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Government of Madras.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Recd.

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} 1911.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O. No. 643, 14th September 1911.

Secondary school leaving certificates.

Communicating to the University of Madras letter from the Government of India on the subject of the recognition of the — of other provinces as a qualification for admission to a University course.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper :—

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. H. SHARP, Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education (Education).

To—the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Educational Department.

Dated—Simla, the 22nd August 1911.

No.—1204.

I am directed to forward a copy of a letter from the Government of the United Provinces No. 1071, dated the 15th July 1911, in which it is stated that the Bombay and Punjab Universities have refused to recognise candidates holding the school leaving certificate of the United Provinces as eligible for admission to their affiliated colleges and asking that the Government of India will suggest to other Universities that they should recognise the school leaving certificate examinations of those provinces as equivalent to their Matriculation examinations.

2. It is unnecessary to recapitulate the advantages which arise from the institution of school leaving certificate examinations. The soundness of this principle has been recognised for the last thirty years. The Indian Education Commission of 1882-83 commended an examination of a practical character. In the Home Department resolution Nos. 199-211 of the 11th March 1904, such a course was still more strongly recommended and it was added that the certificate given on such test would deserve recognition by Government, by the Universities and by other bodies. In a series of letters addressed to the local Governments in June 1907, the Government of India emphatically endorsed the proposal, and in some of those letters co-operation by the Universities and the recognition by them of the certificate were indicated as desirable objects. Finally it was the opinion of the recent Educational Conference assembled at Allahabad (paragraph 13 of the fourth day's proceedings) that the new school final courses in Madras and the United Provinces are on the right lines and that it is satisfactory that something has at last been accomplished in this respect.

3. The Government of India are very anxious to do all in their power to encourage and to secure the full recognition of the recently established school final examination tests. It is understood that the Madras and Allahabad Universities recognise the school leaving certificates of the provinces in which they are situated as equivalent to Matriculation. The Bombay, the Allahabad and the Punjab Universities recognise (the first under certain limitations) the Matriculation examinations of other Universities. In the Calcutta and Madras Universities the Syndicates have power to determine equivalent examinations. It would appear logical that a test recognised by one University as equivalent to its Matriculation should similarly be recognised by other Universities which accept that Matriculation; and it is noticed that other examinations such as the European High School examination and the Oxford and Cambridge senior local examinations are recognised under certain conditions by some of the Indian Universities.

4. I am accordingly to suggest that, if His Excellency in Council sees no objection, the matter may be laid before the Madras University with such recommendations as may be deemed fit. It is desirable that, if necessary upon certain conditions, reciprocity in the matter of these examinations be established between local Governments and Universities and that, while the interests of the latter bodies are safeguarded, nothing should be done to discourage the growth of a useful departure in the courses of secondary schools.

ENCLOSURE.

Letter—from the Secretary to the Government of the United Provinces.

To—the Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Education.

Dated—Naini Tal, the 15th July 1911.

No.—1071.

I am directed to refer to the correspondence ending with G. G. O. No. 406 (Home), dated the 14th May 1908, and to say that it has been represented to the Director of Public Instruction that the Bombay and Punjab Universities have refused to recognise candidates holding the school leaving certificate examination, instituted in this province, as eligible for admission to their affiliated colleges. Mr. de la Fosse, Director of Public Instruction, United Provinces, has not ascertained the attitude of the Madras and Calcutta Universities in respect of admission to their colleges of candidates holding the school leaving examination certificate, but it is possible that these Universities may similarly refuse to recognise the qualification in question.

2. In their letter cited above the Government of India expressed their satisfaction at the action of the Allahabad University in agreeing to recognise the school leaving certificate as equivalent to its Matriculation examination. The Universities of Bombay and the Punjab recognise the Matriculation examination of the Allahabad University as equivalent to their own. The school leaving certificate examination is conducted by the department and not by the University; but the course prescribed for candidates is not lighter than that for the Matriculation examination of the University, while its oral and practical parts constitute an even more searching test. It has been the policy of this Government to encourage schools to open classes for the preparation of candidates for this examination; but unless the certificate is recognised by other Indian Universities as equivalent to the Matriculation of the Allahabad University, it is apprehended that certain schools will hesitate to open such classes, and that the popularity of the examination will be affected.

3. I am therefore to request that the Government of India may be moved to take into consideration the question of suggesting to other Universities that they should recognise as equivalent to their Matriculation examination the school leaving certificate examination of the United Provinces.

Order—No. 643, Educational, dated 14th September 1911.

The letter from the Government of India read above will be communicated to the Syndicate of the University of Madras for favour of disposal.

2. His Excellency the Governor in Council trusts that the Syndicate will see its way to meet the wishes of the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

L. DAVIDSON,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Syndicate of the University of Madras.
,, Director of Public Instruction.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 643, EDUCATIONAL,
DATED 14TH SEPTEMBER 1911.

[SUBJECT.—*Recognition by the University of the school leaving certificates of other provinces as a qualification for admission to affiliated colleges.*]

From the Government of India, dated 22nd August 1911, No. 1204.

The University of Madras has accepted the secondary school leaving certificate issued under the orders of the Government of Madras as a qualification for admission to the University course—*vide* Regulation 166. Other candidates for admission to a University course are required to pass the Matriculation examination of the Madras University or some other examination accepted by the Syndicate as equivalent thereto, and under Regulation 163, power is reserved to the Syndicate to decide what examinations it will accept as equivalent to those of the Madras University.

2. The letter from the Government of India, with its enclosure, may be communicated to the Syndicate of the University of Madras with the remark that the Governor in Council trusts that they will see their way to meet the wishes of India.

3. The draft is for approval. The Hon'ble Mr. Krishnaswami Aiyar has noted on the advance copy of the letter circulated to him that he would like to see the file before disposal.

K. RANGASWAMI AIYANGAR—6-9-11.

L. DAVIDSON—7-9-11.

I do not suppose that recognizing the final examination scheme in the United Provinces will have much effect in Madras. It is rather early perhaps to commend the proposal to the Syndicate, but we need not object. From what I gather the result at present will be in Madras that the disappointment caused by failure will now be at the intermediate instead of at the Matriculation. Large numbers will now start a college course who are not really fit and will be abruptly stopped at the first University examination.

M. H[AMMICK]—12-9-11.

I accept the draft.

V. K[RISHNASWAMI AIYAR]—13-9-11.

[G.O. No. 643, Educational, dated 14th September 1911.]

READ ALSO:—

ORDER.

No. 673, dated 14. 9. 1911

P.

The letter from the Govt
of India read above will be
communicated to the Syndicate
of the University of Madras for
favour of disposal. His Excellency
the Governor in Council trusts that
the Syndicate will see ^{its} ~~their~~ way
to meet the wishes of the Govt.
of India.

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6-9-11

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The Syndicate of the University
of Mexico

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14-9-11

ORDINARY.

PREFERENCE.

URGENT (a).

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

18 SEP 1911

Current No., dated 19 ..
 G.O., No. *643* .., dated *14-9-* .. 19*11* ..

Number of MS. pages sent { Correspondence including order or orders
 Notes ^(b) ..

Docket: *Secondary School Leaving Certificate* ..

Communication to the Press, 9/9/11. Letter, dated 14/9/11, from the Secy. to the Govt. of India, re: the receipt of the copy of the report of the University Council for a course in the University of Madras.

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