

13.
500-9-11-08.
Educational (1900) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 624

DATED 30.11.00 ✓

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Examinations for admission to ^{the Public Service} State employment

Referring to the D.P.S. for report
letter from the Govt of India
on the subject of instituting
separate ———

30/11

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Government {1900} of Madras. EDUCATIONAL.

Recd

Regd.

} 1900.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 624, 30th November 1900.

NOVEMBER.

Examinations for admission to the Public Service.

Referring to the Director of Public Instruction for report letter from the Government of India on the subject of instituting separate —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From J. P. HEWETT, Esq., C.S.I., C.I.E., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Education), to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, dated Simla, 24th October 1900, No. 350.

I am directed to forward, for the consideration of the Governor in Council, an extract (paragraph 7) from a despatch from the Secretary of State, in which His Lordship observes that it has been argued that the practice of accepting a University degree as a sufficient qualification for public employment deprives the Government of the opportunity of fixing its own standard of fitness, and that it would be better, and tend to relieve the Universities, if separate examinations were established (as in the United Kingdom under the Civil Service Commission) for admission to State employment, the requirements in them being carefully regulated to secure the best possible training in those selected.

2. I am, in the first place, to request that, with the permission of the Governor in Council, information may be given to the Government of India showing the offices in the Madras Presidency in respect of which the fact that a person has passed the Matriculation examination of an Indian University, or has obtained a degree at an Indian university, is either (i) accepted as the sole qualification for employment under Government, or (ii) prescribed as one of the preliminary qualifications required before he can be admitted to a further test for admission to the public service.

3. With reference to the suggestion that there should be a system of separate examinations for entrance to the public service, I am to invite attention to the correspondence which ended with Home Department letter No. 1535, dated the 27th May 1892. In paragraph 17 of Home Department letter No. 300, dated the 14th February 1890, inquiry was made whether the arrangements made in the Madras Presidency for testing the educational qualifications of candidates for the public service were adequate, and, if not, what proposals the Government of Madras would make for establishing a Board of Examiners (as recommended by the Public Service Commission in paragraph 90 of their report) to test the educational qualifications of candidates for the Provincial Service. The Madras Government were also asked to consider whether any, and if so what, change was required in the existing rules for recruitment of the Subordinate Service. In reply to these inquiries, the Government of Madras in paragraph 19 of their letter No. 401, dated the 4th June 1890, expressed the opinion that the existing arrangements for testing the educational qualifications of candidates for the public service were adequate, and that the establishment of a Board of Examiners was unnecessary. The Madras Government expressed the further opinion that, if the Governor-General in Council still considered that a Board should be established, there would be little difficulty, though probably some extra expense, in amalgamating the existing Board of Examiners with the Commission for the Uncovenanted Civil Service Examinations. It appeared to the Government of India that the reply of the Madras Government to their communication of the 14th February 1890 disclosed some misapprehension on the subject, and it was therefore pointed out in paragraph 7 of Home Department letter No. 1535, dated the 27th May 1892, that it was not intended to supersede any useful examining agency which existed or to prescribe the adoption of a competitive examination for selection, but that what was required was the maintenance of a uniform high standard in testing the attainments of officers on probation or candidates for nomination.

4. The subject has not been further discussed since and in view of the correspondence summarized above, I am to say that the Government of India would be glad to be placed in possession of the views now held by the Governor in Council as to the recognition of a University degree as a qualification for public employment and on the suggestion of the Secretary of State that separate examinations should be established for admission to the public service.

ENCLOSURE.

EXTRACT paragraph 7 of a despatch from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 42-Public (Educational), dated the 5th April 1900.

7. One of the most important points of view from which the system of public instruction in India may be regarded is the question how far the methods adopted provide a class able and willing to render efficient and loyal service to the State. It is sometimes asserted that the facilities and aid afforded by Government in the promotion of higher education chiefly attract persons who look to Government service for their livelihood; and that the disappointment which results from the much larger number of candidates for employment than of posts in which they can be employed constitutes a political danger. It may be that there is some truth in this contention; but it may also be the case that the mischief, if it exists, is beyond the possibility of remedy by any drastic means, and can only be gradually overcome by the development of industrial enterprise and the creation of new and more extensive fields of employment in this direction and in the professions. It has also been argued that the practice of accepting a University degree as a sufficient qualification for public employment deprives the Government of the opportunity of fixing its own standard of fitness, and that it would be better, and tend to relieve the Universities of the large number of those who now seek degrees only as an avenue to public office, if separate examinations were established (as in this country under the Civil Service Commission) for admission to State employment, the requirements in them being carefully regulated to secure the best possible training in those selected. I should be glad to learn your opinion on this suggestion.

No. 2821, Public.

Transferred to the Educational Department.

(Signed) A. R. KNAPP,
12th November 1900. for Chief Secretary.

ORDER—No. 624, Educational, dated 30th November 1900.

The papers will be referred to the Director of Public Instruction for opinion and report.

(True Extract.)

M. HAMMICK,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

Exd. S. J. Pereira.

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O., No. 624, EDUCATIONAL, DATED
30TH NOVEMBER 1900.

[SUBJECT.—*Qualifications for Public Employment.*]

In connection with a suggestion made by the Secretary of State that it would be better and tend to relieve the Indian Universities if separate examinations were established for admission to State employment as in the United Kingdom, the Government of India request that information may be furnished showing the offices in this Presidency in respect of which the fact that a person has passed the Matriculation examination of an Indian University or has obtained a degree at an Indian University is either (i) accepted as the sole qualification for employment under Government or (ii) prescribed as one of the preliminary qualifications required before he can be admitted to a further test for admission to the public service.

2. In reply it is proposed to send copies of the Public Service and Special Test notifications and to say that in this presidency the qualifying test for all appointments on Rs. 15 and upwards classed as superior in the Civil Service Regulations, except those mentioned in articles 3 and 4 of the Public Service notification, is the Upper Secondary examination or the Matriculation examination with the handwriting and dictation test. A few examinations specified in note (1) to article 2 are accepted as equivalent to these, but the entrance examinations of the Calcutta, Bombay and Allahabad Universities are not among them.

3. For appointments specified in schedule B of the Public Service notification, the special tests given against them are also required in addition to the general education qualification mentioned above. With three exceptions these special tests are open only to candidates who have passed the Upper Secondary or the Matriculation. The exceptions are—

(1) the Revenue Test, higher grade, which is open only to graduates or to those who have obtained the diploma in agriculture or that in commerce at the Government technical examinations;

(2) and (3) the Criminal Judicial Tests, higher and lower grades, which are open only to F.A.'s and those who have, as above, obtained diplomas in either agriculture or commerce.

4. It does not appear that the institution of a separate test as suggested by the Secretary of State will be equally effectual. The chief thing in India is that

It is not ensured at present.

A. T. PRINGLE.

22-11-00.

candidates for the appointments in the higher grades must have a thorough acquaintance with the English language. It will not always be possible to ensure

this by the institution of a single general test for all appointments; but if tests of different grades are introduced, they will only create another set of examinations. Under the present system while the University examinations a candidate passes indicate his general qualifications, the special tests which he has to pass in order to hold a particular appointment will give him the special knowledge required for such appointment.

5. Admission to the Provincial Civil Service and to the higher grades of the Police department are regulated by special competitive examinations, but for the former only distinguished graduates are eligible.

P. T. THARYAN.

21-11-00.

The chief desideratum at present is perhaps rest from change and continuance of some one policy. Before any reply is sent to the Government of India, the papers should I think be sent to the Director for official report on the subject.

Secretary —

A. T. PRINGLE.
22-11-00.

Submitted that the Director of Public Instruction may be asked his opinion. The matter opens up many important issues. One thing is certain that with all the educational agencies (Dr. Miller, etc.)

There would be a deafening outcry!

A. T. A[RUNDEL].

this proposal will be very unpopular. Is it an advantage to do anything which will discourage men from taking a

University course? On this educational point the views of the Director seems advisable.

M. HAMMICK.
24-11-00.

Honourable Member—

Refer to the Director of Public Instruction for opinion and report.

A. T. A[RUNDEL].
28-11-00.

Edl.
Public (189⁰⁰) Department.

Public Service
CURRENT No. 3295

1550

From

The Govt of India
Home Dept
(Education)

CS
no
Order Sent no. 2821 D/12-11-1900.

Transferred to
The Educational Dept

No. 350

M Hammick
In Chief Secy.

Dated 24.10.00.

Received 29.10.00

Registered 31.10.00 *und. 13.11.00*

Enclosures one

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SUBJECT.

Forwarding an extract from a Despatch from the Secretary of State regarding the qualification for public employment.

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The Edl. Dept.
[initials]

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2.11.00

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EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ AGAIN G.O., No., dated..... 190.....

” ” ” ” ” 190

READ ALSO :—

C. No. 1550, From the Public department, ^{East} No. 2821, dated 12th November 1900.

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" " , " " , " , "

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ORDER No. 624, dated 30th May 1900

P.S.

The papers ^(will be) ~~are~~ referred to the Director of Public Instruction for opinion and report.

(From orders).

23/10/00

The Director of
Public Instruction

8/12

First copy sent to Press.

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Despatched in print.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.

1

DATED

CURRENT No.

A

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

A

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DUTTO.

notes & A.

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