

Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

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G.O., No. 212, 20th March 1908.

School Final Examination.

Considering it desirable to organize a — and referring the question to a Committee with the Director of Public Instruction as President for consideration and report.

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Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

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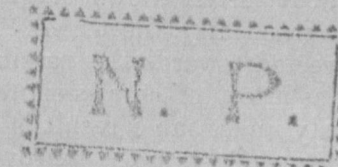
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1908

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G.O., No. 212, 20th March 1908.



School Final Examination.

Considering it desirable to organize a — and referring the question to a Committee with the Director of Public Instruction as President for consideration and report.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

Letter—from G. B. H. FELL, Esq., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Education).
To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Educational Department.
Dated—Simla, the 26th June 1907.
No.—486.

I am directed to refer to Mr. Cardew's letter No. 145 of the 30th March 1903 regarding the question of the school final examination, and to state that the Government of India have deferred further consideration of the subject until the revision of the regulations of the Madras University under the Indian Universities Act was complete and until the University, as constituted under that Act, was in a position to consider such proposals with reference to a school final examination as His Excellency in Council may eventually decide to place before it.

2. Paragraph 2 of the above letter shows that the Upper Secondary examination has been a failure, and that, practically, the whole energies of the secondary schools and pupils in Madras are directed towards the passing of the Matriculation examination, which serves not only as a test of admission to the University but also to the public service. The obviously undesirable result is that the studies of pupils at the close of their school course are confined to the narrow curriculum of the Matriculation examination. The educational disadvantages of such a situation have been recognised for many years and the Government of India note that Dr. Miller, C.I.E., in a published letter on the revision of the University regulations, hopefully anticipated a well-arranged system of final examinations for the schools, with leaving certificates which might be accepted as qualifying for entrance to the University. The Government of India have little doubt that there are many connected with education and with the University in Madras who would support the same principle and they therefore hope that it may be possible to formulate a scheme for a school final examination which will be acceptable both to the University and to Government.

3. In paragraph 3 of the letter it is pointed out that the First Arts examination is accepted in Madras as a qualification for higher appointments in the public service as well as the University degree, and it is stated that this fact is likely to induce boys to appear for the Matriculation examination rather than for the school final examination, even though the Matriculation examination no longer qualified for the public service, as clever boys would hope to pass the First Arts examination and so secure eligibility to the higher grades of the public service. It is, however, obvious that eventually and with an increasing supply of graduates the recognition of subsidiary University examinations for the purposes of the public service will become unnecessary, and it is probable that, in this respect, the conditions in Madras will become similar to those in Bombay where the University degree and higher examinations are recognised as qualifying for higher grades of the public service. It may, therefore, be anticipated that the present attractions of the First Arts examination

will eventually disappear. But apart from this consideration, there appears to be every reason to anticipate that boys will be attracted to the school final examination when that examination qualifies for the public service and the Matriculation examination does not. The attraction will of course be largely enhanced if the University agrees to accept the school final examination as an entrance test under certain conditions.

4. The proposals contained in your letter formulate a scheme which is generally approved by the Government of India, and which may be summarised under the following headings :—

(a) that the University should be invited to co-operate in the organization of the proposed examination ;

(b) that such co-operation should be secured by the appointment of an Advisory Committee to assist the Educational Department ;

(c) that the management of and responsibility for the examination should rest with the Educational Department assisted by the Advisory Committee ;

(d) that the examination should extend to the ordinary curriculum of high schools ;

(e) that the University should be compensated for any pecuniary loss entailed on it by the institution of the examination ;

(f) that the University should be invited to accept the examination as, in whole or in part, equal to the Matriculation examination ;

(g) that candidates will be required to have undergone tuition in recognised schools for a minimum period of two years ;

(h) that private candidates who have satisfied the Director of Public Instruction as to the conditions under which they have studied may be admitted to the examination ;

(k) that no minimum age limit, or a low one, shall be imposed, except for candidates desiring to proceed to the University ;

(l) that the examination will be held at specified centres, no great extension of the method of oral examination being practicable ;

(m) that a higher fee will be charged than for the Matriculation examination ;

(n) that the subjects of examination should be those in which candidates receive instruction in recognised high schools, but that the details should be finally settled in consultation with the University ;

(p) that the results should be classified in two divisions determined by efficiency in compulsory subjects ;

(q) that the Matriculation examination should no longer qualify and the school final examination should qualify for those branches of the public service for which the educational qualification is lower than the First Arts examination of the University.

5. I am directed to offer the following remarks upon these sub-divisions :—

(b) and (c) It appears to the Government of India probable that the co-operation of the University in the examination would be most efficiently secured by the constitution of a joint Board of Examination under the Director of Public Instruction as President. The departmental element on the Board would, perhaps, preponderate as the department accepts the responsibility for and undertakes the management of the examination, but the direct association of University representatives on the Board would, it is anticipated, secure the interest and confidence of the University in the examination more certainly than could be effected by the appointment of an Advisory Committee.

(e) The question of compensation to the University might perhaps be settled by the arrangement that if the University accepted the examination as qualifying for entrance and if, thereby, the receipts from the Matriculation examination were materially reduced, the proceeds of the school final examination, after all expenses were paid, should be credited to the University. It is obviously not necessary or desirable that Government should make money out of the examination. It may be

noted that, in the beginning and until the examination has fully developed, it is not likely to pay its way or largely to reduce the University receipts from the Matriculation examination.

(f) If the University agree to accept the school final examination as equivalent to the entrance examination they would, no doubt, limit that acceptance to candidates who had taken up certain subjects connected with the subsequent University course. In that case the acceptance would obviously be complete and not partial, and there would be no occasion to re-examine the candidate. Partial acceptance of the examination might, however, be appropriate if a candidate who had taken up a course not connected with University studies (*e.g.*, a technical course) subsequently desired admission to the University. The University authorities might, in that case, examine him in certain subjects and accept the school final test in others.

(g) and (h) It is presumed that provision will be made for cases where boys have been transferred from one recognised school to another or whose attendance at school has been unavoidably interrupted. The case of private candidates should be regarded as quite exceptional and should be the subject of special enquiry.

(k) The Government of India after careful consideration are of opinion that the school final examination should be subject to the same age limit as the Matriculation examination, viz., 16 years, and I am to ask that the proposals of the Government of Madras may be modified in this respect.

(m) Similarly, the Government of India have come to the conclusion that the fee for the school final examination should not be higher than for the Matriculation examination.

(n) The details of the courses of study will be settled in consultation with the University as proposed, but I am to state that the proposed omission of history and geography from the compulsory subjects seems open to question and that it appears to be expedient that every boy should, when he leaves school, have a competent knowledge of the history of his own country. It might be advisable to substitute this subject for the paper in general knowledge. With respect to the optional subjects, I am to remark that it is desirable that there should be a definite limit as to the number taken up by a candidate so that he may not multiply optional subjects in order to accumulate marks, and that the subjects selected should be those of a course for which efficient instruction was provided in the school attended by him.

(p) The Government of India think that it would not be desirable to decide the classification of results by the efficiency shown in compulsory subjects only but by the total results obtained by each candidate. Besides publishing the results the Educational Department should scrutinize the working of the schools by the evidence afforded by the examination and should issue detailed reports on the various subjects which would be useful as a guide to school managers and pupils.

(q) It is advisable that the school final examination should be substituted for the Matriculation examination not only as a qualification for Government service, but as an entrance test for any non-University school of professional or technical training which may be entered at that stage.

6. The Government of India trust that the foregoing suggestions will commend themselves to the Governor in Council and that it will be possible to formulate, on the lines indicated, a scheme of examination which will be adapted to the requirements of all pupils who complete their secondary school course. The Educational Department will rightly bear the responsibility for the conduct of the examination, for it is the only body competent to exercise the necessary functions of inspection and administration with respect to the secondary schools of the presidency. But it will, it is hoped, be materially assisted in its work by the co-operation of the University, while, if the school final examination eventually develops and secures the confidence of the public and of the University, the latter body will gradually be relieved of the heavy burden of conducting the Matriculation examination and, at the same time, will suffer no pecuniary loss. The close association and mutual co-operation of the department and the University in connection with the final examination should have a most beneficial effect upon secondary schools, whose

efficiency will doubtless be stimulated by conditions under which their energies will no longer be confined within the limits of a narrow curriculum, but will be extended to that fuller scope of instruction which is so essential if the rising generation is to be suitably prepared for the various duties of life.

7. I am to add that, should His Excellency in Council find that it is possible to proceed to the organization of a scheme of school final examination, the Government of India will be glad to receive, in due course, a report detailing the provisional regulations laid down in connection with the scheme.

Order—No. 212, Educational, dated 20th March 1908.

The Government have for some time past had under consideration the question of the institution of a school final examination in this presidency.

2. An examination of the nature of a school final examination already exists in Madras under the name of the Upper Secondary examination. This examination was established in 1889 with the object of substituting for the Matriculation examination a fresh examination with a higher standard as an entrance test for the public service, and extending the control exercised by Government over Upper Secondary education, by providing an examination for such Upper Secondary schools as might elect to develop on commercial or technical lines and to give up, in whole or in part, the preparation of pupils for the University. The examination thus created has, from the first, failed to achieve the objects which it was intended to secure. The high schools have not been induced to any appreciable extent to develop the commercial or technical education which was in view in 1889, and have preferred to keep their curriculum in accordance with the requirements of the University, while candidates for the public service have found it more advantageous to pass the Matriculation examination and thus qualify both for University studies and the public service than to appear for the Upper Secondary examination which admits to the latter alone.

3. The Governor in Council considers that it will be in the best interests of education to withdraw the recognition of the Matriculation examination as an entrance test for the public service and to institute a school final examination which will serve both as an entrance test for the public service and as a final test for young men who are leaving school and who desire to enter a school of professional or technical teaching which is not connected with the University.

4. It seems desirable that the new school final examination should be so organized as to embrace a wider range of studies than the Matriculation examination and to guarantee not merely that a boy has passed a certain test but also that he has gone through a definite course of study in a recognized school and that during the period which he has spent at such a school he has conducted himself in a satisfactory manner. They are also of opinion that the scheme should be so formulated that the examination will be acceptable to the University as a substitute for the Matriculation examination either in whole or in part.

5. The Governor in Council accordingly resolves to refer this question to a Committee consisting of the Director of Public Instruction as President, four officers of the Educational Department to be nominated by the Director of Public Instruction and four non-officials. A roughly sketched scheme is appended to this order and the Committee will be requested to consider and revise it so as to carry out the objects specified above and also with reference to the following observations:—

(1) The compulsory subjects for the examination should include either general elementary physics or some specific branch of physics.

(2) The vernacular test should be both thorough and practical.

(3) The number of optional subjects which a candidate should be permitted to take up should be limited to two and the examination in the optional subjects should be so co-ordinated as to make them as far as possible of equivalent examinational value.

6. The Committee will also be requested to consider whether the examination in English should not include also précis-writing and indexing.

7. The Syndicate of the University of Madras, the Council of Native Education and the Missionary Council of Aided Education will each be invited to nominate one non-official as its representative on the Committee. Their nomination should reach Government not later than 15th April next.

8. The report of the Committee should be submitted to Government not later than the 15th June 1908.

9. Non-official members of the Committee will be granted the travelling allowance admissible under article 1004 of the Civil Service Regulations.

(True Extract.)

H. D. TAYLOR,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
Commissioner for Government Examinations.
" Registrar, Madras University.
" Secretary to the Council of Native Education.
" " to the Missionary Council of Aided Education.
Gazette.
Editors' Table (Order and appendix only).

Endorsement—No. 212-A, Educational, dated 20th March 1908.

Copy to the Government of India, Home Department.

H. D. TAYLOR,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX.

DRAFT SCHEME OF SCHOOL FINAL EXAMINATION.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Examination when to be held. | 1. An Examination styled the School Final Examination shall be held annually in the subjects hereinafter mentioned, beginning, as far as the compulsory subjects are concerned, on the
It shall be held at such places as may, from time to time, be notified. |
| Objects for which instituted. | 2. The examination has been instituted to test the attainments of pupils at the close of a secondary school course. |
| By whom to be conducted. | 3. The examination shall be under the control of an Examination Board consisting of the Director of Public Instruction as President, four officers of the Indian Educational Service and three members appointed thereto by the Syndicate of the University of Madras. |

The members of the Board shall be appointed for a period of three years and shall be eligible for reappointment.

The Secretary to the Commissioner for Government Examinations shall be Secretary to the Board.

The Board shall arrange for the conduct of the examination in accordance with the provisions of this notification.

To whom open. 4. The examination shall be open to pupils who have completed a course of instruction in a secondary school provided—

- (i) that the pupil shall have completed the age of 15 years on or before the first day of the month in which he appears at the examination;
- (ii) that the pupil shall have been in one and the same school during the school year immediately preceding the examination and shall have been a pupil of a recognised school for a minimum period of two years;
- (iii) that the school or schools attended by the pupil throughout the course of instruction shall have been recognised by the Director of Public Instruction as providing an efficient course of instruction in the subjects selected by the pupil;
- (iv) that the pupil produces a certificate in the subjoined form signed by the headmaster of the school he is attending at the date of applying for admission to the examination:—

I hereby certify that has attended not less than 120 days of the previous school year, that he has completed a course of instruction in the following subjects and that his conduct has been satisfactory.

5. Candidates who have not attended any recognised school during the period specified above in rule 4 will be admitted to the examination only under exceptional circumstances, such as, physical inability to attend school or other causes sufficiently proved in the opinion of the Board to excuse non-attendance. The Board will decide all such exceptional cases on application specially made to it. Such application must contain a full statement of the case and must be submitted so as to reach the Board on or before the of the year in which the examination is held, accompanied by a satisfactory certificate of good conduct and the prescribed fee which will be returned if the application is rejected.

Subjects of examination. 6. The following will be the subjects for the examination:—

Compulsory.

1. Arithmetic.
2. English.
3. The Vernacular.
4. History of India and General Geography of the world.
5. Elementary Physics.

Optional.

Any two of the following subjects:—

1. An additional language
2. History of England.
3. Chemistry.
4. Mensuration and Practical Geometry.
5. Book-keeping.
6. Commercial Arithmetic, Correspondence and Geography.
7. Shorthand and Typewriting.
8. Botany.
9. Agriculture.

Female candidates may present Hygiene and Domestic Economy, Botany, Music or Typewriting with or without Shorthand.

Drawing or Manual Training may be added to any of the above subjects.

Publication of results. 7. The Director of Public Instruction on the recommendation of the Board will publish the results of the examination in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 212, EDUCATIONAL,
DATED 20TH MARCH 1908.

[SUBJECT.—*School Final examination.*]

From the Government of India, Home Department (Education), dated 26th June 1907, No. 486.

In their letter No. 145, Educational, dated 30th March 1903, this Government submitted certain proposals on the subject of the institution of a School Final examination in this Presidency.

2. The main features of the proposals made by this Government were—

(1) that the co-operation of the University in the organization of the proposed examination should be secured by the appointment of an Advisory Committee to assist the Educational Department which latter should be entrusted with the management of and the responsibility for the examination;

(2) that the University should be invited to accept the examination as in whole or in part equal to the Matriculation examination;

(3) that no minimum age limit or a low one shall be imposed except for candidates desiring to proceed to the University and that a higher fee shall be charged than for the Matriculation examination; and

(4) that the Matriculation examination should no longer qualify and the school final examination should qualify for those branches of the Public service for which the Educational qualification is lower than the First-in-Arts examination of the University.

3. *Co-operation of the University.*—The Government of India consider it probable that the co-operation of the University in the examination would be most efficiently secured by the constitution of a joint Board of examination under the Director of Public Instruction as President. The departmental element on the Board would, perhaps, preponderate as the department accepts the responsibility for and undertakes the management of the examination, but the direct association of University representatives on the Board would, it is anticipated, secure the interest and confidence of the University in the examination more certainly than could be effected by the appointment of an Advisory Committee.

4. *Acceptance of School Final Examination as equivalent to the Matriculation Examination.*—The Government of India point out that if the University agree to accept the school final examination as equivalent to the entrance examination they would, no doubt, limit that acceptance to candidates who had taken up certain subjects connected with the subsequent University course. In that case the acceptance would obviously be complete and not partial, and there would be no occasion to re-examine the candidate. Partial acceptance of the examination might, however, be appropriate if a candidate who had taken up a course not connected with University studies (*e.g.*, a technical course) subsequently desired admission to the University. The University authorities might in that case examine him in certain subjects and accept the school final test in others.

5. *Age limit and examination fees.*—The Government of India are of opinion that the School final examination should be subject to the same age limit as the Matriculation examination, viz., 16 years, and request that the proposals of this Government may be modified in this respect. They also think that the fee for the school final examination should not be higher than for the Matriculation examination.

6. *School Final examination as a qualification for public service.*—The Government of India consider it advisable that the School Final examination should be substituted or the Matriculation examination not only as a qualification for Government service but as an entrance test for any non-University school of professional or technical training which may be entered at that stage.

7. The Government of India trust that the foregoing suggestions will commend themselves to the Governor in Council and that it will be possible to formulate, on the lines indicated, a scheme of examination which will be adapted to the requirements of all pupils who complete their secondary school course. They accordingly request that if this Government should find it possible to proceed to the organization of a scheme of school final examination, they may be furnished in due course with a report detailing the provisional regulations laid down in connection with the scheme.

8. It is submitted that the letter from the Government of India may be forwarded u.o. to the Director of Public Instruction for his early remarks on the several suggestions made by the Government of India and for the formulation of a complete scheme of school final examination on the lines suggested by that Government.

K. RANGASWAMI AYYANGAR—18-7-07.

C. A. SOUTER—19-7-07.

H. D. TAYLOR—20-7-07.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Suggestions of the Government of India.—(b) and (c) The distinction between an Advisory Committee assisting the Educational Department and a joint Board is mainly a question of terminology at any rate until the functions of the controlling body have been defined.

2. A Board composed of the Director of Public Instruction as President, say four officers of the department, generally four Inspectors, and four members appointed by the Syndicate of the University would appear a suitable body to make the general arrangements throughout and to appoint such examiners as might be required.

3. (e) The chief objection to the proposal that the proceeds of the School Final examination after all expenses were paid should be credited to the University is that it gives the University an interest in the financing of the examination. There are other difficulties in that the expenditure can hardly be kept accurately distinct from that on other Government examinations in regard for instance to such matters as clerical staff, stationery and printing.

It would seem better for Government to consider annually the loss incurred by the University and to make that loss good. This might, however, entail budget difficulty.

4. (f) Unless the University is to be directed as to what should be done, and that does not appear to be provided by law, the only possible action seems to be to propose a certain course for consideration by the University.

5. (g) & (h) The Educational rules already provide for transfers and there will be little difficulty in drawing up rules with regard to *bond fide* private candidates.

6. (k) The age limit fixed by the University is 15: it is presumed that this should be the limit for the School Final examination also.

7. (m) The fee may be Rs. 12 which is the present fee for Matriculation.

Cf. Regulation 174 on page 21 of G.O., No. 841, dated 27th December 1906, which prescribes subjects for the Matriculation examination.

The vernacular test should be made pretty severe. Should not elementary physics (in some branch) be added? I think it should.

G. S. F[ORBES].

8. (n) The compulsory subjects may be—
English,
Arithmetic,
A vernacular test, and
History and Geography.

9. (p) I see no objection to a classification of results by the total results obtained by each candidate.

10. A scrutiny of the working of the schools by the evidence afforded by the examination and the issue of reports should prove valuable, but will entail a very large amount of work upon the Board if the examination reaches the dimensions of the present Matriculation.

11. (q) The substitution of the School Final examination for the Matriculation examination not only as a qualification for Government service but as an entrance test for any non-University school of professional or technical training which may be entered at that stage is probably essential to the success of the former.

12. A matter which does not appear to have been touched upon relates to the schools in Native States and other provinces (Ceylon) recognized by the University. They cannot come within the scope of the Madras School Final examination as the department has nothing to do with their inspection and administration. Certain States may adopt School Final examinations of their own or all the candidates may continue to appear for the University Matriculation in which case they will be ineligible for Madras Government service, etc., unless some special arrangements are made, and these present considerable difficulty. I mention the matter here, but consider that further developments might be awaited before any action is taken.

13. I append a rough draft of a scheme. This might be referred to a small Committee consisting of about four officers of the department and four non-officials. The Committee might meet about the second week in January.

14. It will be observed that the Government of India merely ask for a report on any scheme which may be organised. I presume that they do not expect to be consulted before it comes into operation.

A. G. BOURNE—8-12-07.

APPENDIX.

Draft Scheme of School Final Examination.

1. *Examination when to be held.*—An examination styled the School Final examination shall be held annually in the several subjects hereinafter mentioned, beginning, as far as the compulsory subjects are concerned, on the

It shall be held at such places as may, from time to time, be notified.

2. *Objects for which instituted.*—The examination has been instituted to test the attainments of pupils at the close of a secondary school course.

3. *By whom to be conducted.*—The examination shall be under the control of an Examination Board consisting of the Director of Public Instruction as President, four officers of the Indian Educational Service and four members appointed by the Syndicate of the University of Madras.

Or three?

G. S. F[ORBES].

The Members of the Board shall be appointed for a period of three years and shall be eligible for reappointment.

The Secretary to the Commissioner for Government Examinations shall be Secretary to the Board.

The Board shall arrange for the conduct of the examination in accordance with the provisions of this notification.

4. *To whom open.*—The examination shall be open to pupils who have completed a course of instruction in a secondary school provided—

(i) that the pupil shall have completed the age of 15 years on or before the first day of the month in which he appears at the examination,

(ii) that the pupil shall have been in one and the same school during the school year immediately preceding the examination and shall have been a pupil of a recognized school for a minimum period of two years,

(iii) that the school or schools attended by the pupil throughout the course of instruction shall have been recognized by the Director of Public Instruction as providing efficient courses of instruction in the subjects selected by the pupil,

(iv) that the pupil produces a certificate in the subjoined form signed by the headmaster of the school he is attending at the date of applying for admission to the examination :—

I hereby certify that has attended not less than 120 days of the previous school year, that he has completed a course of instruction in the following subjects and that his conduct has been satisfactory.

5. *Private candidates.*—Candidates who have not attended any recognized school during the period specified above in rule 4 will only be admitted to the examination under exceptional circumstances—such as physical inability to attend school or other causes sufficiently proved in the opinion of the Board to excuse non-attendance. The Board will decide all such exceptional cases on application specially made to it. Such application must contain a full statement of the case and must be submitted so as to reach the Board on or before the of the year in which the examination is held, accompanied by a satisfactory certificate of good conduct and the prescribed fee which will be returned if the application is rejected.

6. *Subjects of examination.*—The following will be the subjects for the examination :—

In (4) the geography should be of the world.

I would add to the compulsory subjects, 5. Physics Elementary (or some specific branch).

G. S. F[ORBES].

Compulsory.

1. Arithmetic.
2. English.
3. The Vernacular.
4. (Geography and) History of India and General Geography of the world.
5. Elementary Physics.

* Should the subjects following not be additional, but not more than, say, two to be taken.

G. S. F[ORBES]—2-2-08.

** Alternative.**Optional.*

1. An additional language.
2. Mathematics — Algebra and Geometry.
3. History of England.
4. Geography.
5. Chemistry.
6. Physics.
7. Mensuration and Practical Geometry.
8. Book-keeping.
9. Commercial Arithmetic, Correspondence and Geography.
10. Shorthand and Typewriting.
11. Botany.
12. Agriculture.

Candidates must not take up more than two of the optional subjects for examination. Female candidates may present Hygiene and Domestic Economy, Botany, Music or Typewriting with or without Shorthand.

Drawing or Manual Training may be added to any of the above subjects.

7. *Publication of results.*—The Director of Public Instruction on the recommendation of the Board will publish the results of the examination in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

Please complete the file.

H. D. TAYLOR—10-12-07.

The file has been completed and is submitted.

2. The rules in regard to the School Final Examination of the Allahabad University are given on pages 156 to 161 of the Calendar of the Allahabad University for 1905-1906. Similar rules for the Bombay School Final Examination do not find place in the Bombay University Calendar. The subjects prescribed for this examination, in Bombay, are given on page 2 of the notes with G.O., No. 9, Educational, dated 11th January 1901.

K. RANGASWAMI AYYANGAR—11-12-07.

Dr. Bourne's scheme is only a rough draft which he suggests may be considered by a small committee to sit about the second week in January.

C. A. SOUTER—12-12-07.

The Director of Public Instruction's proposal at A on page 3 *supra* may be approved. He may be asked to report to Government the names of the persons whom he would suggest as members of the committee.

H. D. TAYLOR—13-12-07.

Make a rough comparison between Dr. Bourne's proposals and those adopted in Bombay and United Provinces—only any important points of difference.

G. S. F[ORBES]—13-12-07.

The important points of difference between Dr. Bourne's proposals and the scheme of the School Final Examination in Bombay and the United Provinces are noted below.

2. I. *Examination by whom conducted.*—Dr. Bourne proposes that the school final examination should be under the control of an Examination Board consisting of the Director of Public Instruction as President, four officers of the Indian Educational Service and four members appointed thereto by the Syndicate of the University of Madras. The members are to be appointed for a period of three years and to be eligible for reappointment, and the Secretary to the Commissioner for Government Examinations is to be Secretary to the Board.

G. S. F[ORBES].

3. In the United Provinces, the school final examination is conducted by the University—*vide* Regulation 53 on page 156 of the Allahabad University Calendar for 1905-1906.

Vide rule VII and the form in appendix A of the Bombay School Final Examination.

4. In Bombay this examination appears to be conducted by Superintendents, appointed apparently by the Director of Public Instruction.

The comparison carried out is most confusing. Each head should have been specifically compared.

G. S. F[ORBES].

5. II. *Qualifications for admission to the Examination.*—According to Dr. Bourne's proposals, the qualifications for admission to the examination are—

(1) that the pupil should have completed a course of instruction in a secondary school;

(2) that the pupil should have completed the age of 15 years on or before the first day of the month in which he appears at the examination;

(3) that the pupil should have been in one and the same school during the school year immediately preceding the examination and should have been a pupil of a recognized school for a minimum period of two years;

(4) that the school or schools attended by the pupil are recognised by the Director of Public Instruction as efficient; and

(5) that the pupil produces a certificate of having attended not less than 120 days of the previous school year.

6. Under the Regulations of the Allahabad University, the qualifications are—

Regulation 54 on page 156 of the Allahabad University Calendar for 1905-1906.

Do.

Do.

This is (2) above and not (3) !!

G.S.F.

(1) that the pupil should have attended for not less than two years a course of instruction at a school recognized by the Syndicate for the purpose;

(2) that he should have attended at least 75 per cent. of the working days in the school year; and

(3) that he should have completed sixteen years of age at the date of the commencement of the examination.

7. In Bombay the qualifications required are —

Vide Rules I and II in the Bombay notification.

(1) that the pupil should have completed 15 years of age on or before the 1st November, and

(2) that he should have attended a school, duly recognised by the department for two years previous to the date of the examination.

8. III. *Subjects for the Examination.*—The subjects for the examination as proposed by the Director of Public Instruction are compared below with those prescribed for the school final examination in Bombay and the United Provinces:—

Dr. Bourne's proposal.

Scheme in force in Bombay.

(*Vide* rule 3 of the notification V.)

Scheme in force in Allahabad.
(*Vide* Articles 58 and 59 on page 161 of the Allahabad University Calendar for 1905-1906.)

I. Compulsory subjects.

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Arithmetic | 1. Arithmetic (including Mensuration). | (1) Elementary Mathematics. |
| 2. English | 2. English | (2) English. |
| 3. Vernacular | 3. The Vernacular of the candidate | (3) An Indian Vernacular. |
| 4. Geography and History of India. | 4. History of India and General Geography of the world with special reference to the British Empire. | (4) History and Geography.
(5) Either a Classical Language or Science. |

II. Optional subjects.

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1. An additional language.
* This can refer only to Arabic or Persian. C.A.S. | 1. One of the following Classical languages, Sanskrit, Arabic, Persian, Latin, if that language * has not been taken up under the compulsory head. | 1. An additional language (Classical or Modern). |
| 2. Mathematics (Algebra and Geometry). | 2. Mathematics | 2. Drawing. |
| 3. History of England. | 3. Political Economy. | |
| 4. Geography | | 3. Commercial Geography. |
| 5. Chemistry | 4. Chemistry | 4. Music. |
| 6. Physics | 5. Physics | 5. Domestic Economy (for girls only). |
| 7. Mensuration and Practical Geometry. | | 6. Physiology. |
| 8. Book-keeping | 6. Book-keeping and Commercial Correspondence. | 7. Book-keeping. |
| 9. Commercial Arithmetic, Correspondence and Geography. | 7. Drawing. | |
| 10. Shorthand and Typewriting. | 8. Shorthand and Typewriting. | |
| 11. Botany | 9. Manual training | 8. Botany. |
| 12. Agriculture | 10. Botany | |
| | 11. Agriculture | 9. Agriculture with Surveying. |

9. Under the Bombay rules, candidates must take up one of the optional subjects for examination and no candidate will be examined in more than one optional subject, while in Allahabad, a candidate may take up two optional subjects and not more than two. No such limitation is provided in the scheme proposed by Dr. Bourne.

10. It is submitted that Dr. Bourne's suggestion that a committee should sit on the draft scheme may be approved.

K. RANGASWAMI AYYANGAR—14-1-08.

C. A. SOUTER—16-1-08.

Allahabad provides for either a classical language or a science as a compulsory subject.

H. D. TAYLOR—18-1-08.

I approve of the appointment of a small committee as suggested by the Director of Public Instruction.

In the compulsory subjects the vernacular test should be not only thorough but practical. I should be in favour of adding to the compulsory subjects some physics subject either general elementary physics or a group of elementary physical subjects.

The optional subjects (the marks for which are to be added to those obtained in the compulsory subjects) should be limited to two; and care will have to be taken so to co-ordinate the examinations in these as to make them as far as possible of equivalent examination value, some of the subjects in Dr. Bourne's list seem scarcely fit to be so equalized.

On other points I have made some marginal remarks.

G. S. F[ORBES]—3-2-08.

Please draft.

H. D. TAYLOR—5-2-08.

The draft order placed below is submitted for approval. The draft follows the lines indicated by the Assistant Secretary. After approval, the draft and notes will be put in type before submission to the Secretary and the Honourable Member.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—19-2-08.

I felt some difficulty as to the line to be taken in the draft. The Director of Public Instruction's proposals are all given *u.o.*, and Honourable Member altered them here and there. The draft therefore takes these altered proposals as emanating from Government and gives general instructions to the Committee. In preface the reasons for the proposal are set out. They follow the Government of India's orders. If Secretary approves of the draft it can be put in type.

C. A. SOUTER—20-2-08.

The draft will, I think do. The scheme is purely preliminary at this stage. The Government Order might be published in the Gazette with an intimation that any communication which any one interested in the scheme may have to make should be communicated to the Secretary to the Commissioner for Government Examinations not later than 15th April. Proposals could then be considered during the vacation.

It would be better that the four non-official members should be nominated by Government instead of by the Director of Public Instruction and I would suggest that the *Senate* be asked to select a non-official representative, the * Missionary Council of Aided Education might select one, and the † Council of Native Education another leaving one to be nominated by Government for which I would suggest the Rev. Father Sewell if not nominated by the Syndicate.

* *Vide* their memorial. They represent 18 Protestant Missions.

† For constitution please see pamphlet in original of G.O., No. 742, Educational, dated 6th November 1907.

H. B[RADLEY]—22-2-08.

Non-official members might be allowed to draw travelling allowance under the Civil Service Regulations.

If this course is adopted, neither the public, nor bodies interested in education can complain of not having been consulted in the matter.

If this proposal is adopted paragraph 6 of the draft order will require to be modified as shown in pencil.

H. D. TAYLOR—21-2-08.

I have slightly revised the draft and approve of the portion in pencil. Father Sewell may be asked if he will join the Committee.

H. B[RADLEY]—22-2-08.

To the Financial Department *u.o.* for acceptance of paragraph 8.

H. D. TAYLOR—24-2-08.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

Paragraph 8 of the draft order may be accepted.

C. M. SCHMIDT—25-2-08.

Yes.

J. N. ATKINSON—25-2-08.

To the Educational Department.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

This may now issue.

C. A. SOUTER—27-2-08.

His Excellency should see this paper, I think, before issue.

H. D. TAYLOR—28-2-08.

I think that we should insert a new paragraph in the draft order immediately after paragraph 4 to the effect that the Committee should be asked to consider whether the examination in English should not include *précis*-writing and indexing. Draft order approved.

A. L[AWLEY]—16-3-08.

Resubmitted.

Please see new paragraph 5 now added.

H. D. TAYLOR—17-3-08.

All right.

H. B[RADLEY]—19-3-08.

Issue.

Let me have a spare typed copy to send to Rev. Father Sewell, with the following demi-official.

Demi-official from H. D. Taylor, Esq., I.C.S., Acting Secretary to Government, Educational Department, to the Rev. Father Sewell, S.J., Trichinopoly, dated 20th March 1908, No. 682-1.

The Government have for some time past had under consideration the question of the introduction of a school final examination in this Presidency and have decided to appoint a Committee to consider and revise a rough sketch of a scheme which has been drawn up on the subject.

The Director of Public Instruction will be President of the Committee which will consist in addition of four officers of the Educational department and four non-official gentlemen. The Syndicate of the University of Madras, the Council of Native Education and the Missionary Council of Aided Education have each been asked to nominate one non-official to represent them on the Committee.

His Excellency the Governor in Council would feel greatly obliged if you would consent to serve on the Committee, which will probably assemble at Ootacamund at the end of April or early in May next during the summer vacation of the various Colleges, as the fourth non-official member, should it not be inconvenient for you to do so.

I enclose a copy of the Government order on the subject and request the favour of an early reply.

This should go with typed copy of the Government Order to-day. The Government Order should be published in next Gazette. Get copies printed sharp.

Noted.

K.R.—19-3-08.

H. D. TAYLOR.

A typed copy of the demi-official for signature together with a copy of the Government order is submitted.

2. In paragraph 7 of the Government Order, as passed, the latest date fixed for the submission of nomination by the Syndicate of the University of Madras, the Council of Native Education and the Missionary Council of Aided Education, is the 15th March.

Yes. I altered it because the file has been delayed in circulation?

H. D. TAYLOR.

Approved.

H. D. TAYLOR.

It is for consideration whether this date may be altered into 15th April. In the typed copy of the Government Order the date has been put in as 15th April, subject to approval.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—19-3-08.

See that the Government Order appears in the next Gazette. Issue to-day.

H. D. TAYLOR—20-3-08.

[G.O., No. 212, Educational, dated 20th March 1908.]



No.

486

FROM

G. B. H. FELL, Esq.,

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS,

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Home Department.
Education.

Simla, the 26th June 1907.

SIR,

I AM directed to refer to Mr. Cardew's letter no. 145 of the 30th March 1903 regarding the question of the school final examination, and to state that the Government of India have deferred further consideration of the subject until the revision of the regulations of the Madras University under the Indian Universities Act was complete and until the University, as constituted under that Act, was in a position to consider such proposals with reference to a school final examination as His Excellency in Council may eventually decide to place before it.

2. Paragraph 2 of the above letter shows that the upper secondary examination has been a failure, and that, practically, the whole energies of the secondary schools and pupils in Madras are directed towards the passing of the matriculation examination, which serves not only as a test of admission to the University but also to the public service. The obviously undesirable result is that the studies of pupils at the close of their school course are confined to the narrow curriculum of the matriculation examination. The educational disadvantages of such a situation have been recognised for many years and the Government of India note that Dr. Miller, C.I.E., in a published letter on the revision of the University regulations, hopefully anticipated a well arranged system of final examinations for the schools, with leaving certificates which might be accepted as qualifying for entrance to the University. The Government of India have little doubt that there are many connected with education and with the University in Madras who would support the same principle and they therefore hope that it may be possible to formulate a scheme for a school final examination which will be acceptable both to the University and to Government.

3. In paragraph 3 of the letter it is pointed out that the First Arts examination is accepted in Madras as a qualification for higher appointments in the public service as well as the University degree, and it is stated that this fact is likely to induce boys to appear for the matriculation examination rather than for the school final examination, even though the matriculation examination no longer qualified for the public service, as clever boys would hope to pass the First Arts examination and so secure eligibility to the higher grades of the public service. It is, however, obvious that eventually and with an increasing supply of graduates the recognition of subsidiary University examinations for the purposes of the public service will become unnecessary, and it is probable that, in this respect, the conditions in Madras will become similar to those in Bombay where the University degree and higher examinations are recognised as qualifying for higher grades of the public service. It may, therefore, be anticipated that the present attractions of the First Arts examination will eventually

disappear. But apart from this consideration, there appears to be every reason to anticipate that boys will be attracted to the school final examination when that examination qualifies for the public service and the matriculation examination does not. The attraction will of course be largely enhanced if the University agrees to accept the school final examination as an entrance test under certain conditions.

4 The proposals contained in your letter formulate a scheme which is generally approved by the Government of India, and which may be summarised under the following headings :—

- (a) that the University should be invited to co-operate in the organization of the proposed examination ;
- (b) that such co-operation should be secured by the appointment of an Advisory Committee to assist the Educational Department ;
- (c) that the management of and responsibility for the examination should rest with the Educational Department assisted by the Advisory Committee ;
- (d) that the examination should extend to the ordinary curriculum of high schools ;
- (e) that the University should be compensated for any pecuniary loss entailed on it by the institution of the examination ;
- (f) that the University should be invited to accept the examination as, in whole or in part, equal to the matriculation examination ;
- (g) that candidates will be required to have undergone tuition in recognised schools for a minimum period of two years ;
- (h) that private candidates who have satisfied the Director of Public Instruction as to the conditions under which they have studied, may be admitted to the examination ;
- (k) that no minimum age limit, or a low one, shall be imposed, except for candidates desiring to proceed to the University ;
- (l) that the examination will be held at specified centres, no great extension of the method of oral examination being practicable ;
- (m) that a higher fee will be charged than for the matriculation examination ;
- (n) that the subjects of examination should be those in which candidates receive instruction in recognised high schools, but that the details should be finally settled in consultation with the University ;
- (p) that the results should be classified in two divisions determined by efficiency in compulsory subjects ;
- (q) that the matriculation examination should no longer qualify and the school final examination should qualify for those branches of the public service for which the educational qualification is lower than the First Arts examination of the University.

5. I am directed to offer the following remarks upon these sub-divisions :—

- (b) and (c) —It appears to the Government of India probable that the co-operation of the University in the examination would be most efficiently secured by the constitution of a joint Board of Examination under the Director of Public Instruction as president. The departmental element on the Board would, perhaps, preponderate as the department accepts the responsibility for and undertakes the management of the examination, but the direct association of University representatives on the Board would, it is anticipated, secure the interest and confidence of the University in the examination more certainly than could be effected by the appointment of an Advisory Committee.

CMB 1587 Ed of 1907.
School Final Examination

ORDER:- No 212
P.S. 20.3.8.

The Government have for some time past had under consideration the question of the institution of a School Final Examination in this Presidency.

2. An examination of the nature of a School Final Examination already exists in ^{Madras} this Presidency under the name of ^{the} Upper Secondary Examination. This examination was established in 1889 with the object of substituting for the Matriculation Examination a fresh examination with a higher standard as an entrance test for the public service, ~~thus~~ ^{and} extending the control exercised by Government over Upper Secondary Education, ~~and also of~~ ^{by} providing an examination for such Upper Secondary Schools as might elect to develop on commercial or technical lines and to give up, in whole or in part, the prepar^{ation} of pupils for the University. The examinations thus created has, from the first, failed to achieve

Para 2 of letter to the Govt.
No 145 Ed of 30-3-03 A. page 11

(who falls develop with an E.I. 2)

Para 2 of the letter to Govt of I.
No. 145 Vol 8 30-3-03. A.

2.

achieve the objects which it was intended to secure. The High Schools have not been induced to any appreciable extent to develop the commercial or technical education which was in view in 1889, and have preferred to keep their curriculum in accordance with the requirements of the University, while candidates for the public service have found it more advantageous to pass the Matriculation Examination and thus qualify both for University studies and the public service than to appear for the Upper Secondary Examination which admits to the latter alone.

Para 5 (g) of the Govt of I. letter
on pages 3, 4 of C.F.

Para 13 of the Govt of I. letter
on page 5 of G.O. 144-5 A.
30-3-03

the period which he has spent

Para 10 of the Govt of I. letter
on page 4 of G.O. 144-5 A.
30-3-03

* insert New para here
V. Note file

6. The Committee will also be
requested to consider whether
the examination in English
should not include also précis writing
and indexing.

3.

13 54
3. The Governor in Council ^{now considers} ~~has come to the~~
conclusion that it will be in the best
interests of education to withdraw the
recognition of the Matriculation Exami-
nation as an entrance test for the
public service and to institute a
School Final Examination which will
serve both as an entrance test for
the public service and as a final test
for young men who are leaving school
and who desire to enter ^a ~~any non Univer-~~
~~sity~~ school of professional or technical
teaching. *which is not connected*
with the University.

^{It seems desirable}
4. The Government consider that
the new School Final Examination should
be so organized as to embrace a wider
range of studies than the Matriculation
Examination and to guarantee not merely
that a boy has passed a certain ~~test~~
^{also} ~~national test~~ but ^{that} that he has gone
through a definite course of study in
a recognized school and that during
^{at such a school} ~~this time~~ he has conducted himself
^{satisfactorily} ~~in an orderly and respectable manner.~~
They are also of opinion that the ~~scheme~~
~~scheme~~ should be so formulated as ~~to be~~ ^{that}
~~the examination will~~
be acceptable to the University as a
substitute for the Matriculation Exami-
nation either in whole or in part.

5. The Governor in Council
accordingly resolves to refer this
question to a Committee consisting
of

4.

of the Director of Public Instruction as President, four officers of the Educational Department and four non-officials, to be nominated by the Director of Public Instruction. A rough sketch ^{or} ~~of~~ ^{ed} scheme is appended to this order and the Committee will be requested to consider and revise it so as to carry out the objects specified in paragraph above and also with reference to the following observations:-

- (1) The compulsory subjects for the examination should include either general elementary Physics or ~~a group~~ ^{some} of elementary physical subjects.
- (2) The vernacular test should be ~~not only~~ ^{both} thorough ^{and} practical.
- (3) The number of optional subjects which a candidate ~~might be allowed to~~ ^{should be permitted to} take up should be limited to two and the examination in the optional subjects should be so co-ordinated as to make them as far as possible of equivalent examinalational value.

7. The Director of Public Instruction is requested to report the names of the gentlemen ^{by him} ~~he has~~ nominated as members of the Committee and the date fixed for its sitting.

8. The report of the Committee should be submitted to Government

not

*I see no harm in 4h 00
There is still a ^{considerable}
of the ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{with} ^{the} ^{the}
of P D's casting vote.
22 2 08*

H. M's note on page 16 of the note file.

Specific branch of Physics

7. The President of the University of Madras, the Council of Madras Education & the Honorary Council of Madras Edu will each be invited to nominate one official and representative of the Committee. Their nominations should reach for the 1st of March 1908.

[Faint handwritten notes and a large bracket on the left side of the page]

*It is more as well
 as the other is not
 at the same time
 as the other is not
 at the same time
 as the other is not
 at the same time*

[Faint handwritten notes and a large bracket on the left side of the page]

*It is more as well
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[Faint handwritten notes and a large bracket on the left side of the page]

*It is more as well
 as the other is not
 at the same time
 as the other is not
 at the same time
 as the other is not
 at the same time*

5.

[Handwritten initials]

9. For officers' salaries of the
 Committee will be granted the
 travelling allowance
 commensurate with 1004.
 C.F.R.

not later than the 15th June 1908.

T.K. 20
 19-2-08
 20-2-08

[Handwritten initials and dates]
 20-2-08
 21-2-08

To

The D. P. I.

To the *[Handwritten: Proprietor]* *[Handwritten: Secretary]*
 The Secretary to the Council of
 Native Education.
 The School of the Ministry of
 Education.

[Handwritten: Signed]

[Handwritten: S. V.]

[Handwritten: S. C. M. 16/4/5]

[Handwritten: 21/3/8]

Appendix.

8
Shanting 15
23-3000
APPENDIX.

Draft Scheme of
School Final Examination.

Examination when
to be held.

1. An Examination styled the School Final Examination shall be held annually in the ~~several~~ subjects hereinafter mentioned, beginning, as far as the compulsory subjects are concerned, on the

It shall be held at such places as may, from time to time, be notified.

Objects for which
instituted.

2. The Examination has been instituted to test the attainments of pupils at the close of a secondary school course.

By whom to be
conducted.

3. The Examination shall be under the control of an Examination Board consisting of the Director of Public Instruction as President, four officers of the Indian Educational Service and three members appointed thereto by the Syndicate of the University of Madras.

The members of the Board shall be appointed for a period of 3 years and shall be eligible for reappointment

The Secretary to the Commissioner for Government Examinations shall be Secretary to the Board.

The

2.

The Board shall arrange for the conduct of the Examination in accordance with the provisions of this notification.

To whom open.

4. The Examination shall be open to pupils who have completed a course of instruction in a secondary school provided

i. that the pupil shall have completed the age of 15 years on or before the first day of the month in which he appears at the Examination,

ii. that the pupil shall have been in one and the same school during the school year immediately preceding the Examination and shall have been a pupil of a recognised school for a minimum period of two years,

iii. that the school or schools attended by the pupil throughout the course of instruction shall have been recognised by the Director of Public Instruction as providing efficient course of instruction in the subjects selected by the pupil,

iv. that the pupil produces a certificate in the subjoined form signed by the headmaster of the school he is attending at the date of applying for admission to the Examination:-

I hereby certify that.....
has attended
not less than 120 days of the previous
school year, that he has completed a
course of instruction in the following

3.

10 16

subjects

.....
.....
and that his conduct has been satis-
factory.

Private Candidates.

5. Candidates who have not attended any recognised school during the period specified above in rule 4 will only be admitted to the Examination under exceptional circumstances - such as physical inability to attend school or other causes sufficiently proved in the opinion of the Board to excuse non-attendance. The Board will decide all such exceptional cases on application specially made to it. Such application must contain a full statement of the case and must be submitted so as to reach the Board on or before the of the year in which the Examination is held, accompanied by a satisfactory certificate of good conduct and the prescribed fee which will be returned if the application is rejected.

Subjects of Examination. 6. The following will be the subjects for the Examination:-

Compulsory

1. Arithmetic
2. English
3. The Vernacular
4. History of India and General Geography of the world.
5. Elementary Physics.

Optional

Any two of the following ^{Optional.} subjects

1. An additional language
2. History of England
3. Chemistry
4. Mensuration & Practical Geometry
5. Book-keeping
6. Commercial Arithmetic
Correspondence &
Geography
7. Shorthand & Typewriting
8. Botany
9. Agriculture.

~~Candidates must not take up more than two of the optional subjects for Examination.~~ Female candidates may present Hygiene and Domestic Economy, Botany, Music or Typewriting with or without Shorthand.

Drawing or Manual Training may be added to any of the above subjects.

Publication of
Results.

7. The Director of Public Instruction on the recommendation of the Board will publish the results of the Examination in the Fort St. George Gazette.

80
19-208

20.2.08
21.2.08

I think that a copy of the G.O. on School Final Examination should be communicated to the Government of India.

H.D.T.
27-3-08.

Please see para. 7 of the letter from the Govt. of India, on page 3 of G.O. No. 2128 dated 20th March 1908, in which that Govt. require a report detailing the provisional regulations laid down in connection with the scheme, if the Govt. consider the organization of a scheme possible. The question of the organization of a scheme of School Final Exam. is under the G.O. above quoted, to be referred to a Committee, and a report to India will have to be made after orders are passed on the Committee's recommendations. There appears however to be no objection to communicate a copy of this G.O. to the Govt. of India, by an endorsement.

Gen. Secy. to Govt.
14/4/08

Copy to the Govt. of
India
14/4/08
9/4/08

20/3/08
27-3-08

The copy is done. It will be
sent to the Govt. of India
and also to the Govt. of Madras

[Signature]