

Educational (1897) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 740

DATED 14-12-97

INDEXED.



[Despatch Abstract.]

Approving the proposal to exempt
from the examination rules appointments in the offices of the Consulting
Engineer for Railways & the Examiner
of Guaranteed Railway Accounts
& Carrying out the necessary
alterations in the Public Service
notification

14/12/97

BACK PAPERS.

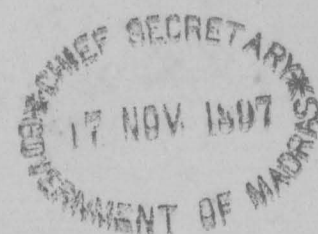
G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

Educational (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 1338



From P. W. Department
Railway Branch.

H.M. + Civi

For Orders

The question for orders is
the exemption of the appointments
in the Office of the Consulting Engineer
for Railways & in that of the Examiners
of Guaranteed Railway Accounts from
the examination rules.

No. 18 R. M.

Dated 16th November 1897.

Received 12-11-97

Registered

Enclosures /

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

H.M.
The overriding argument
in this case in favour of the exemption
sought is that the railway service
is non pensionable & if it is to
be restricted for its employees to the
field which is circumscribed by
examination, the selection will practically
be confined to the rejection of all
the other govt. services which are
pensionable. This would seriously prejudice
the efficiency of the railway service, which

Transferring letter from the Examiners
of Railway Accounts requesting orders
for the exemption of his office from
the Examination Rules, with the Consulting
Engineer's memorandum —
L.R.
for the govt. 990.
please see 1897

BACK PAPERS.

accordingly prefers to trust to
the open market.
The exemption maybe
allowed.

G.I. 20.11.7

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
		Public Service Notifu	
	448	. . .	7-8-97
	731	. . .	3-9-95
22/11/97	531	. . .	24-9-95
	306	. . .	23-4-95
	205	. . .	6-3-95

24/11/97 and record papers
FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Public Works (1897) Department.

Railway Branch
CURRENT No. 49

CURRENT No. 133890.

Order

No. 18 R.M. 2/16th Nov. 97

Transferred to
the Educational Depart-
ment. with the accompanying Memorandum
by the Comptroller General for Railway. Madras

F.V.S. pring.

Offg: Joint Secretary
10/11/97

From

The Examiner of Ry. Accts
Madras

No. 564

Dated 5th November 1897

Received } 6. 11. 97.

Enclosures }

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Requesting orders for
the exemption of ^{his} office
from examination rules

BACK PAPERS.

FURTHER PAPERS.

FORM No. 2.

[259-19-10-97.]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

P. W. DEPARTMENT.

RAILWAY BRANCH.

No. 564

Madras. 5th November 1897.

From

A. Grant Esqre

THE EXAMINER, GUARANTEED RAILWAY ACCOUNTS.

Madras.

To

The Joint Secretary to Government,
Public Works Department,
Railway Branch,
Madras.

SIR,

The Examiner, Public Works Accounts, in a recent list of disallowances from the salary bill of this office, asked for information whether a clerk and a peon appointed to fill temporary vacancies had passed the educational tests laid down for such appointments by the Local Government and on being asked to state why he considered these examinations rules applicable to this office the staff of which is Imperial, suggests that the matter be referred to Government for a definite ruling.

2. I have the honour, therefore to request that orders may issue declaring this office exempt from these rules which I presume are intended to apply to Pro-

Provincial establishments only.

3 If, however, it be decided that the rules in question are of general application, I beg to request that this office may be specially exempted from their operation for the following reasons.

(i) As the subordinate appointments in this office are now pensionable and men qualified by examinations for Government Service naturally prefer entering offices where service qualifies for pension, I have on the occurrence of a vacancy to select the most suitable candidate who as often as not is an unpassed man.

(ii) Should a candidate eligible for Government service be entertained, he seeks the earliest opportunity to secure a pensionable appointment elsewhere.

(iii) The employes of Railway Companies are invariably not qualified for Government Service, but from their experience and training would prove valuable in this office and could on vacancies occurring be entertained with the consent of their employers, but for the restrictions imposed by the examination rules.

4. Clerks in the Bezawada Madras State Railway and I believe there in ^{the} several

Military Department offices in Madras are not bound by these rules.

But they have
not presented by the

Lt Gen. Commanding
the forces - Vide Correspondence

numbered 80 448 Cd

7-8-97.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

A. G. R. M.

Offg Examiner, Railway Accounts,
Madras.

From

THE EXAMINER,

GUARANTEED RAILWAY ACCOUNTS,

Madras,

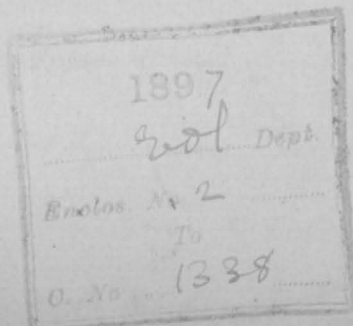
To

No. _____

Dated _____ 189 .

No. of Enclosures _____

SUBJECT.



EXAMINATION TESTS FOR EMPLOYEES IN THE RAILWAY BRANCH
OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, MADRAS.

-----:o:-----

Note by the Consulting Engineer for Railways, Madras.

I have read carefully through a bulky bundle of G. Os. on the subject of the application of certain examination tests to employees in the Public Service in this Presidency.

The Railway service throughout India is a very large and very efficient technical service, containing perhaps quite as many employees as are contained in the service of any one or perhaps two, of the Provinces or Presidencies; and this service, or congeries of services, is worked satisfactorily and efficiently without any examination test being applied to it. I do not mean to argue from this fact that a system which insists that the public servants of a Presidency or Province should be subject to examination tests is not a good system. All that I say is that the great Railway service works very efficiently without such a system.

The great Railway service of clerks and specialists below the rank of Officer or professional man, is, so far as my experience goes, practically a terra incognita to the Government Civil Official or Educationist. I cannot at the moment quote statistics, but I happen to know of the head office of

one Railway Administration where the number of office employes, under the one roof, who correspond socially with the class of Government servants who in Madras are subject to the education test, is about 1200. These are men with salaries of from Rs. 500 down to Rs. 10, a large percentage being perhaps men of between Rs. 40 and Rs. 80. To none of these is there any test applied, none are pensionable, indeed pensionable service is almost unknown amongst the great army of Railway employes, and yet most of them find employment as long as they remain efficient. The sole test is efficiency, as judged by the heads of offices, and the sole rule for their remuneration is the law of supply, demand, and resulting market value.

Yet, strange as it may appear to officers who have found it necessary to establish for the public service of this Presidency an almost universal system of pension even for persons who are practically menials and a system of examination tests for practically all employes, the great Railway service works quite efficiently and smoothly without any such aids.

The Office of the Consulting Engineer for Railways, and the Office of the Examiner of Guaranteed Railway Accounts, have heretofore been under the same rule as regards educational tests as are the public offices of this Presidency generally. An attempt was made to bring certain other Railway Government offices under the same rule, notably that of the East Coast, I think, 1889, and subsequently those of certain

Railway Surveys. On the absurdity of cutting these offices off from their usual sources of supply of experienced men and of driving them to content themselves with selecting from the rejections of all the Madras Government Offices, being pointed out to the Education Department, they were exempted from the operation of the rules.

Now the Examiner of Guaranteed Railway Accounts desires exemption, and so also do I, as Consulting Engineer for Railways. Neither of us likes to find that his choice of efficient men is reduced to such very narrow limits, and that he is practically debarred from indenting for good men on the large open market of experienced Railway Clerks, Accountants, and Draughtsmen trained and employed on the 20,000 miles of Indian Railways.

It is quite possible that the Education Department is not aware that both offices referred to, though of course Provincial in the sense of being situated in Madras and under the orders, within bounds, of the Madras Government, are Imperial in the fact that all the men employed in them are paid for by Imperial funds. The men also are non-pensionable, in common with the great mass of Railway employes throughout the State Railway Service, and in the Government of India Railway Offices.

The Examiner of Guaranteed Railway Accounts finds himself hampered and restricted in the engagement

8053 Ed
29-6-95
referred to
3 (10) of the Rules
summarized

23)

now

[Edl.]
6.
250-24-6-97.

[G]
24
1,000-18-9-97.

Educational DEPARTMENT.

Papers to be read in proceedings:--

Again G.O., No.	, dated	189 .
Again G.O., No.	, dated	189 .
Current No. 1338	of 1897, dated 16 Nov.	, from The P. W. D. (R.B.)
" "	" 189 , "	" "
" "	" 189 , "	" "

ORDER.
mis.

20740-814.12.97

The Government is pleased, in the circumstances, to approve the proposal to exempt from the examination rules appointments in the offices of the Consulting Engineer for Railways and the Examiner of Guaranteed Railway Accounts.

2. When the Public Service Notification is republished, clause (11) of Art 3 should be struck out and the following substituted for it :-

" (11) Appointments in the offices of the Consulting Engineer for Railways and the Examiner of Guaranteed Railway Accounts"

(from orders)
H.T.
11 12 97.

MA
10/12/97

Note

now

To

technical experience. The Consulting Engineer also finds himself so hampered, (at this moment in a question of the engagement of an efficient Railway Draughtsman with special technical experience). The extraordinarily slovenly condition in which a few months ago I found this Office, a condition from which the employees are now loyally and by hard work extricating it, may I consider be largely ascribed to a dead-and-aliveness due to the absence of wholesome competition with outside business offices, throughout the Railways of India generally.

I do not believe that the removal of the restriction imposed by the Public Service Examination Rules in the case either of the Consulting Engineer for Railways' Office or of the Examiner of Guaranteed Railway Accounts' Office, Madras, would be in danger of being abused. The desire for efficiency is all that is likely to influence the head of either office.

Francis H. Spring
Offg. Consulting Engineer for Rys.

Madras,
10th November 1897.

1897
Genl Dept.
Encl. No. 1
To
1328

When given for copying 11/12
When copied 11/12
When examined 11/12
When signed _____ } 1897.

READ AGAIN G.O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

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LETTER OF GOVERNMENT

STATEMENT WITH DITTO

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.