

Home (1916) Department.
Education

Ordinary SERIES.

G.O., No. 1134

DATED 28 10 16

ORIGINAL
INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Special tests.

Recording with reference to G.O. No. 969 (Home Education), dated the 13th September 1916, the notes relating to the appointments for which the precise writing test is prescribed.

309
10

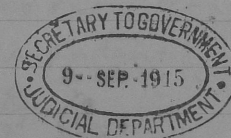
(New India
placed below)

v

Leading art. in New India of 7 Sept on Special
Test Exam^s.

Please send me the Commr's report, let me know for what app^{ts} the Précis-writing Test is now required.

I know from personal experience that it is quite easy to take the view wh^{ch} the examiner in that subject has done this year & to plough 90% of the candidates. ^{It is nearly equally easy to pass 90%.} But it is very unfair that such vagaries should have an effect on men's promotion, & it is a question whether it is worth while to retain a test at all when there is no real standard observed.



- (N) Please see G.O. No. 908 Educational, dated the 17th August 1915 which contains the report of the Commissioner for Govt Examinations for 1914-15. Reports for the two previous years are also submitted - please vide G.O. No. 969 Est.,
- (2) dated the 15th August 1914 & No. 787 Est.
- (R) dated the 23rd August 1913.
2. For a list of the appointments of
- wh

3

(in the linked file)

- (S) which the Précis-writing Test is prescribed as a qualification, attention is solicited to page 8 of the Special Test Notification. The test was prescribed for these appointments in G.O. No 512 dated the 9th July 1908 + No 925 dated the 6th October 1913. In February last the Chief Presidency Magistrate suggested that the Précis-writing test might be removed from the list of special tests prescribed for the post of Chief Clerk of the Presidency Magistrate's Courts. The Govt did not accept the suggestion as they thought that ^(the test) was an
- (W) important one - please see G.O. No 326 dated the 22nd March 1915.
sk
10.9.15. 11.9.15

(Q)

The matter is discussed at length in G.O. No 512, dated 9th July 1908. The trouble seems to be that, unlike Sub Inspectors of Police, Forest Rangers and the like, clerks are not taught their work, but are left to pick it up as best they can, and slipshod thinking comes as easy as slipshod writing. At the

clerks' club at Trinnerally recently
we had a paper and debate
on the office note, in which the
intelligence of the first was as
remarkable as the ignorance of the
many. There are many good men
who have no notion how to
make a price, and short of helping
them in other ways, I should like
to see collectors allowed to spend
part of their discretionary grant
in buying books of reference and
otherwise assisting similar clubs
at which clerks in different depart-
ments can learn something of
one another's work and the seniors
can coach the juniors for their
tests. In the Customs I found that
a series of lectures on the books
helped many to pass who had
been unable to get through otherwise.

The trouble seems to be that with
the importance of Paris, Great Britain
and the like, clerks are not
H. E. the Governor
H. H. Revenue
I shall be glad to see Mr. Lawrence
observed.

14.9.15.

Revised by
Aug 18

I do not think that much practical result would follow from the adoption of the Sec^y's suggestions.

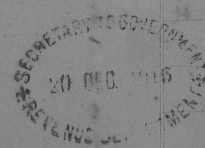
2. My objection to the present position is two-fold -
- First, owing to changes of personnel & opinion in the examining body, there is an absence of a stable standard in the examⁿ, so that one year ^{66%} of the examinees ^{are} passed & the next year ^{only} ^{66%}. Second that many good men, as Mr. Todhunter says, can't make a précis & hence are barred from advancement, tho' otherwise well suited for it. Among our superior officers, we do not apply this test & entirely neglect the question of ability to make a précis. Mr. Chadwick, for instance, was my Under Sec^y & was then remarkable for his inability to do this sort of clerical work, but as an executive officer he is one of the best men in the service. Précis-writing is useful for clerks, but it is not needed for executive duties such as those of Deputy Collectors or even of Sub-Judges & District Munsiffs, & I think it should cease to be prescribed for these offices but restricted to the clerical posts to which it now applies.
3. In the linked file, however, I have made other suggestions regarding the special tests.

23.9.15.

H.E. the Gov^r.

	Examined	Passed
1913-14	332	223
1914-15	347	38

4. Since disposed of in Sep. 969 ad. 12.9.16 (now in press)



Submitted that the above notes may be recorded with reference to G.O. No. 969 ad. 12.9.15.

b

(A)

of the 13th September 1916.

2. The draft below is for approval.

4/10/16
JK
9.10.16.

CA
11.10.16
C

90969200 became available
13.9.16
only 6000
20
17.10.16

B:4
C:208
R: 108

HE

Rev. Sir A. J.
Rev's note on the
previous page.

Draft for
app.

70
15/10/16.

P
22.10.16.

90
23.10.16.

Special tests

Recording with reference to G.O. No. 969 of the 13.9.16, the notes relating to the appointments for which the Precis-writing test is prescribed.

READ AGAIN G.O. No., dated 191 .

" " " " 191 .

READ ALSO:-

C. No., From the No., dated 191 .

" " " " 191 .

" " " " 191 .

ORDER.

his

No. 1134, dated 28.10 — 1916.

Recorded with reference to

G.O. No. 969 Home (E), of the 13th September 1916.

as
6/10/16

X
11.10.16

J.K.
9/10/16.

15/10/16

1961/10/11

1961/10/11

When given for copying

When copied

When examined

When signed

18

READ AGAIN G.O. No.

19

SIXTH

Document No.

REFERENCE TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH EXPLANATION

PAPERS NOT TIED UP, WHICH MEANT FOR DISPATCH
IN ORIGINAL

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.

B = Not to be copied.

P = Copy abstract only.

Q = Copy heading only.