

Law (1925) Department.
of Education

Group SERIES.

G.O. No.

1554

DATED

4/9/25

[Despatch Abstract.]

Vernacular test - compulsory

Mr. Steele and certain other officers - orders passed.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
80	309	H.E.	12.3.18	80	354	L.E.	13-3-25
80	722	L.E.	11.12.23	80	805	H.E.	16.6.17
80	755	H.E.	11.6.18				
80	1220	H.E.	12.9.18				
80	1577	H.E.	14.12.17				

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
Co 1705 Dir LF 3.6.25 Co 1975 Dir LF 17.11.25							

C.F. 30-41,000-8-9-24.

L a w (Education) DEPARTMENT.

L Edn 3088A
13-8-25
2



Educational Vernacular Compulsory Test - Failure of certain officers of the Department to pass - in the prescribed time allowed for passing the examination.

ENCLOSURES. 3

No.

R.O.C. No. 1356 C/24

Spare copies

Station Madras, Dated the 8th August 1925.

From (Name) R.G.Grieve Esq., M.A.,

(Designation) Ag: Director of Public Instruction

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

L a w (Education) Department.

Sir,

With reference to rule 5 of the revised rules relating to the Educational Vernacular Compulsory Test embodied in G.O.No.354 L.E., dated 13-3-25, I have the honour to submit herewith a copy of letter from Mr.S.A. Steele, District Educational Officer, Salem and to recommend that Government may be pleased to grant him permanent exemption from passing an examination in two Vernaculars. As Mr.Steele is 48 years old, it is difficult for him to sit for and pass an examination in two vernaculars. He has already reached the maximum in his grade and the question of

2
He was trained in previous occasions.
stopping increments does not arise. His case is unfortunate and he should have been required long ago to pass in the vernaculars.

(D)
2. As regards the other officers whose names are mentioned in the two statements herewith enclosed, I have the honour to state that I have invited their attention to rule 5 of the revised rules embodied in G.O.No.354 L.E., dated 13-3-25 and have warned such of them as have not yet reached their maximum that unless they appear for and pass the test or tests as the case may be in January 1926 they will not be eligible to draw further increments. I have therefore the honour to request that Govt: may be pleased to approve my action so as to enable these officers to draw further increments until the publication of the results of the Educational Compulsory Test of January 1926.

Side T.M.
3. As Government have stated that they do not consider that Mrs.F.M.Craven, Peripatetic Teacher of Music for European Schools, need be required to pass a Vernacular as her duties are wholly confined to teaching in European Schools, I have the honour to enquire whether on the above analogy Miss Winifred Park, Lecturer on Domestic Economy. Messrs J.F.Rozario and J.R.Dias, Assistant Instructors in Manual Training and Mr.R.C.Isaac, Workshop Assistant may not be required to pass an examination in Vernacular. These four officers have no work in Indian Schools.

4. The favour of very early orders is solicited.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A Rama Ray
4/8

For Director of Public Instruction

TR 10/8

3
Copy of letter from Mr.S.A.Steelo, District Educational Officer, Salem, to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

With reference to your Proceedings R.O.C.No. 1356 C/24 dated 10th June 1925, I have the honour to point out that in 1905 I was promised by the Secretary of State for India that he would appoint me to a Chief's College in the Indian Educational Service as soon as a vacancy occurred. In the meantime I was offered by the Madras Government the post of Headmaster of the Breek's Memorial School, Ootacamund in the Madras Provincial Service. Before accepting the offer, I interviewed the Governor of Madras and the Secretary to Government and asked the following three questions:-

(i) whether I should be liable to transfer elsewhere?

The answer was in the negative.

(ii) Whether I should be entitled to Exchange Compensation Allowance? I was informed that if I applied, it would be recommended and on application, it was granted

(iii) Whether I should have to learn a vernacular?

The answer was in the negative on the score that I should have to do with European boys only.

In 1911 when this school was handed over to a private agency I was transferred to Madras as Assistant Inspector of and Training European/Schools. My Exchange Compensation Allowance was withdrawn as I was no longer the Headmaster of the Breek's Memorial School Ootacamund.

Later I was instructed, when I was on the road to 40 years of age, to learn a vernacular.

I did my best and appeared twice for the Compulsory Test but unfortunately failed as I did not find it easy at my age to learn a new language.

I have not appeared a third time as I have been unable to bear the expense of the journey to and fro and stay in Madras for the examination.

I have a fair knowledge of Tamil and Hindustani and request, therefore in view of the facts stated above that I may be exempted from passing the test, as it is quite impossible for me to go to Madras for the purpose at my expenses, owing to my large family, are very great and it is already difficult to make both ends meet.

(True copy)

A Rama Ray
4/8
For Director of Public Instruction

List of officers who have passed the Confidential Examination in one vernacular but who are required to pass in two vernaculars.

Serial No	Name of officer	Date of examination	Designation of officer	Scale of pay	Percent pay	Vernacular in which already passed	Remarks
1	Mrs M. F. Prager	1-1-09	Asst. Superintend- ent of circle	400-25- 850	500	Tamil	
2	Mrs P. Philip Smith	1-7-06	Asst. Superintend- ent of the Gules Range	200 to 400	320	Telugu	
3	Mrs K. S. Martin	29-2-15	Asst. Superintend- ent of Gules Range	— do —	260	Tamil	
4	Mrs E. Vincent	15-6-08	Sub. Asst. Superintend- ent of Gules Range	75-150	150	Malayalam	Reached the maximum. She is now on leave till April 1916.
5	Mrs J. B. D. Silva	11-1-11	Sub. Asst. Superintend- ent of Gules Range	— do —	150	Tamil	Reached the maximum
6	Mrs. P. J. Bradley	3-3-21	Sub. Asst. Superintend- ent of Gules Range	— do —	150	Tamil	do
7	Mrs. M. Bairant	4-4-16	Sub. Asst. Superintend- ent of Gules Range	— do —	150	Telugu	Reached the maximum. Appeared for the test in Tamil in July 1925
8	Mrs. F. E. Tammembak	15-5-19	Sub. Asst. Superintend- ent of Gules Range	— do —	150	Tamil	Reached the maximum
9	Mrs M. D. Dogani	31-7-20	— do — Madura Gules Range	— do —	150	Tamil	do
10	Mrs S. McNamee	7-7-1916	Tricky Gules Range	— do —	140	Tamil	
11	Mrs J. Devina	22-3-20	— do — Katra Gules Range	— do —	150	Telugu	Reached the maximum
12	Mrs D. D. Sanga	3-12-12	— do — Kanna Gules Range	150-250	210	Malayalam	
13	Mrs H. F. Saunders	21-8-19	on the duty as Sub. Asst. Superintend- ent of the Secondary Training School for Madras Commissioners District Coll. 600-50-1000 Officers, Madras	600-50-1000	800	Malayalam	Appeared for the test in Tamil in July 1925.

A R a M a R a y
11/18

For Director of Public Instruction

5
List of officers who have not passed the Compulsory Vernacular Test even in
one Vernacular

Serial No.	Name of Officer	Date of entrance month	Designation + officer	Scale of pay	Permanent pay	No. of vernacular languages known	Remarks
1	Mr S. A. Steele, T	22-1-06	District Col- lector, Salem	250-25- 500-50-800	800	2	Reached his maximum
2	Mr. A. Henderson	17-1-18	Superintendent of Public Schools, Central Circle	400-25-850	575	2	Appeared for the test in Telugu in July 1925
3	Mr. J. N. Jensen	8-8-21	Principal of Willingdon Training College Madras	— do —	525	1	— Tamil —
4	Mr. V. E. Johnson T	6-1-22	Women Specialist in Physical Training (Temporary)	—	450	1	
5	Mr. N. S. D. Rao	5-7-19	Asst. Lady Willingdon Training College Madras	150-10-250	150	1	Appeared for the test in Tamil in May 1925
6	Mr. E. A. Bickel	19-4-22	Asst. Training School for Physical Training Department Madras	150-5-150	80	1	Appeared for the test in Tamil in May 1925
7	Mr. W. H. Stiller	1-2-21	Secondary grade Asst. Lady Willingdon Training College Madras	125-150	125	1	do
8	Mr. W. F. Foust	3-8-14	Secondary grade Asst. Presidency Training School Egmore	150	150	1	Reached his maximum
9	Mr. P. A. Canella	9-6-20	Asst. Govt Training School for Physical Training Madras	45-3-90	48	1	
10	Mr. H. T. Upthorn	6-9-19	Asst. Lady Willingdon Training College Madras	125-150	145	1	Appeared for the test in Tamil in July 1925
11	Mr. Henry Wilson Barrie	1-4-23	Kindergarten Teacher Lady Willingdon Training College	200-20- 400-25- 500	450	1	

A R a m a Ray
11/11
For Director of Public Instruction

(C.No. 3039 A). From the Director of Public Instruction, R.O.C. No. 1356 C/24, dated 8th August 1925.

Subject : - Educational Vernacular Compulsory test -
Failure of certain officers to pass with-
in the prescribed time.

Paragraph 1 of the D.P.I.'s letter.

The D.P.I. proposes that as it is diffi-
cult for Mr. Steele, D.E.O., Salem, to sit for and
pass the tests he may be exempted from passing them.
In G.O.No. 805 Home (Education), dated 16-6-1917, the
D.P.I. was requested to warn Mr. Steele that failure
to pass the test would entail the stoppage of incre-
ments or promotion to higher grades. In the years 1918
and 1919 he was granted extension of time to pass the
tests. He now states that he appeared for the exami-
nation twice but failed. He is now forty eight years
old and has reached the maximum of the M.E.S. scale.
There is therefore no question of withholding his
increments. In the case of Mr. Fyson the Government
exempted him in 1923 from passing the examination in a
second vernacular. Mr. Steele has not passed the
examination even in a first language but states that
he has a fair knowledge of Tamil and Hindustani. It
is for orders whether the D.P.I.'s recommendation to
exempt Mr. Steele may be accepted.

2. Paragraph 2 of the D.P.I.'s letter.

In the case of fifteen officers who have not
passed the test within the prescribed time, and have
not reached the maximum of their time scales of pay,
the D.P.I. states that he has warned them that unless
they pass the test in January 1926 they will not be
eligible for further increments. In the list forwarded
by the D.P.I. there are eight officers who have reached
the maximum of their time scale of pay but have not

*As an inspecting officer
Mr. Steele has to pass the
test in two vernaculars.

80.1577 8/14.12.17 - XIV
80.309 8/13.3.19 - XI

80.1722 8/11.12.23

(Page 3 of C.f.)

This should be strictly
enforced.
C. R.

20-8-25.

(List on p. 4-5/8)

passed the prescribed tests. The Director does not say what action he has taken in regard to these officers. It seems desirable to warn these officers that in the event of their failure to pass the test in January 1926 their promotion to higher grades will be stopped.

3. Paragraph 3 of the D.P.I.'s letter.

The D.P.I.'s proposal to exempt certain officers who have work only in connection with European schools, from passing the tests may be approved with the condition that if ever they are required to do work for non-European schools they will have to pass the tests as required by the rules.

4. A draft order is submitted for approval S.K.
20-8-25.

Mr. Steele has seven more years to serve.

It is unfortunate that the rules regarding the passing of examinations ^{are} ~~is~~ not being strictly enforced. There is as it is, only spasmodic awakening in the matter. The real object of requiring a pass in the vernacular languages is not ^{not} appreciated. It is ^{not} only to facilitate their work but to enable them to appreciate the ideals and aspirations of the people. That Mr. Steele has not passed even in one language is really unsatisfactory. If he has a fair knowledge of Tamil, why should he not pass the test? It is not unduly difficult. It was a mistake to have allowed him to draw the increments after the warning had been administered. We may give him a final warning that if he does not pass one of these tests at the next examination, the question of withdrawing the increments will be considered.

C. R.
20-8-25.

I think Mr. Steele may be required to pass in Tamil in a year. No second vernacular in his case. 3/ Draft order for approval.

V.T.K.

21.8

M₂

H.E.

C.R.
20-8-25. V.T.K.
20.8

Most of these officers are in the ordinary grade of sub-assistant secretaries and may expect promotion to the Selection grade.

Even the officers in para 3 & the draft are required to pass the test & several consequences - others suffer when they must to several live - 21.8.25



This seems to me to be a hard case.

Mr. Steele was informed when he was appointed to Messers School that he would not have to learn a Vernacular.

Subsequent to this he continued to draw his increments & was allowed to do so although he failed to pass in the Vernacular. It is now too late. If his increments were to be withdrawn it appears to me this should have been done at once & not now when he is too old to learn the Vernacular.

I presume the other officers mentioned will be allowed to draw their increments until the result of the next examination is known.

9
27-VIII-25

The file may be circulated to the Honble the Minister

8/9
28.8.25.

Q
28.8.25. V.T.K.
29.8.

M₂

8

DEPARTMENT.

Initials.

When despatched

Mr. Steele ^{and certain} ~~other~~ other officers - orders passed.

” ” ” ” ” 192

C. No. 3139 From the _____, No. _____, dated _____ 192

" " " " " " 192

” ” ” ” ” 192

No. 1554 dated 4-9- 1925

MISC.

The Govt. ~~are pleased to exempt, as~~
Consider that
~~a special case, Mr. S.A. Steele, District~~

Educational Officer, Salem, from ~~passing~~
should pass *tamil* within
the vernacular test in ~~two~~ *one* languages.
a year.

2. The Govt. approve^{2%} the proposal of the D.P.I. that officers who have not passed the compulsory vernacular test should not be allowed to draw further increments unless they pass it in January 1926. As regards officers who have reached the maximum ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ time-scale~~of~~ of pay, the Director is requested to warn them that, in the event of their failure to pass the test in January 1926, their promotion to higher grades ~~will be~~ ^{will be liable to} be stopped, ~~so as to ensure~~ ^{is liable to be} till they ~~test~~ ^{pass} the test.

3. Miss Winifred Park, Lecturer on Domestic Economy, Messrs J.F. Rozario

Mr. Steele has since
qualified himself in Tamil
(varier) - & no second
interpreter has been
considered necessary in
his case - bottom of 7 and

1. In 1917, he was warned by D. P. G
that he shall pass in one examination &
that he asked for time & this in front -
S.O. 1577 of 14.12.1917.

2. Again 1918 he feels attributes his failure to appear to the examination his ignorance of the rules; he was asked to appear in January 1919

3. In 1919, he reports again, his leg was not all right & could not appear for exam - Disease was extended till July 1919

It is highly essential that District Educational Officers who have to deal with large number of elementary teachers & schools, leaving such school pass the test. In this work of inspection & supervision, a sound knowledge of the vernacular is essential. He was given time and no use was made of it. This is not therefore a case, on these facts, for exemption, he was being warned from time to time.

I will agree

9.

$$2 \cdot 1x \cdot 25$$

H.E. the Gov

3/825

^x
Issue & then Submit to m2
✓ TK / 3-9

V-TK

31-8

Sien

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
4-SEP-1964
CANADIAN GOVERNMENT

and J.R. Dias, Assistant Instructors
in Manual Training and Mr. R.C. Isaac,
workshop assistant, need not pass the
vernacular test so long as their
duties are confined wholly to European
schools.
S.M.S.

SA
20/8/25.

V.K.
21.8.

To the D.P.I.
A.G.

DESPATCHED

5 SEP 1925

Ag

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ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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