# Educational (190/ ) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 231–232

DATED 30. 4. 01

INDEXED.

(10)

ORIGINAL

[Despatch Abstract.]

Examinations for admission to the Public Service

Addressing the Govt of India on the subject of the institution of Separate ?

## BACK PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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## FURTHER PAPERS.

| G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. | Date. |
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# Government {1901} of Madras.

## EDUCATIONAL.

*Recd.* } 1901. *Enclosures*

*Regd.* *Spare copies*

ORIGINAL

**G.O., &c., Nos. 231, 232, 30th April 1901.**

**APRIL.**

**Examinations for admission to the Public Service.**

Addressing the Government of India on the proposal to instiaute separate —.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—again the following paper :—

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

Abstract.—Referring to the Director of Public Instruction for report letter from the Government of India on the subject of instituting separate examinations for admission to the public service.

Read—also the following paper :—

From the Hon'ble Mr. G. H. STUART, M.A., Barrister-at-Law, Director of Public Instruction, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras, 4th February 1901, Ref. on C. No. 16056 (*a*) of 1900.

I have the honour to reply to G.O., No. 624, Educational, dated 30th November 1900, referring for opinion and report the letter of the Government of India, No. 350, dated 24th October 1900, on the subject of the institution of special Government examinations for admission to State employment.

2. As preliminary to a decision of the question, information is called for on the following points :—

(i) Whether in the Madras Presidency there are any offices in respect of which an Indian university examination is prescribed as the *sole* preliminary test for admission to Government employment ; or

(ii) Whether such an examination is prescribed as one of the preliminary tests for admission to a further service test.

In regard to the first point I beg to state that, except in the Educational department, there are no offices admission to which is dependent *solely* on passing a university examination. Under article 2 of the public service notification (copy of which is enclosed), the Matriculation is prescribed only as one of several qualifying tests among which are included the Oxford and Cambridge Senior Locals, the London Matriculation, and certain examinations of Indian universities. For the higher posts of the Educational department, however, no persons (excepting those who have European degrees), are eligible, who have not taken the L.T. diploma for which graduates alone may qualify. With reference to the second point, I may state that, with the few exceptions referred to below, there are no offices in respect of which the passing of a university examination is absolutely prescribed as a preliminary qualification for admission to a further test for entrance into the public service. The chief service examinations in this Presidency are the special tests, and these are, with certain reservations, specified in notes 1 to 6 of article 4 of the special tests notification, open to all persons who have passed the Upper Secondary examination with English as first language or the Matriculation examination of this university or any other examination recognised in article 2 of the public service notification as equivalent. The exceptions referred to above are the following :—



(1) the appointments in the Madras Provincial Civil Service, offered annually for competition, for which only graduates in Arts of the Madras University are eligible ;

(2) the office of District Assistant Surgeon which is open only to those who have taken a medical degree of the Madras University ;

(3) that of Assistant Engineer which, if we except men from the Cooper's Hill College of Engineering, can be held only by a Bachelor of Engineering ;

(4) Teacherships in high schools which are open only to those who have obtained a second-grade collegiate teachers' certificate for which only those who have passed the First examination in Arts are eligible. But, although, in the case of most offices under Government, a university certificate is not absolutely prescribed as a preliminary qualification for admission to service tests, practically and indirectly admission to Government service is dominated by the university examination. The alternatives accepted under the public service notification are rarely taken up, and as a rule those who find Government employment are persons who have passed an examination of this university.

3. With reference to the separate examinations proposed, it is stated that these examinations are desirable because—

(i) they will give Government the opportunity of fixing its own standard of fitness for the members of its own service ;

(ii) they will tend to relieve the universities ; and

(iii) they will reduce the disappointment resulting from a large number of qualified persons being unable to find employment in the public service.

On these points I beg to observe that the university examinations, in this Presidency at least, seem to me to be sufficient to ensure the standard of general attainment that is necessary for Government service. The only decently educated men we get are from our colleges, and our best officials are those who have had a university training. It would therefore, I think, be a mistake for Government to ignore the examination of the university and to institute its own, and more especially so because university education and indeed education generally in this Presidency is directly or indirectly under its control. There are qualifications necessary for Government service that are not tested by the University, but for these provision has been made in the supplementary examinations that are now held, such as the handwriting and dictation test, and précis-writing test ; while the special qualifications needed for different departments of the service are sufficiently tested by the various special and departmental examinations. The existing arrangements in this Presidency thus seem to me to be sufficiently complete. I do not therefore concur in the suggestion to institute separate examinations for admission into Government service. Again whether these examinations, if instituted, will relieve the universities will naturally depend on their nature and on their relation to the examinations of the university. If they are to be of so high a standard that only those, who have had a university training can hope to pass them, or if a university certificate is required as a preliminary qualification for admission to them, then the centre of attraction will still remain at the university. But in either of these cases for reasons already stated, the examinations would in my opinion be superfluous. On the other hand, it would not be consistent with its educational policy for Government to institute any examinations for admission into its service that are entirely unconnected with our university system. The pressure on the universities cannot be relieved—and I am not sure that it is as yet altogether desirable to relieve it—until other fields of labour are opened up by the development of commercial and industrial enterprise. Finally the political danger, referred to in the enclosure to the letter under reply, does not in my opinion exist in this Presidency. The majority of the graduates that have passed out of this university have succeeded in obtaining employment in some form or other, and the disappointment, if any, that exists in the many qualified candidates who fail to obtain Government employment must be left to be gradually removed by the progress of events.

From the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, dated 12th March 1901.

Order—No. 231, Educational, dated 30th April 1901.

Ordered that the Government of India be addressed.

(True Extract.)

C. J. WEIR,
*Ag. Secretary to Government.*

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Letter—No. 232, Educational, dated Ootacamund, 30th April 1901, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Educational).

I am directed to reply to your letter No. 350, dated 24th October last, on the subject of the institution of special Government examinations for admission to State employment.

2. As preliminary to a decision of the question, information is called for on the following points:—

(1) Whether in the Madras presidency there are any offices in respect of which an Indian university examination is accepted as the sole qualification for admission to Government employment.

(2) Whether such an examination is prescribed as one of the preliminary tests for admission to a further service test.

In regard to the first point I am to state that under the existing rules no person is eligible for appointment to any post carrying a pay of Rs. 15 *per mensem* or upwards and classed as "superior" unless he has passed the matriculation examination of the Madras university, or the Madras upper secondary examination held by Government (for which very few candidates appear), or certain other examinations accepted by the Government for the purpose. At present the examinations accepted as equivalent to the above two examinations are:—

(1) The late higher examination for women.
(2) The Oxford and Cambridge senior local examination.
(3) The matriculation examination of the London university.
(4) The school final examination of the Allahabad university.
(5) The first in arts examination, Calcutta university.

All under-graduates must also, to qualify for the above appointments, have passed the handwriting and dictation examination held by the Commissioner for Government examinations. This matter is explained fully in the public service notification, of which I enclose a copy.

3. With reference to the second question some explanation is necessary. There are certain offices which cannot be held until tests of a special, professional or technical nature have been passed. These are enumerated in schedule B of the notification enclosed. These special tests are open to all persons who have passed the examinations named above, except that the Revenue test, higher grade, is open only to—

(i) graduates,

(ii) students of the Government College of Agriculture who have passed the examination prescribed for admission to the college and have obtained the diploma in agriculture at the Government technical examinations, and

(iii) candidates who have passed the first examination in arts of the Madras university and have obtained the diploma in commerce at the Government technical examinations.

The Criminal Judicial tests, higher and lower grades, are open only to—

(i) candidates who have passed the first examination in arts of the Madras or Calcutta university;

(ii) students of the College of Agriculture who have passed the examination prescribed for admission to the college and have obtained the diploma in agriculture at the Government technical examinations; and



(iii) candidates who have passed either the upper secondary examination held by Government, or the matriculation examination of the Madras university and have obtained the diploma in commerce at the Government technical examinations.

Certain special exemptions as regards special appointments and appointments in special localities are made to the above rules.

4. In the main the result of the rules is that for the higher appointments in the Revenue and Judicial services for which the special tests are necessary, only graduates or persons who have combined the first in arts examination or the matriculation examination with a diploma in commerce, are qualified.

5. Admission into the Provincial Civil Service is dependent on the passing of a competitive examination open to none but graduates in arts.

6. With reference to the separate examinations proposed, the Secretary of State suggests that these examinations might be desirable because—

(i) they will give Government the opportunity of fixing its own standard of fitness for the members of its own service;

(ii) they will tend to relieve the universities; and

(iii) they will reduce the disappointment which is at present created by the striking disproportion between the number of Government appointments and the number of persons who by reason of their university training are nominally competent to fill them.

The Governor in Council is unable to speak of other provinces, but in Madras at any rate the university examinations coupled in the case of the matriculation and the first in arts examinations with the additions mentioned in paragraph 2 above have hitherto in his opinion been sufficient to ensure that standard of general attainment which is necessary for Government service. In the experience of the Director of Public Instruction the only tolerably well-educated men in this Presidency are from colleges, and the best officials are those who have had a university training. So far therefore as general education is concerned the Governor in Council holds that it would be a mistake for Government to ignore the examination of the university and to institute its own, provided always that the university maintains a sufficiently high academical standard. There are, it is true, qualifications necessary for entering Government service and for rising to high posts within it which are not tested by the university, but for these provision has been made in supplementary examinations; while the special qualifications needed for different departments of the service are sufficiently secured by the various special and departmental examinations. The existing arrangements in Madras appear to the Governor in Council to be sufficient and he does not therefore see any present need to institute separate examinations for admission into Government service.

7. I am to add that it would naturally depend on the nature of these examinations and on their relation to the examinations of the university whether they would relieve the universities. If they were to be of so high a standard that only those who had a university training could hope to pass them, or if a university certificate was required as a preliminary qualification for admission to them, the centre of attraction would still remain at the university. But in either of these cases, the examinations would, for the reasons stated, be superfluous.

8. As regards the political evil referred to, I am to say that it would not be remedied if the Government examinations were merely qualifying, and if the candidates qualified under them but unable to obtain admittance into the service of Government had abandoned the university curriculum, which, by its stamp of graduate or under-graduate, gives a status of commercial value not attached to the passing of the Government examinations. Such candidates, qualified by passing the Government examinations for entrance into the public service, but unable to obtain admittance, would no doubt form a discontented class of the population. On the other hand the administrative difficulties of making such examinations competitive would be very great. At the outset service under Government would have to be divided into two grades, higher and lower, according to the educational requirements of the different appointments, and vacancies would have to be calculated for four

different portions of the Presidency corresponding to the four chief vernacular languages, Tamil, Telugu, Canarese, Malayalam. Open competition would result in a very large majority of the vacancies being secured by Brahmins to the exclusion of a due proportion of other castes and races. This would involve a grave political evil of another character and could not be permitted. A certain number of vacancies would therefore have to be reserved for Brahmins, another for Sudras, another for Muhammadans; and as Europeans and Eurasians cannot live on the initial pay of the lower Government appointments special arrangements would have to be made for them, or they would be entirely excluded.

9. Up to the present time the majority of the university graduates of this presidency have succeeded in obtaining employment in some form or other, though it may not have been that to which they originally aspired. The political evil is therefore *in posse* rather than *in esse*, and as the difficulties of change in the direction indicated by the Secretary of State are very great and would moreover be strongly resented by the various useful educational agencies in the presidency, the Governor in Council is of opinion that if the university maintains a fit academical standard at its examinations no change of policy in the method of admission to the service of Government is at present called for.

C. J. WEIR,
*Ag. Secretary to Government.*

Ed. A F. Eccleston.

2,000—5-11-00.

# Educational (190 / ) Department.

## CURRENT No. 151 6

*From*

[*Name*] The Honourable Mr.G.H.Stuart,M.A.,Bar-at-Law,

[*Designation*] Director of Public Instruction,

[*Station*] Madras.

ASSTT SECY TO GOVT
6 FEB. 1901
LOCAL MUNL. & PUBLIC WKS.

DESPATCHED
6 FEB 1901

*Reference No.* 16056 (a) of 1900.

*Dated* 4th February 190 1.

*Enclosures* One

*Received* 6 . 2 . 190 1.

*Registered* 6 . 2 . 190 1.

SUBJECT.

Examinations for admission to the Public Service.

Submitting report on letter from the Government of India on the subject of ~~utilizing~~ instituting separate _____.

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

To

*The Secretary to Government,*

*Educational Department.*

*Sir,*

I have the honour to reply to G.O.No 624,Educational, dated 30th November 1900,referring for opinion and report the letter of the Government of India No 350,dated 24th October 1900 on the subject of the institution of special Government examinations for admission to State employment.

2. As preliminary to a decision of the question,information is called for on the following points:-

(i) whether in the Madras Presidency there are any offices in respect of which an Indian University Examination is prescribed as the sole preliminary test for admission to Government employment;or

(ii) whether such an examination is prescribed as one of the preliminary tests for admission to a further service test.

In regard to the first point I beg to state that,except in the Educational department,there are no offices admission to which is dependent solely on passing a University examination. Under article 2 of the Public Service Notification (copy which is enclosed) the Matriculation is prescribed only as one of several qualifying tests among which are included the Oxford and Cambridge Senior Locals, the London Matriculation,and certain examinations of Indian Universities. For the higher posts of the Educational Department,however,no persons (excepting those who have European degrees),are eligible,who have not taken the L.T.diploma for which graduates alone may qualify. With reference to the second point,I may state that,with the few exceptions referred to below,there are no offices in respect of which the passing of a University examination is absolutely prescribed as a preliminary qualification for admission to a further test for

[ E. / 4 ]
1,500—8-11-00.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ AGAIN G.O., No. 624, dated 30th November 1900.

" " " " , " 190 .

READ ALSO:—

C. No. 151, From the D. P. I., No. 16056(a) dated 4th February 1901.

" " 361, " " D. P. I., " , " 12th March 1901.

" " , " " , " , " 190 .

H. to A.H.-E. (Circ)

ORDER No. 231, dated 30. 4. 1901.

Draft passed by the Hon'ble Mr. Arundel.

[note
32 spare Copies of the letter
have to go to India]

Ordered that the Govt. of India be addressed.

A.T.P.
21-2-01.

M.H.
28-2-01.

A.A. 22.4.01 32 spare copies despd. 11/5.

27/4 despd

LETTER to

Rd 232. dated 30. 4. 01.

The Secretary to the Govt. of India

Home deptt.

Sir,

I am directed to reply to your letter No.350 d/ 24th October last,on the subject of the institution of special Govt. Examinations for admission to State employment.

2.

The Viceroy has the condition of the Calcutta University under consideration & will no doubt be glad to know how the Madras University fares. The same evils threaten us wh. have done such mischief in Calcutta. The matter is germane to this letter & I have drafted a confidential D.O. with ref. to letters from Mr. Stephens, Dr. Fuller & the D.P.I.

A.A.

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H.H. 22.4.'01

[ L. & M. / 45. ]

1,000—18-10-00.

NOTE FOR THE Ho Educational.

Please see Pole 4 98 in 216 Pol
d/ 22nd April 1901 - J.W. Ottley Esq:
should have been printed as Colonel
Ottley. Was the proof passed by you
or is the Press responsible for it?

Please see also pages 97 &c.
nos 231-232 d/ 30th April 1901.
In the last line but four "discontended"
should have been "discontented". Was
proof passed in this case also? If not
call the attention of the Press to it.

Have Have Office of this letter
gone to India?

P.T.O. PJ 7/8/01

P.T.O.

First copy sent to Press.

Returned for signature.

Despatched in print.

Number of copies required.

Order complete. nil

Letter only. 60

Order complete with Letter. 20

Print & show proof TK 2.5.01

Read again G.O., No. 1

Dated

Current No.

Enclosures to C. No.

Order of Government.

Letter of Government.

Statement with ditto.

Papers not filed up, being meant for despatch in original.

*N.B.*—

A = Print in full.
B = Not to be printed.
P = Print abstract only.
Q = Print heading only.

(1) The Press is responsible for the mistake.

(2) I passed the proof but failed to notice the mis-spelling. The word is spelt as in the original.

(3) Yes; on the 11th instant. I propose to issue revised copies of these forms.

TK 22-5-01.

Hardly worthwhile doing so.

PTK 23/5/01