Wood Despatch; 1854

Introduction

British Parliament exercised control over the East India Company. After every 20 years a new Charter Act was issued to the company by the British government. In the Chater Act 1813 a sum of rupees one lakh was sanctioned for the development of education in India. The chater Act, 1833 increased the sum of rupees 10lakh. In 1853 when the company's Chater come for the renewal in the British Parliament, the need for the permanent and comprehensive education policy for India was felt. So the Parliamentary committee was founded by the British Parliament to decide the policy for Indian education. The committee thoroughly studied the contemporary Indian education system and the role of company in it. It also consulted Marshman, Wilson, Halide, Cameron and Duff who had a through knowledge about the Indian Education and on its basis submitted its report to the British Parliament. A discussion took place on the report and on its basis an education policy for India was decide and added to the new Chater of the company. The president of the Company's Board of Control was Sir Charles Wood. He declared this education policy on July 19' 1854. It it therefore, on hid name termed as Wood Despatch. This declaration is long inscription of 100 articles which describes the education policy and role of Company in it.

AIMS OF WOOD'S DESPATCH

1. Mental development of the Indian and to raise their intellectual standard
2. To make the Indians aware of the western knowledge and science and to permute their material prosperity
3. To develop the charter and morality of Indians
4. To proper able worker for the East India Company

CURRICULUM OF EDUCATION -

1. Place to oriental language and literature.
2. Special place to the western knowledge and science
3. Limited permission for religious education.

MEDIUM OF INSTRUTION - English and vernacular language;

1. Native languages and English to be the medium of Primary education.
2. English to be the medium of higher education.

ESTABLISHMENT OF GRADED SCHOOL -

- Primary school.
- Middle school.
- High school;
- College.
- University.

EXTENSION OF MASS EDUCATION

1. Downward filtration theory hereby stands rejected. Education will be made available not only for higher classes but for everyone.
2. The number of primary and secondary schools will be increased education
3. Scholarship will be given to the poor and meritorious students.

WOMEN EDUCATION

1. Girls school will be given special grants (Government Aids)
2. Individual help to women education will be encouraged

TRANING OF THE TEACHERS

1. Teacher training in India will be organized on the pattern of teacher training in England
2. Scholarship for the teacher during their training period will be organized

GRANT IN AID SYSTEM

This report was declared that the financial aid will be given to every educational Institution in respective of their religious denomination. Provision to sanction this grant on different subjects like building construction, science laboratory construction scholarship. Salaries to teachers etc.

ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE ORIENTAL LITERATURE.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

1. Appropriate arrangement of vocational arrangement will be made in India
2. Educated person will be provided government job on the basis of their qualification and work efficiency

EDUCATION OF MUSLIMS

Special school will be opened for the education of Muslim children

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYEMENT

Wood's Despatch, the magnacata of Indian education –

MERITS –

1. Responsibility of Education on Government
2. Conformed Policy of Education
3. Establishment of Education Department
4. Beginning of Grant in Aid System
5. Foundation of Graded Institution
6. Organization of Education in Psychological stages
7. Emphasis on women Education
8. Emphasis on Muslim Education
9. Emphasis on Vocational Education
10. Arrangement of Teacher Education
11. Emphasis on moral development of Indians
12. Foundation of Universities
13. Rejection of filtration theory
14. Emphasis on Mass Education

DEMERITS

1. Education under the control of company
2. More importance to western knowledge
3. Bible compulsory in Government schools
4. Only English the medium of higher Education
5. Beginning of Red Tapism n the field of Education
6. Harsh condition for grant in Aid
7. Knowledge of English compulsory in Government jobs
8. Freedom of Religious education in Missionary schools