

Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 1050, 14th August 1918

Text-book Committee

Approving a draft notification to the rules for the working of a —.

ORIGINAL.

N. P.

Government of Madras

HOME DEPARTMENT (EDUCATION)

G.O. No. 1050, 14th August 1918

Text Book Committee

Approving a draft addition to the rules for the working of a —.

READ—the following papers:—

I

G.O. Nos. 445-46, Educational, dated 10th September 1900.

ABSTRACT.—Directing the publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the rules for the Madras Text Book Committee with the modification suggested by the Government of India.

II

Letter—from the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, M.A., C.I.E., F.R.H.S., Director of Public Instruction.

To—the Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—Ootacamund, the 2nd July 1918.

No.—Ref. on Our. 3070 of 1917.

I have the honour to invite your attention to my letter to Government R.C. No. 3070, dated 16th May 1917, and in particular to my statement that the defect in the Text Book Committee system is the inevitable delay between the submission of a book by a publisher and its appearance in the printed list.

2. Several instances have occurred lately that have impressed upon me the serious disadvantage of this delay in the case of books specially prepared for use in this Presidency, most of which are in a vernacular.

3. I should be glad to take measures for dealing with such expeditiously but the rules made by Government for the Committee prevent my doing so.

4. As I understand these rules the Director is not empowered to place any book on the list of approved text books till it has been passed at a meeting of the whole Committee. The practice is for the Committee to meet twice a year and for a list of approved books to be published as soon as may be after each meeting. For most books the procedure serves very well, I dare say that nine-tenths of them never find their way into the school at all, but books of the kind I have in mind may be kept out of schools for as much as a year because they are not approved in time to be introduced in the first term.

5. I suggest therefore that a more elastic procedure may be sanctioned for such books which I embody in the following draft additional rule of the Text Book Committee Rules:—

“In the case of a book specially prepared for use in schools in the Presidency, the Director of Public Instruction may call for the opinion of a sub-committee and may, if such opinion be favourable, notify the book as approved for use in schools without its being referred to the Text Book Committee. Should the opinion of the sub-committee be unfavourable, the book shall be referred in ordinary course to the Text Book Committee.”

6. I may remark that the opinions of the sub-committees are almost invariably accepted by the Text Book Committee.

7. An alternative that suggests itself is holding more frequent meetings of the Text Book Committee. I do not recommend it as not likely to be so expeditious and a source of inconvenience and additional expense in travelling allowance.

Order—No. 1050, Home (Education), dated 14th August 1918.

The Government sanction the following addition to the rules for the working of the Text Book Committee printed in G.O. No. 764, Educational, dated the 12th July 1915:—

" 18 (a) In the case of a book specially prepared for use in schools in the Presidency, the Director of Public Instruction may call for the opinion of a sub-committee and may, if such opinion be favourable, notify the book as approved for use in schools without its being referred to the full Text Book Committee. Should the opinion of the sub-committee be unfavourable, the book shall be referred in ordinary course to the Text Book Committee."

(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
" Superintendent, Government Press (for publication in the Gazette).

Endorsement No. 1051, Home (Education), dated 14th August 1918.

Copy to the Government of India, Department of Education (Education).

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. Nos. 1050-51, HOME (EDUCATION),
DATED 14TH AUGUST 1918

[SUBJECT.—Addition to the rules for the working of the Text Book Committee.]

Previous papers :					
G.O.	94, Educational,	1st Mar. 1900	G.O.	6, Educational,	6th Jan. 1908
"	315-A, B "	27th July "	"	270 "	8th Apr. "
"	445-46 "	10th Sep. "	"	323 "	6th June 1910
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"	190 "	2nd Apr. "	"	1133-34, Home (Edn.),	1st Sep. 1917
"	369 "	12th June "			

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, M.A., F.R.H.S., C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.

To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO AVARGAL, Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—Ootacamund, the 6th July 1918.

Will you please make a correction in my R.C. No. 3070, dated 2nd July 1918? The list of approved books is only published once a year after the meeting held in the spring and contains all the books approved in the year.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

In offering remarks on the specific suggestions made by the Government of India with a view to mitigate the difficulties alleged to exist in the working of the Provincial Text Book Committee, the Director of Public Instruction in paragraph 3 of his letter R.O.C. No. 3070, dated 16th May 1917 printed on pages 17-19 of G.O. Nos. 1133-34, Home (Education), dated 1st September 1917, stated as follows in regard to the working of the Madras Text Book Committee:—"The defect in the system is the inevitable delay between the submission of a book by a publisher and its appearance in the printed list and I am now considering with the committee's help means for diminishing the inconvenience." This information was furnished to the Government of India in letter No. 1134, Home (Education), dated the 1st September 1917, when replying to their reference.

2. With a view to avoid the delay above referred to, the Director of Public Instruction now submits for approval a draft addition to the rules for the working of the Text Book Committee (printed on pages 6-8 of G.O. No. 764, Educational, dated the 12th July 1915).

3. It may be noted that the rules relating to the Text Book Committee were framed in accordance with the instructions of the Government of India on the subject (G.O. Nos. 315 A, 315 B, dated the 27th July 1900) and were finally published with India's approval after making some modification suggested by that Government—vide G.O. Nos. 445-46, dated the 10th September 1900.

It is however doubtful whether the proposed draft additional rule may be approved since it is likely to do away with the necessity of a Text Book Committee in all cases in which books are approved by sub-committees, as such books need not be brought before the Text Book Committee at all. Further this procedure appears to be against the principle suggested by the Government of India that 'each book should according to its subject be circulated to a sub-committee, while a list of books thus circulated should be sent to all the members of the committee. This procedure would enable any member to call for a book even though it did not fall

within the subject treated by the sub-committee of which he was a member'—vide paragraph 4 (1) on page 2 of G.O. No. 1133, Home (Education), dated the 1st September 1917.

In regard to this suggestion this Government replied as follows in their letter No. 1134, Home (Education), dated the 1st September 1917 :—

"This procedure is already in force in the Madras Text Book Committee except that the list of books is not circulated to all the members of the committee until the opinions of the various sub-committees have been recorded. Each book is examined by two members of the sub-committee and if they disagree a third opinion is taken. At the meeting all the members of the committee have a list of all the books before them with the sub-committee's opinion stated generally. If any member wants the actual opinion of members of a sub-committee these are read out then and there and it is open to any member to raise a discussion thereon. The list could not, under the existing procedure, be got ready long before the committee meeting; and the Government do not consider that any real object would be served by circulating the list in advance. They are of opinion that the existing procedure in this regard may continue so far as this Presidency is concerned."

It would therefore seem that no change can be made in the existing procedure until the Government of India pass orders on the proposals in the letter quoted above.

4. If, however, it is considered that there is no objection to the acceptance of the draft rule proposed by the Director of Public Instruction, the draft below is submitted for approval. A copy of the proceedings in this case may be forwarded to the Government of India for information with reference to the concluding portion of paragraph 2 of letter No. 1134, Home (Education), dated the 1st September 1917.

T.K.—24-7-18.

The proposal aims at *speedy* disposal of applications for recognition of books by Text Book Committee. The committee meets twice a year and the list is published *once* annually. In schools new books are introduced generally at the *beginning* of a year and not in the middle of it. If a year's list is missed, a book will have to wait for another year for its publication, and if a half-yearly meeting is missed another six months will have to elapse before the book is considered by the committee. In view of the above fact, that new books are introduced only at the beginning of a school year, the delay in considering the suitability of books by the committee *may* not matter much. But publishers may press for early orders on their applications so as to enable them to persuade school authorities to adopt the books published by them. Apparently this is referred to by the Director of Public Instruction.

The remedy proposed by the Director of Public Instruction of dispensing with the Committee's consideration altogether in case of books intended for schools and approved by the sub-committee seems somewhat of a going back on the track. The committee is mainly concerned with books intended for schools and they form an important section of its work. The proposal will deprive it of a large and important portion of its functions. Though the committee's approval is generally formal and the sub-committee's opinion is rarely questioned, the right to challenge such opinion, which members of the committee now possess, will be denied to them if the present proposal is approved and may not be accepted by the public easily. Attempts are being made to assign more powers to the committee and it may be resented if the existing powers are sought to be curtailed. The sub-committee's opinion will, under the proposal, issue as the opinion of the committee without the latter being consulted at all. The institution of *sub-committees* is only to enable the scrutiny of the books in *detail* and the function of the committee is to examine the general character of the book. The committee is no doubt an advisory body and it is open to the Director of Public Instruction to consult it. But such discretion to desist from consultation should obviously be exercised in special cases and should not be made part of a general rule. So long as the committee is maintained it should be left to exercise its proper functions.

The remedy for the delay may have, it is submitted, to be sought in other directions. One way is to recognize the sub-committee's opinion as a *tentative* approval, which will be subject to final approval by the committee at its subsequent

meeting. This may retain the authority of the members of the committee to challenge such opinion. It is not known whether this procedure will be helpful to publishers. If it is, there may not be much objection to it. Another is the holding of the meetings of the committee more frequently; and a third is the *immediate circulation* of the sub-committee's opinion with the book to the other members of the committee, giving them an opportunity of questioning it.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—30-7-18.

The rule has, I think, to go up to the Government of India.

2. I am exceedingly doubtful whether the practical abrogation of the committee in the case of the books referred to will be sanctioned unless a stronger case is made out.

3. Are books of the class referred to many in number? Has inconvenience been felt on account of the delay? and will a biannual publication of approved textbooks meet the situation partially at least?

To the Director of Public Instruction for favour of further remarks.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—31-7-18.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

The only real necessity for the Text Book Committee system lies in the danger of seditious text-books getting into schools. Its present form if not in its very inception is due to a case or perhaps more than one case of this actually occurring. What I propose will not in the least detract from the usefulness of the system for this purpose. As I said before the books in question are mainly in the vernaculars and under my proposals they will be examined by all the members of the Text Book Committee competent to do it because the various language committees contain all the members of the committee whose knowledge of the vernaculars fits them to do the work in each language. Inconvenience has certainly been felt on account of the delay, and I am sure that the cumbersome procedure of the Text Book Committee is a hindrance to the writing and publication of text-books.

A six-monthly list would of course make matters a little better, but what I aim at is not this but to get these books on which publishers have expended capital and authors labour dealt with as rapidly as is humanly possible. If the rule is approved the President should get the opinion of each member of the sub-committee and deal with these opinions himself. In doubtful cases it would be fair enough that the producers of a book not obviously suitable should wait for the opinion of the whole committee.

I venture to think that the matter is one in which India need not be consulted. A There is no violation of the principle on which India desires text-books to be dealt with and it is certainly the case that in other provinces much wider departures from India's ideas have been made.

J. H. STONE—1-8-18.

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble Mr. J. H. STONE, M.A., F.R.H.S., C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.

To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO Avargal, Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—Ootacamund, the 7th August 1918.
No.—D.O. 129.

With reference to the discussion about my proposals to modify the Text Book Committee rules so as to deal more expeditiously with books prepared for use in India, here is a case that has just come to my notice. Mr. Cameron Morrison sent to me a book "A New Geography of the British Isles." This book has been written for Indian pupils and I feel sure that it is one that schools ought to be allowed to use if they wish. It was sent to the Text Book Committee in October last and has not yet been disposed of and would not in ordinary course find a place in the list now in the press, that is to say, it would take at least 15 months even if lists were published half-yearly and a second list published this year. Under my proposed rule it would have probably got on the list last Christmas.

of a -----.

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 445-46, Vol. , dated 10th September 1900

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 1370 D, From the D.I.I. R.O.C, No. 3070/17, dated 2-7-1918: 191

C. No. 1370 B., From the D.I.I., R.O.C., No. 3070, dated 2-7-1918, 191

” ” ” ” ” ” ” ”

ORDER.

Press

(Notes to be printed)

No. 1050, dated 14-8-19

course to the Text Book Committee".

Endorsement.

Copy to the Government of India,
Department of Education (Education).

To the D.I.I.
G.O. No. 1051 (for publication in the Gazette).

Gazetted on 10.9.18
Not for it.

For approval
23.8.18

G.O. No. 1050, 14th August 1918
Text Book Committee

Approving a draft addition to the rules for the working of a

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(True extract)

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
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Endorsement No. 1051, Home (Education), dated 14th August 1918.
Copy to the Government of India, Department of Education.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
Superintendent, Government Press (for publication in the Gazette).

Please see whether this portion referred to be altered as there is no para 2 in the order.

G.O. No. 1050, 14th August 1918
Text Book Committee

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. Nos. 1050-51, HOME (EDUCATION),
DATED 14th AUGUST 1918

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2 NOTES to G.O. Nos. 1050-51, HOME (EDUCATION), 14TH AUGUST 1918

of books thus circulated should be sent to all the members of the committee. This procedure would enable any member to call for a book even though it did not fall within the subject treated by the sub-committee of which he was a member—vide paragraph 4 (1) on page 2 of G.O. No. 1133, Home (Education), dated the 1st September 1917.

In regard to this suggestion this Government replied as follows in their letter No. 1134, Home (Education), dated the 1st September 1917:—

"This procedure is already in force in the Madras Textbook Committee except that the list of books is not circulated to all the members of the committee until the opinions of the various sub-committees have been recorded. Each book is examined by two members of the sub-committee and if they disagree a third opinion is taken. At the meeting all the members of the committee have a list of all the books before them with the sub-committee's opinion stated generally. If any member wants the actual opinion of members of a sub-committee these are read out then and there and it is open to any member to raise a discussion thereon. The list could not, under the existing procedure, be got ready long before the committee meeting; and the Government do not consider that any real object would be served by circulating the list in advance. They are of opinion that the existing procedure in this regard may continue so far as this Presidency is concerned."

It would therefore seem that no change can be made in the existing procedure until the Government of India pass orders on the proposals in the letter quoted above.

4. If, however, it is considered that there is no objection to the acceptance of the draft rule proposed by the Director of Public Instruction, the draft below is submitted for approval. A copy of the proceedings in this case may be forwarded to the Government of India for information with reference to the concluding portion of paragraph 2 of letter No. 1134, Home (Education), dated the 1st September 1917.

T.K.-24-7-18.

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

The only real necessity for the Textbook Committee system lies in the danger of seditious text-books getting into schools. Its present form if not in its very inception is due to a case or perhaps more than one case of this actually occurring. What I propose will not in the least detract from the usefulness of the system for this purpose. As I said before the books in question are mainly in the vernaculars and under my proposals they will be examined by all the members of the Textbook Committee competent to do it because the various language committees contain all the members of the committee whose knowledge of the vernaculars fits them to do the work in each language. Inconvenience has certainly been felt on account of the delay, and I am sure that the cumbrous procedure of the text-book committee is a hindrance to the writing and publication of text-books.

A six monthly list would of course make matters a little better, but what I aim at is not this but to get these books on which publishers have expended capital and author's labour dealt with as rapidly as is humanly possible. If the rule is approved the President should get the opinion of each member of the sub-committee and deal with these opinions himself. In doubtful cases it would be fair enough that the producers of a book not obviously suitable should wait for the opinion of the whole committee.

I venture to think that the matter is one in which India need not be consulted. A There is no violation of the principle on which India desires text-books to be dealt with and it is certainly the case that in other provinces much wider departures from India's ideas have been made.

J. H. STONE—1-8-18.

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble J. H. STONE, C.I.E., Director of Public Instruction.

To—the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur R. RAMACHANDRA RAO Avargal, Secretary to Government, Home (Education) Department.

Dated—Ootacamund 14 7th August 1918.

No.—D.O. 129.

With reference to the discussion about my proposals to modify the Textbook Committee rules so as to deal more expeditiously with books prepared for use in India, here is a case that has just come to my notice. Mr. Cameron Morrison sent to me a book "A New Geography of the British Isles." This book has been written for Indian pupils and I feel sure that it is one that schools ought to be allowed to use if they wish. It was sent to the Textbook Committee in October last and has not yet been disposed of and would not in ordinary course find a place

5 NOTES to G.O. Nos. 1050-51, HOME (EDUCATION), 14th August 1918
in the list now in the press, that is to say, it would take at least 15 months even if lists were published half-yearly and a second list published this year. Under my proposed rule it would have probably got on the list last Christmas.

Perhaps I have not made my point about this proposed new rule sufficiently clear. It is that owing to the mass of books sent by publishers the books that really matter have to wait their turn along with a lot of books which, although they get on the list, never find their way into schools at all.

HOME (EDUCATION) DEPARTMENT.

Please see the Director of Public Instruction's remarks at A on page 3 supra. It is for orders whether the draft addition to the rules for the working of the Textbook Committee proposed by the Director may be approved without referring to India as suggested by him. If so, the draft order originally put up is for approval.

T.K.K.—6-8-18.

T.K.—7-8-18.

C. RAMANUJA ACHARIYAR—9-8-18.

The proposed amendment will be controversial. I am doubtful if the amendment can be sanctioned without India's approval.

2. The members of the Textbook Committee do not appear to have been consulted as to how to overcome the delays pointed out by the Director of Public Instruction.

3. For orders as to whether the Director of Public Instruction's proposal may be approved. If so, the draft is for consideration.

R. RAMACHANDRA RAO—12-8-18.

Draft approved.

Issue.

P[ENTLAND]—12-8-18.

R.R.—13-8-18.

[G.O. Nos. 1050-51, Home (Education), dated 14th August 1918.]

ORDINARY.

PRESS SLIP.

PREFERENCE.

URGENT (a).

Sectt. II—38—1-16.

DEPARTMENT.

Current No dated 191

G.O. No 1659 dated 14. 8. 1918.

Number of MS. pages sent {
(b) Correspondence 4
(b) Notes 7

Brief subject. Text Book Committee

(c) Number of copies required when struck off (not including copies for volumes and editors' table which are retained in the Press).	E. T. copies to supply requisitions for purchase by the public.	Complete correspondence and orders.	Notes.
FOR RECORD.*			
Madras Records	4	25	20
Ooty Records		4	4
For filing with original			4
Total ..		30	25

FOR ISSUE.†

Signature copies.

	Letter only.	Copies to G.O.	(b) Special issue copies of G.O.		Notes.
			No.	Papers.	
India Office		2			
Govt. of India					
Revenue Department					
Public Works Department					
Local and Municipal Department					
Educational Department					
Public Dept.					
Judicial Dept.					
Political					
Financial Dept.					
Marine Dept.					
Ecclesiastical Dept.					
Total					

Spare copies

The					
The					
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The					
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The					
The					
The					
The					
The					
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The					
Total ..			46	1	

* Copies distributed on (Press Clerk).

† Copies distributed on (Press Despatcher).

‡ To be initialled and dated.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SECRETARIAT.

(a) If a paper is marked to be printed urgently, the Superintendent of the section concerned should sign the Press slip. The Superintendent should exercise a careful discretion in the matter.

(b) Each letter, memorandum, or order, or set of orders, in the file of correspondence should be headed in succession with the Roman numeral I, II, III, etc., the number being written in red ink or blue chalk above the item. The particular papers to be printed in the special issue-copies should be indicated by the Roman numeral (I, II, etc.) by which that item has been headed in the correspondence file. All matter, including marginal remarks or references, to be printed should be written in ink and matter which should not be printed should be encircled. Initials and signatures that are not quite legible should be re-written distinctly.

(b) For rules regarding printing of notes, see rule 315 of the office Manual.

(c) The number of copies and the details of distribution should be filled in by the Superintendent or Referencer concerned.

(d) In the absence of special instructions to the Press to keep matter standing for a specified period, ordinary papers of 8 pages and under will be kept standing for one week, and larger papers for two weeks only. The type of notes and of all confidential papers is distributed immediately after striking.

(e) This slip, properly and completely filled in, should accompany every paper sent to Press; it will be returned by the Press when proofs are furnished; it should be sent to the Press when a call is made for revised proofs or when a corrected proof is sent for striking. When finally returned by Press it should be filed with the original order or letter.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PRESS.

(a) If, in the opinion of the Superintendent of the Press, a paper has been marked urgent unnecessarily, he should send the Press slip to the Registrar with a remark to that effect.

(b) Unless a note to the contrary is made against the matter, pencil entries should not be printed. The Superintendent of the Press may bring to the notice of the Registrar any instance of incomplete or careless editing.

(c) Signature copies of letters to the Secretary of State or to the Government of India should be printed on hand-made paper.

(d) This slip should be returned by the Press to the Secretariat when proofs are furnished; it will be sent back to the Press when proofs are returned corrected and should be finally returned to the Secretariat when struck-off copies are supplied.

(e) The names of the Secretary and Members should be printed in full when they occur on the right hand side, only the first time when they appear on the left side, the initials alone being printed later.

[P.T.O.]

TO PRESS, MADRAS OOTY.

Please send proof in duplicate. The papers have been carefully edited.

Proof returned corrected. Please strike off and send number of copies as indicated.

As the matter is clear manuscript and has been carefully edited, (b) proof need not be sent. Please print and supply number of copies as indicated.

Type may be released after usual interval at once.

Type may be released after usual interval.

Referencer.
Clerk.

Referencer.
Clerk.

Referencer.
Clerk.

Supdt.

Supdt.

Supdt.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

TO BE FILLED IN BY THE PRESS.

Diary.		Initials of Press official.		
Received in Press on.....				
First proof furnished on.....				
Call for revised proof received on.....				
Revised proof furnished on.....				
Corrected proof received for striking on.....				
Final copies supplied on.....				
Account of copies.	Complete copies.	Notes.	Issue copies.	Special E.T. edition.
Supplied to Secretariat for Record.....				
" " " Issue.....				
" " " for Extra E.T. copies to supply requisitions for sale to the public.				4
For Volumes.....				
For supply to newspapers and institutions admitted to the privileges of the E.T.				
Total ...				