



Review of Secondary Education Commission in 1952, its Aims and Objectives & Recommendations for Structure of school education

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Abstract : The Central Advisory Board of Education at its fourteenth meeting, held in January, 1948, had recommended the appointment of a commission to examine the prevailing system of secondary education in the country and suggest measures for its reorganization and improvement. At its meeting held in January 1951, the Board reiterated its former decision and pressed for the implementation of its recommendation in view of the urgent need for the reconstruction of education at this level. While the problems of education at the elementary and the university stages have been surveyed in recent years and steps have been taken to improve and coordinate facilities for technical education, there has been no comprehensive or thorough examination of the problems pertaining to secondary education. Further, it is the secondary schools that supply teachers to the primary schools and students to the universities. An inefficient system of secondary education is, therefore, bound to affect adversely the quality of education at all stages.

There are other considerations which also make a survey of secondary education at the present time. One of the major defects of the prevailing system of secondary education is its unilinear and predominantly academic character. The need for the reorganization of secondary education with diversified courses has become more urgent. As a result of this, the Government of India appointed the Secondary Education Commission on September 23, 1952 with Dr. A. L. Swami Mudaliar, the Vice- Chancellor of Madras University as its Chairman.

Although the entire report consists detailed recommendation for the Education System , the scope of this review paper is limited to *Recommendations for Structure of school education. only*

Key Words : Education, secondary, Mudaliar Commission

Introduction : The Union Government, appointed the Secondary Education Commission in 1952, under the chairmanship of Mudaliar on the suggestion of Tara Chand Committee and Central Education Advisory Board. Named after its chairman, this Commission is also known as Mudaliar Commission. The Commission thoroughly examined the then prevailing secondary education system and gave a number of suggestions for reforms. Important ones among these were the diversification of the curriculum, and setting up a large number of multi-purpose schools. The courses of study provided in these schools should aim at fulfilling the different aptitudes of the students. According to the recommendation of the Mudaliar Commission, the outlines for the diversification of curriculum were decided upon. Accordingly, the study of some compulsory subjects was made necessary for all students.

Appointment of the Commission

On September 23, 1952, the Government of India appointed the Secondary Education Commission under the chairmanship of Dr. A.L. Swami Mudaliar, the Vice- Chancellor of Madras University. It is on his name that the commission is also known as Mudaliar Commission. The commission studied the various problems of secondary education in the country and submitted its report on August 29, 1953 in 250 pages

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