

15/6
Educational (1897) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 357

DATED 29-6-97

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Exams in Handwriting & Dictation.

Directing that an — be in future held in the month of May at which undergraduate candidates for the public service, who have not passed in these subjects at the Upper Secondary Exam, may appear.

16/97

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
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Government { 1897 } of Madras. EDUCATIONAL.

Recd.

Regd.

1897.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., No. 357, 29th June 1897.

JUNE.

Examination in Handwriting and Dictation.

Directing that an — be, in future, held in the month of May, at which under-graduate candidates for the public service, who have not passed in these subjects at the Upper Secondary examination, may appear.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following papers:—

Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue), Mis. No. 1371, dated 10th April 1897.

Read—the following letter from V. A. BRODIE, Esq., Collector of Gódvári, to the Secretary to the Commissioners of Land Revenue, dated Cocanada, 9th March 1897, Ref. No. 1119-Ver.:—

I have the honour to bring to the notice of the Board the difficulties experienced in this district in obtaining qualified men for acting vacancies in taluk offices.

2. The enclosed statement shows the number of vacancies—both acting and permanent—in the several taluk offices on the 15th September last and the number filled up. There were five permanent and thirty-one acting vacancies, in all of which six were filled by qualified persons, twenty-four by unqualified men, and six vacant for want of even unpassed candidates. Even in the Huzur and Divisional offices, the want of qualified men is often felt in spite of repeated advertisements in the *Hindu*, *Fort St. George Gazette* and *District Gazette*, and unqualified men appointed to temporary vacancies. I need not add that unpassed men who have no prospects of confirmation take no interest in their work, nor do Tahsildars find it worth while to take pains to train them up in office work.

3. The evil, it will be thus seen, is no imaginary one, and I request that the Board will be pleased to move Government to suspend the rules for at least three years in so far as taluk gumastahships are concerned, so as to enable me to appoint Matriculates and F.As. who have not passed the Handwriting test to posts of Rs. 15 per mensem, either permanently or for long acting vacancies. It may also be laid down that no man entertained under this concession shall be admitted to any Special test examination or be capable of holding a post carrying more than Rs. 15 a month, until he has fully qualified himself for superior Government service under the rules. The evil exists in, and I constantly receive complaints from, divisional offices, but in their case the matter is not so pressing and therefore I do not ask for the suspension of the rules in their case.

4. If the above request cannot be complied with, I would suggest as an alternative remedy that the date of the Handwriting test examination should be altered. It now takes place in the beginning of December, just before the Matriculation and F.A. examinations, so that those who pass these last examinations cannot appear for it and qualify themselves for Government service for a full year, even when they have not the means or the intention of prosecuting their studies further. This delay, of course, is a direct incentive to all who can to carry their studies on further, and those who do so for one year are not likely, if by any means it can be avoided, to throw them up in the middle of the course for the next examination in order to take up small Government appointments. If the examination were held either twice a year (April and October), or even only in April in place of December, it would decidedly increase the supply of qualified men willing to take up low-paid appointments. It

might be laid down (whether the examination is held once or twice a year) that applications for the April examination must be sent in within fifteen days or thirty days, as may be decided, of the results of the Matriculation examination being published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*. If this suggestion commends itself to the Board as preferable to the first one, I request it will be pleased to address the Commissioner of Government Examinations on the subject through Government.

Resolution—Mis. No. 1371, dated 10th April 1897.

Submitted for the orders of Government.

2. The Collector proposes to suspend the Examination rules temporarily for three years in the case of appointments of taluk gumastahs on Rs. 15. He appears to recommend the concession chiefly in order to appoint Matriculates and F.As. who have not passed the Handwriting test to posts of Rs. 15 per mensem. As the majority of such persons are likely to qualify themselves by passing the Handwriting test within a year of their appointment, the Board considers that it will be sufficient if exemptions are granted to them until the publication of the results of the next of such examination. This concession can be granted by the Board under G.O., No. 287, Educational, dated 8th May 1896, communicated in Board's Proceedings, No. 191, dated 2nd June 1896.

3. The Board supports the Collector's suggestion that the examination in Handwriting may be held either twice a year—i.e., in April and October—or once only in April instead of in December, so as to enable Matriculates and F.As. to pass the test and enter Government service without loss of time.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) R. C. C. CARR,
Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

Endt. Mis. No. 2052.

Transferred to the Educational Department.

(Signed) G. STOKES,
22nd April 1897. Ag. Secy. to Govt.

From the Hon'ble Mr. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc., LL.D., Commissioner for Government Examinations, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras, 2nd June 1897, No. 296—3-D.

With reference to your endorsement, No. 994, dated 6th May 1897, referring to me for remarks certain proposals made in the Proceedings of the Board of Revenue, Mis. No. 1371, dated 10th April 1897, I have the honour to state that the "Handwriting and Dictation test" has, strictly speaking, no independent existence, forming, as it does, part of the test in "English language" in the Upper Secondary examination. This examination used in former years to be held in the month of May, but for the last three years it has been held in December in accordance with the notification of September 1893. So long, therefore, as the Upper Secondary examination is held in December—and this is the most convenient time for it—the Handwriting and Dictation test must also be held in December, if it is to continue to be a part of the Upper Secondary examination.

2. Whether the necessities of the public service are such as to require any alteration in the date of the Handwriting and Dictation test, I am, of course, unable to say, but if any such alteration is to be made, it will be necessary to make the Handwriting test a separate examination perfectly independent of the Upper Secondary examination. In this case, the examination could be held, not in the month of April as proposed, but in the month of May. The Matriculation results are not published before the middle of February and are not likely to be known at the most distant places in the Presidency before the end of February. One month at least must be allowed to intending candidates for the submission of their applications, and one month or a month-and-a-half to my office for the checking of applications, the preparation and printing of the nominal list, and the putting up and despatch of the question papers to the several centres. Apart from these reasons, April would not be a convenient month for the Handwriting test, as it is the month in which the Technical examinations are held, the arrangements for which take up almost the whole time of my office.

3. In his letter to the Board of Revenue, Mr. Brodie expresses the belief that the proposed alteration in the date of the examination "would decidedly increase the supply of qualified men willing to take up low-paid appointments". Some relief would, perhaps, be afforded if the alteration were made, but it would not be much. I am inclined to think that the difficulty Mr. Brodie finds in filling up vacancies arises not so much from the inconvenient date at which the Handwriting test is now held as from the paucity of "passed candidates" in his district—candidates who have passed, that is, the Upper Secondary or the Matriculation examination. If it were merely a question of the Handwriting test, the remedy suggested by the Board, in paragraph 2 of its proceedings, would prove just as effectual as any alteration in the date of examination.

4. In determining the question now under consideration, there is one point, it seems to me, which ought not to be overlooked. The Matriculation examination is a University examination, the passing of which enables candidates to enter upon a collegiate course. Those who appear for and pass this examination instead of the Government Upper Secondary examination may be supposed to be animated with a desire to study for the higher University examinations to which the Matriculation examination admits them. Looking at the matter from this point of view, it does not seem desirable, in the interests of the candidates, to encourage them at this early stage of their education to give up their studies and enter the service of Government, and it ought to be no hardship to them if they have to wait a whole year before they can pass the Handwriting test. Even if the examination were held in May they would have to wait nearly half-a-year.

ORDER—No. 357, Educational, dated 29th June 1897.

An examination in Handwriting and Dictation will, in future, be held in the month of May, at which under-graduate candidates for the public service, who have not passed in these subjects at the Upper Secondary examination, may appear. This examination will be independent of the Upper Secondary examination.

(True Extract.)

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue).
" Commissioner for Government Examinations.
" Director of Public Instruction.

Ed. A. Raitt.

Revenue (1897) Department.

Educational

CURRENT No. 3183

482

From

Educational Dept. c to 482

Endorsement No. 2052 of 22nd April '97

Order

The Board of Revenue,
Land Revenue, Madras.

137/
No. 1378 Misc.

Transferred to the
Educational Department.

Dated 10th April 1897

Received 13-4-97

Registered 14-4-97

Enclosures 2

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SUBJECT.

Submitting to Government, with remarks,
letter from the Collector of --
Godavari proposing temporary --
relaxation of examination rules
and alteration of the date of --
examination of the Handwriting
Test.

End. No. 994 of 6th May 1897.

Referred to the Commissioner
for Govt. Examinations for remarks.

Secretary to Govt.

7/4
27/4/97

TO BE RETURNED
WITH REPLY.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
—	142	Div	26-2-97
—	287	col	8-5-96

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Educational (1897) Department.

CURRENT No.

643



From

The Hon'ble Mr. D. Duncan,
M. A., D. Sc., LL. D.,
Commissioner for Govern-
ment Examinations,
Madras.
No. 296
3D

Order

Dated 2nd June 1897.

Received 3 JUN 1897

Registered 3-6-97

Enclosures. 3. CC 482 with enclosures

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SUBJECT.

Stating, with remarks,
that the Handwriting and Dic-
tation Test must be held
in December if it is to
continue to be a part of the
Upper Secondary Examina-
tion.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Statement showing the particulars of vacancies in the Taluk offices on 15th September 1896.

Name of office.	No. of posts vacant			Particulars of vacancies filled in & otherwise		
	Permanent	acting	Total	Filled in by Native men	Filled by Europeans	Leaving vacant
Kamachendrapur Taluk office		2	2			
Narsapur Do		4	4		2	
Anjalapur Do		3	3		2	1
Tanuku Do		1	1		1	
Bhimavarani Do		4	4	2	2	
Rajahmundry Do		1	1		1	
Ellore Do		3	3		1	2
Yerwagudem Do		1	1	1		
Cocanada by Dy. Taluk office		1	1		1	
Pottapur Do		1	2		1	1
Tuni Do		1	1		1	
Pentapadu Do		1	1		1	
Alampur Do	2		2	2		
Kamachendrapur by Sub-Magistrate's office		1	1		1	
Anjalapur Do		1	1		1	
Rajahmundry Do		1	1		1	
Bhimavarani Do	1		1		1	
Cocanada Town Sub-Magistrate's office		1	1		1	
Do Sea customs Superintendent's office	2	2			1	1
Coringa Do	2	2			1	1
Narsapur Do	1	1	1			
Edl 1897	5	31	36	6	24	6.

[G.]
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1,000-7-06.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

THE HON'BLE MR. BLISS, C.I.E.

THE HON'BLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

C15-6-97
R18-6-97

40. No 35781. 29-8-97

Education al DEPARTMENT.

C. Nos. 482 & 643 of 97

SUBJECT.

Alteration of the date of the Handwriting Test.

FOR ORDERS.

40 458 Ed
4-8-96

The Handwriting Test for under graduates now forms part of the Upper Secondary Examination and is held in the month of December. Consequently matriculates and F.A.s. of the Madras University have to wait a full year before they can appear for the Handwriting Test and qualify themselves for Govt service. This ~~also~~ increases the difficulty of securing passed candidates in certain districts and the Collector of Godavari therefore suggests, and the Bd of Revenue supports his suggestion, that the Handwriting Test may be held either twice a year (ie) in April and October or once only in April instead of in December.

The Commissioner for Govt Exams.

states that December is the most convenient time for holding the Upper Secondary Exams. & that as long as the Handwriting Test forms part of the Up. Sec. Exams. it must be held in December. He also states that if a change of the date of the Handwriting Test is necessary, the examination may be made independent of the Upper Secondary Exams. and held in May. April is not a suitable month for his office.

Perhaps this proposal may be approved?

With ref. to the Comm's remarks in para 4 of his letter it may be noted that the pupil-population has not yet taken kindly to the Upper Secondary examination & that it is futile to force them into doing it. It may also be noted that his remarks do not apply to H. Hs. who discontinue their studies with the view of entering Govt service.

H.O.

As the Comr. points out, it seems very doubtful whether the holding the handwriting exam.

twice a year will substantially affect the supply of passed candidates.

It is not clearly made out that the necessities of the public service require an alteration: unless the Board's appeal of the collector's proposal is taken as ~~such~~ affirming that proposition.

If however it is considered that a case is made out, a separate exam. to be held in May (not in April) may be approved.

Yes
JG
18/6/97

S. J. 18/6/97

D.P. 9 5

7/7/97

Ed DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Again G.O., dated 189 , No.

Current No. 482 of 1897, dated 10th Apr from the Bd of Rec

" " 643 " 1897, " 2nd June " the C. & C

" " " 189 " " " "

98

ORDER. No. 357 of 29. 6-97.

P.S. -

By
The Examination in Hand -
writing and Dictation ^{will in future be}
~~held in the month of May at which~~
~~undergraduate candidates for the~~
~~who have not~~
public service ~~are required to pass~~
~~in these subjects at the Upper Sec. Examⁿ~~
~~will in future be held in May~~
~~may appear. This examⁿ~~
~~the month of May and will be~~
~~independent of~~
~~unconnected with~~ the Upper
Secondary examination.

(from orders)

87 25/6

1/2
25/6/97

To The Bd of Rec (GR) 10

" C. & C. 4

" D.P. 5

Desp^d

7/7/97