students reading

in them, these classes, in the opinion of the Committee, did not constitute university classes proper at all, and really corresponding to extended high school classes. The then school final candidates were generally far too immature to benefit by collegiate methods of training.

There was little intercollegiate relationship not merely between the colleges in one part of Travancore and the colleges in other parts but even between the colleges situated in Trivandrum.

Large number of ill-equipped students reading for arts courses were not in the Committee's opinion, desirable, and that, along with the improvement of standards, the fees for the arts and science courses should be considerably raised, provision being made for free places and scholarships for backward class and poor students. ¹

The Committee's recommendations regarding the re-organisation of collegiate education were naturally limited by the possibility of the establishment, at a later date, of a separate university for Travancore.

The Committee suggested that before a settlement was arrived at on the university question it was necessary to make the existing institutions more satisfactory, and there

was need for the provision of new institutions offering practical needs of the State. As the intermediate course could not be tampered with as long as affiliation with Madras University continued, immediate steps should be taken to separate these classes from collegiate education proper. The degree classes in the Women's College were to be transferred to the Science College so that all post-intermediate courses would be located there, and intermediate science and arts alone would be provided in the Arts and Women's College.

Among the new courses to be provided for both at the Intermediate and the Degree levels, the Committee recommended particularly Geography as it was an important subject in the schools. A Post-Intermediate Diploma Course of 2 years in Domestic Science was suggested for the Women's College. For the Training Colleges a qualitative improvement by including more of educational administration and history of education and the institution of a practical test were suggested as also the introduction of new courses like the teaching of geography and the teaching of civics and child education.¹

¹ ibid., pp.222-224.
In order to improve the collegiate education, the Committee recommended that no student should be permitted to study for a degree course unless he was in residence in a hostel managed by the authorities of his colleges.

The Committee felt that Government should make it a rule that admission to the Maharaja's College should not be given to any student who was under the age of seventeen. The Committee recommended the establishment of a unit of the University Training Corps.

The Committee recommended that games' fees in colleges be largely increased, that the budget provision for games' expenditure be considerably raised, that provision of adequate playgrounds and equipments be insisted on and that athletic contests and tours be regarded as a normal part of collegiate training.¹

The Committee had been asked to report on the desirability or otherwise of establishing a University for Travancore.

Remaining within the Madras University meant that Travancore continues to be the most isolated unit of the affiliated colleges within the university. Travancore

¹. ibid., pp.224-225.
colleges were unable to share in any of the activities, which the constituent colleges of the university participated in, owing to their location at headquarters of the university. The Travancore colleges were further handicapped by the fact that Travancore had no representation on the executive body of the University of Madras and only limited representation on the other authorities of the University.

The Committee say: "... we are not able to recommend that any immediate steps should be taken to establish a University of Travancore ... There is much to be done by way of re-organisation in the existing colleges before it will be practical or desirable to separate Travancore from the Madras University."

The Committee recommended that the Government should consult with His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin for the establishment of a University for Travancore.

The Committee feel: "If, as we hope our suggestion for the improvement and re-organisation of the colleges and for the development of a college of technology bear fruit and high standards are attained, we consider that Travancore will then be in a sound position to separate her colleges from Madras."

1. ibid., pp. 228-232.
The Committee stressed the importance of technical education in the State. In this connection it suggested that Government should open a College of Technology having intermediate classes and diploma courses, the college being independent of the Madras University, with its own standards and diplomas.

In order to secure proper co-ordination between the Industries Department and the working of the Technical College with its subsidiary workshops, it recommended that, in future, the Director of Industries should be an expert competent to hold the combined post of Director of Industries and Director of Technological Studies in the College of Technology.\(^1\)

Government should make provisions at the intermediate stage for the following courses:

(i) Agriculture  
(ii) Accountancy  
(iii) Mechanical Engineering  
(iv) Electrical Engineering  
(v) Motor Engineering

Above the intermediate stage, the Committee recommended the provision of a two year course leading to a diploma in technology and later of four year course leading to a higher

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1. ibid., pp.242-248.
degree in technology. The courses must be intimately related to the possibilities of the development of small and large scale industries in the state. The Committee recommended the introduction of the following faculties:

(i) Applied Physics comprising mechanical engineering technology, electrical engineering technology and instrument technology.

(ii) Applied Chemistry comprising chemical engineering technology, oil technology including soaps, lubricating oils etc., food stuffs technology including bio-chemistry, sugar, biscuits, fruits-canning etc.

(iii) Industrial technology including textile technology, paper technology, glass manufacture, including pottery, earthenware, porcelain, stoneware etc., coir technology, leather technology, wood technology including plywood and matches.

The Committee recommended the handing over of the Nayar Brigade grounds and buildings for use by the Science Colleges and the Colleges of Technology.

The Committee made the following recommendations as well:

1) The abolition or reorganisation of the lower grade technical schools and the starting of vocational schools, particularly agricultural schools.
ii) Provision of technical courses in existing high schools or opening of independent technical schools, providing instruction in the industrial arts of wood, glass and metal, commercial subjects, mostly for students who were not qualified to appear for the university entrance examination.

There was wide-spread demand at least for the establishment of a medical school at Trivandrum. The Committee considered the demand and suggested that it was neither practical nor desirable to establish a medical college in Travancore. So it recommended that the Government should, as early as possible, establish a medical school at Trivandrum.

The Committee recommended that the number admitted to the Law College should be considerably restricted. As far as possible admission should be given only to the best qualified and most earnest students. The Sanskrit College should be affiliated to the Madras University in the Vidwan and Siromani courses. The College should retain the Mahopadhyaya course or some higher course as an independent study inculcating the highest attainment in Sanskrit.\(^1\)

\(^1\) ibid.
R.M. Statham, the Chairman of the Education Reforms Committee, relinquished charge from the afternoon of 6.6.1933.¹

The Education Department of the State having been chiefly engaged in working out as far as financial and local conditions would permit those proposals of the Educational Reforms Committee which had obtained the approval of Government.²

C.V.CHANDRASEKHARAN'S PROPOSAL OF 1937

The Government of His Highness found that the solution of industrial and agricultural problems of the State demanded the establishment of a separate University, designed to meet the particular needs and adapted to the special circumstances of the country. With the assumption of office by the then Dewan, Sachivottama Sir C.P. Ramaswamy Aiyer, the idea of a Travancore University began to move from the plane of mere academic discussion to that of practical realisation.³

In May 1937 Mr. C.V. Chandrasekharan, the Director of Public Instruction, was appointed Special Officer to

³ University of Travancore - Calendar for 1938-'39 (Trivandrum: Government Press, 1939), p.34.
prepare a detailed scheme for the University as per Government Letter No.R.O.C. No.1567 of 37/Edn. dated, 8th May, 1937. Dr. K.L. Moudgill M.A. (Cantab), D.Sc. (Glasgow), F.I.C. (London) was appointed as Director of Public Instruction.\(^1\) Mr. C.V. Chandrasekharan had assumed charge on the forenoon of 4th May 1937.\(^2\) Wide powers had been sanctioned to the Special Officer for the preparation of a scheme for the proposed University as per Government Letter No.R.O.C. No.2293 of 37/Edn. dated 22nd July, 1937.\(^3\)

Mr. C.V. Chandrasekharan submitted the draft of the Travancore University Regulations on 27th October, 1937. The main lines of the constitution of the University were considered by the University Advisory Committee at its meeting held on 10th, 11th, and 18th June, 1937 and a draft Regulation was prepared on the decision of the Committee. Subsequently Mr. Mc Lean, Registrar of the University of Madras, was consulted on the subjects and many of his

\(^1\) File No.986/37, 1937 (Education), Government of Travancore (Trivandrum: Directorate of State Archives).
\(^2\) File No.1909/37, 1937 (Education), Government of Travancore, (Trivandrum: Directorate of State Archives).
\(^3\) File No.1167/37, 1937 (Education), Government of Travancore (Trivandrum: Directorate of State Archives).
suggestions were adopted. The revised draft was scrutinised at the Special Officer's request by the Law Member to Government, who discussed the provision with the Special Officer in detail and made many important and helpful suggestions. It was at that stage that the Government, on the University Special Officer's recommendation, sanctioned the inclusion of representation of the two Houses of the Legislature on the Advisory Committee. The enlarged Committee met on 22nd and 23rd October, 1937, after a full discussion of the draft and proposed a few alternations and additions. They were considered by the Dewan in consultation with the University Special Officer and most of them had been accepted and incorporated in the draft. The final Memorandum submitted to Government had received the Dewan's approval.¹

The constitution of the new University was to be authorised in the Regulation to be issued by His Highness the Maharaja in the form of a Proclamation establishing and incorporating the University of Travancore. The Statutes which would define the composition, powers and functions of the governing bodies of the University were to be attached as a schedule to the Regulation.²

¹. File No.1090/37, Government of Travancore, 1937 (Education) op. cit.
². ibid.
One of the most important suggestions of the proposed University was the establishment of a Faculty of Technology and the creation and the gradual development of a Technical Institute. Another proposal would be carried on in pure applied sciences, particularly in subjects which had a special bearing on agricultural and industrial needs of the State. The work of various research units attached to the different departments of Government which were then working in isolation, would thereby be centralised and extended.

Thus on the Memorandum submitted by the Special University Officer, the Travancore University Regulation was prepared, and it was issued on the auspicious occasion of the twenty sixth birthday of the Maharaja of Travancore.

R.O.C. No.4955/37/Edn. NOTIFICATION

The Travancore University Regulation 1113.

In exercise of the powers conferred on them by Section I (i) of the Travancore University Regulation we are pleased hereby to appoint the 16th day of Thulam 1113 M.E., as the date on which the portions of the said Regulations mentioned below shall come into force.

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1. ibid.
All portions of the Regulation, not yet in force, except section 20, 21, 28 (b) and 32.

Huzur Cutcherry, By Order
Trivandrum, 1st Nov. '37. Chief Secretary to Government.

The chief aims of the Travancore University are:

(i) to effect a reorganisation of the system of education in the State with a view to the gradual development of technical and technological education;

(ii) to make greater and more systematic provision for the furtherance of original research in the various branches of applied science; and

(iii) to provide for the conservation and promotion of Kerala Arts and Culture.

The institution of the University of Travancore gave a further fillip to the growth of higher education in the area. Though conceived as a teaching and residential university it also began to affiliate new colleges. Taking advantage of grant-in-aid provision affiliated colleges in the private sector began to grow. Besides missionary enterprise conscientised social groups like the Nayar Service Society, Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam (later the S.N. Trusts) entered actively in the field of higher education and began to open colleges.