

Educational (1899) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G.O., No. 547-8

DATED 22-8-99



10-10

[Despatch Abstract.]

Annual Examination of the College of
Engineering, Madras.

Ordering, with a view to making the ~~ex~~^{self support}
ing, ^{certain} the reduction ⁱⁿ the rates of remuneration
payable to the Examiners. ~~at the rate of~~
the

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 {1899} of Madras. EDUCATIONAL.

Recd.

Regd.

} 1899.

Enclosures

Spare copies

G.O., &c., Nos. 547, 548, 22nd August 1899.

AUGUST.

Final Examination of the College of Engineering, Madras.

Ordering, with remarks, certain reduction in the rates of remuneration payable to the examiners conducting the — and informing the Government of India of it.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

READ—again the following paper:—

G.O., No. 349, Educational, dated 11th June 1898.

READ—also the following paper:—

From the Hon'ble Mr. D. DUNCAN, M.A., D.Sc., LL.D., Director of Public Instruction, to the Secretary to Government, Educational Department, dated Madras, 22nd June 1899, No. 8231.

With reference to G.O., No. 349, Educational, dated 11th June 1898, and paragraph 2 (4) of G.O., No. 530, Educational, dated 22nd August 1898, and in continuation of my letter, No. 4876, dated 26th April 1899, I have the honour to state that I have fully considered, in consultation with the President, Board of Examiners, College of Engineering, and the Acting Principal of the College, the question of rendering the examinations conducted by the above Board of Examiners fully self-supporting, and that I have come to the conclusion that it is not expedient either to raise the fees paid by the candidates or to reduce the stipends allowed to the examiners.

2. Since the issue of G.O., No. 834, Educational, dated 29th November 1892, the College syllabuses have undergone considerable expansion by the introduction of new subjects; but notwithstanding this, the cost of setting the question papers has remained almost the same as that estimated for in paragraph 5 of this office letter read in the Government Order quoted above. The increase in the cost of the examinations is, therefore, due, apparently, to the steady increase in the strength of the College and, consequently, in the increase in the number of candidates, who enter for the examinations, as will be seen from the fact that the number of answer papers has increased from 783 in 1892 to 1,750 in 1898. Simultaneously with the increase in the examination charges, the fee revenue has also shown an increase, and the introduction in recent years of the entrance examinations for the sub-overseer and surveyor and draughtsman classes, which are conducted by the College staff free of charge, has tended to reduce considerably the net cost to Government on account of the final examinations of the College, as will be seen from the following figures:—

Year.	Honorarium.	Receipts from examination fees.	Net cost to Government.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
1892-93	3,832	2,658	1,174
1893-94	4,105	2,146	1,959
1894-95	4,503	2,511	1,992
1895-96	4,231	2,730	1,501
1896-97	4,018	3,625	393
1897-98	4,940	4,100	840
1898-99	4,831	4,325	506

3. To wipe off even the slight deficit noticed above it would be necessary, I beg to submit, to adopt one or other of the following courses:—

- (1) To reduce the rates of remuneration to the examiners.
- (2) To reduce the number of question papers by giving common or identical papers in certain selected subjects for two or more different classes.

(3) To convert full unit papers into papers of half a unit by reducing the time allotted to certain selected subjects.

Government is probably aware of the difficulty of selecting competent examiners for the honoraria given in connection with the College of Engineering, and if the rates of remuneration, which, it is considered, are already low, be further reduced, it will not, I apprehend, be practicable to secure the services of capable gentlemen willing to serve on the Board of Examiners. The first proposal is, therefore, not feasible. Nor can the second be adopted, so long as the attainments and status of the several classes of the College differ so widely and the diplomas and certificates for each class command a different value. The third course would tend to make the examinations in the subjects concerned, as well as the instruction in those subjects, narrow and superficial. Such a result would be highly detrimental to the interests both of the College and of the Public Works Department. Considering the annual outlay on the upkeep of the College, I deprecate the adoption of this course.

4. In the circumstances detailed above, I am of opinion that the slight saving that might be effected by the carrying out of any of the above proposals would not warrant the disturbance of the existing arrangements. Before concluding, I beg to be permitted to remark that the Madras College of Engineering is one of the most economically managed institutions of the kind and that any proposal for reduction in the expenditure will only stultify the efforts of the department and Government towards the development of Engineering education in this Presidency.

ORDER—No. 547, Educational, dated 22nd August 1899.

In paragraph 2 (4) of its order No. 530, Educational, dated the 22nd August 1898, the Government decided that it was inadvisable to raise the scale of fees paid by candidates for the final examination of the College of Engineering and this decision will be adhered to. As however it is necessary that the examination should be made self-supporting the rates of remuneration allowed to the examiners will be reduced as shown below. The Government does not share the Director's apprehension that if the rates are reduced it will be impracticable to secure the services of capable examiners:—

	Engineer and Engineer subordinate classes.			Draughtsman and surveyor class.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
For each unit question paper set	50	0	0	40	0	0
„ answer paper valued	1	0	0	0	8	0

2. The Director should have explained the inordinate and unnecessary delay that has occurred in the submission of his report and will be requested to guard against similar delay in future.

3. The following letter will be despatched to the Government of India.

(True Extract.)

M. HAMMICK,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.
„ Accountant-General.

LETTER—No. 548, Educational, dated Ootacamund, 22nd August 1899, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

With reference to paragraph 2 of Mr. Nathan's letter, No. 190 (Examinations), dated the 14th May 1898, requesting that the Government of India may be favoured with an expression of the opinion of this Government on the question of raising the fees payable by candidates for the final examination of the College of Engineering,

Madras, I am directed to state that as the students of the College are generally poor and the term fees payable by the sub-overseer and surveyor class have been recently increased, His Excellency the Governor in Council does not consider it advisable to raise the scale of fees for the final examination. In order however to make the examination self-supporting the Government has decided to reduce the rates of remuneration payable to the examiners and a copy of its proceedings on the subject is enclosed. It is expected that by this means a saving of at least Rs. 700 will be effected in the charges, the net cost to Government on account of the examination having been only Rs. 506 in 1898-99.

2. With reference to paragraph 2 of your letter, No. 400, dated the 21st July 1899, I am to express regret for the protracted delay in the decision of this question which was caused by the Director of Public Instruction failing to submit the report called for from him.

M. HAMMICK,
Ag. Secretary to Government.

Exd. P. Seetharam.

Educational (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 1118

From The Director of Public
Instruction,
Madras.

Order

No. 8231

Dated 22 July 1899

Received 24 JUL 1899

Registered 8-8

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT,

Stating that it is imperative
- cable to reduce the rates
of remuneration allowed
to the members of the
Board of Examiners,
College of Engineering,
in order to make the
examinations self-supporting.
- ing.



BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
314-58	2-6-88		
5308	22-8-88		
3498	11-6-88		
2978	2-3-88		
699-658	17-11-88		

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

[B.]
500-7-0-00.

Blue
mills 22-8-88

Educational Department

C. No. 1118 of 99

SUBJECT.

Rates of remuneration to the members of the Board of Examiners, Coll of Engg.

FOR ORDERS.

Flag A.

to the Secretary of State
In its despatch no 34 dated the 3rd Feb. 1898, requesting the sanction of the Secretary of State to the grant of certain honoraria to Messrs Ashpitel and Scovell for conducting the final examination of the College of Engineering, Madras, the Govt of India stated that the scale of remuneration to be awarded to the members constituting the Board of Examiners of the College of Engineering had been fixed by the Madras Govt after careful consideration and that it was lower than the scale of fees fixed for the University examination. In sanctioning the honoraria the Secy of State said that in the circumstances referred to by the Govt of India in para 2 of its despatch

is the question under consideration.

to

It might be desirable to consider whether the fees payable by the candidates should be increased.

In communicating the above the Govt of I in para 2 of its letter no 190 & 14th May 1898 said that it would be glad to be favoured with an expression of the opinion of the Madras Govt on the question raised by the Secretary of State whether the fees payable by the Candidates should not be increased. In G.O. no

Flag A.

349 Ed & 11th June 1898 - Flag A. the despatches referred to above were communicated to the D.P.I. and he was requested to report on the question of raising the fees payable by the Candidates.

But subsequently in passing orders on the revised rules of the College of Eng - vide para 2(4) of G.O. no 530 Ed & 22nd Aug. 1898 - Flag B - the Govt considered that it was inadvisable to raise the scale of fees for the final examination in view of the fact that the Students were generally poor and that it was proposed to raise the term fees for the

* In Current U.O. 1163 in the linked file the Govt of India has asked the reason of the protracted delay in the decision of this question.

he has considered the whole question in consultation with the President, Board of Examiners, College of Engineering and the Acting Principal of the College and has come to the conclusion that it is not expedient either to raise the fees paid by the Candidates or to reduce the stipends allowed to the Examiners. He says that

Sub-overser and Surveyor class. The Govt directed that it should be considered whether, in order to make the examination as nearly self-supporting as possible, the Examiners' stipends could not be reduced and requested the D.P.I. to report on the point. ^{x after ~~one month~~ delay} The D.P.I. now reports that the increase in the cost of the examinations is due to the increase in the number of candidates who enter for the examinations, that simultaneously with the increase in the examination charges the fee revenue has also shown an increase and that the introduction in recent years of the Entrance Exams for the Sub-overser and Surveyor and Draftsman classes which are ^{free char.} conducted by the College Staff, has tended to reduce the net cost to Govt on account of the final examinations of the College. The net cost has decreased from Rs 1959 in 1893-94 to Rs 506 in 1898-99.

Here however, it is submitted, the D.P.I. means the net cost to Govt on account of the examinations of the College - ^{all} ~~not on~~ account of the final examinations ^{only} which is the question under consideration.

To wipe off even this deficit, it would be necessary the D.P.I. says to

to adopt one or other of the following courses:

(1) To reduce the rates of remuneration to the examiners

(2) To reduce the number of question papers by giving common or identical papers in certain selected subjects for two or more different classes.

(3) To convert full-unit papers into papers of half a unit by reducing the time allotted to certain selected subjects.

(A three hours paper is taken as a unit paper - vide E.O. 834 E.S. 29-11-92 F. 149 8)

As regards Course (1) the D.P. 1 states that the rates of remuneration are already low and that if they be further reduced it will not be practicable to secure the services of capable gentlemen willing to serve on the Board of Examiners. He therefore considers the first proposal to be not feasible.

And the second course, the D.P. 1 says cannot be adopted, so long as the attainments and status of the several classes of the college differ so widely and the diplomas and

certificates of each class command a different value.

The third course he says would tend to make the examination in the subjects concerned, as well as the instruction in those subjects, narrow and superficial.

is stated would be highly detrimental to the interests both of the college and of the Public Works Dept and in view of the annual outlay on the upkeep of the College the Director deprecates the adoption of this course.

3. In conclusion the Director remarks that the slight saving that might be effected by the carrying out of any of the above proposals would not warrant the disturbance of the existing arrangements; that the Madras College of Eng. is one of the most economically managed institutions of the kind and that any proposal for reduction in the expenditure is only to stultify the efforts of the Dept and Govt towards the development of Engineering education in this Presidency.

4. The rates of remuneration allowed

allowed to the examiners are on the scale fixed for the Govt Technical Examinations and are as follows:-

Flag D

Engineer & Engineer Subordinate classes - Rs. - As. - P.	Draftsman & Surveyor classes. Rs. - As. - P.
60-0-0	45-0-0
1-8-0	12-0-0

For each unit question paper set:-

For valuing each answer paper:-

The question of reducing the rates of remuneration to examiners conducting the several Govt Examinations is now under the consideration of Govt. and if the Govt decides to reduce the scale fixed for the Govt Technical Examinations the rates of remuneration allowed to the

Bd of Examiners of the College of Eng. may be reduced accordingly. If the fee for setting a paper be reduced to Rs 50 and Rs 40 respectively and that for valuing an answer paper to Rs 1 and annas 8 respectively the saving on the estimate given on page 3 of G.O. No 834 dt 29th November 1892 will be Rs 704 as shown below:-

Flag D.

	Length of paper										Total No of papers set	Total Remuneration
	6 hours or 2 unit papers	5 hours or 1 1/2 unit papers	4 1/2 hours or 1 1/4 unit papers	3 hours or 1 unit papers	2 hours or 1/2 unit papers	1 1/2 hours or 3/4 unit papers	1 hour or 1/2 unit papers	30 min or 1/4 unit papers	15 min or 1/8 unit papers	10 min or 1/16 unit papers		
Engineer & Engineer Subordinate Classes	1	100	"	"	1	75	30	1500	1	33 1/3	33	1708 1/3
Answers	5	10	"	"	6	9	395	395	6	4	412	418
Draftsman & Surveyor classes	"	"	"	"	"	4	160	"	"	4	160	
Answers	"	"	"	"	"	92	46	"	"	92	46	
Papers common to the Engineer or Engineer Subordinate & the Draftsman or Surveyor classes	"	"	1	6 2/3	"	5	200	"	"	6	266 2/3	
Answers	"	"	44	36 2/3	"	235	117 1/2	"	"	279	154 1/2	
Total	1	100	1	6 2/3	1	75	39	1960	1	33 1/3	43	2135 1/3
Answers	5	10	44	36 2/3	6	9	722	558 1/2	6	4	783	618 1/2

I think the reductions proposed in the note should be made. Govt. should adhere to its decision not to raise the fees payable by students. As to Examrs Every Cooper will man in the D.P.W. should be capable of doing the work. The Director's long delay in answering the reference should be commented on, and noted in Flag C. the reply to India.

At 10.8.99.

The Director has have reported on the matter long ago -

At 7.11.99.

$$\text{Savings} = \text{Rs } 3457 \frac{1}{2} - 2753 \frac{1}{2} = 704 \frac{1}{2}$$

Secy The question raised in the Circular appears to depend on the decision arrived at on the general question of reducing the rates of remuneration to examiners conducting the several Govt examinations; the papers relating to the latter question are now with H. M. It will be seen that the D.P.I. in this case too expresses the opinion that if the rates of remuneration are further reduced it will not be practicable to secure the services of capable examiners. It will also be seen that of the six examiners mentioned in para 1. of the D.P.I.'s letter No 1876 d. 26-4-99 in G.O. No 1876 d. 2-6-99 that two are in the D.P.W. and one in the Educ. Dept; & that these three received the greater portion of the fees paid.

At 3/11/99. If it was ruled that Govt. servants on the orders of Govt. should be compelled to serve on the fees fixed, it would be easy to reduce the fees. In any case the smaller fees might be tried & the result awaited.

At 2/18/99

Papers to be read in proceedings:—

Again G.O., No. 349 dated 11th June 1898.

Again G.O., No. dated 189

Current No. 1118 of 1899, dated 22nd July, from the D.P.

" " " 189 " "

" " " 189 " "

H. G. Wilson

ORDER. 547 dated 22/8/99

Flag B.

scop

A. P. H.

with fair of the f. of 2 letter.

H. E. H. 19.8.99

In para 2(4) of its order no 530
Edt of the 22nd August 1898, the Govt decided that it was inadvisable to raise the scale of fees paid by Candidates for the final examination of the College of Engineering and this decision will be adhered to. As however it is necessary that the examination should be made self supporting the rates of remuneration allowed to the Examiners will be reduced as shown below. The Govt does not share the Director's apprehension that if the rates are reduced it will not be practicable to secure the services of Capable Examiners.

	Engineers and Engineer Subordinate classes	Draughtsman and Surveyor class.
Question	Rs. 20	Rs. 20
For each unit paper set	50. "	40. "
" " Answer paper valued	1. "	" 8.

The Director should have explained the inordinate & unnecessary delay that has occurred in the submission of the Director's report is much to be

Requested to guard against similar delays in future.
Guarded against in future.

3. The following letter will be despatched to the Govt of India.

/ From orders/

PH
15/8/99
The D.P. 16/8/99
" a/c.

J.C. 2/9/99

Letter 5748 dated 22/8/99

To the Secretary to the Govt of India

Home Department

Sir,

With reference to para 2 of Mr. Nathan's letter no 190 (Examinations) of the 14th May 1898 requesting that the Govt of India may be favoured with an expression of the opinion of this Govt on the question of raising the fees payable by Candidates for the final examination of the College of Engineering, Madras, I am directed to state that as the students of the College are generally poor and the term fees payable by the Sub Overseer and Surveyor class have been recently increased, His Excellency the Governor in Council does not consider it advisable to raise the scale of fees for the final examination. In order however to make the examination self supporting the Govt has decided to reduce

Flag A.

19/8/99

Linked file.

the rates of remuneration payable to Examiners and a copy of its Proceedings on the subject is enclosed. It is expected that by this means a saving of at least Rs 700 will be effected in the charges, the net cost to Govt on account of the examination having been only Rs 506 in 1898-99.

2. I am also to state with reference to para 2 of your letter no 400 of the 21st July 1899 that I am to express regret for the protracted delay in the decision of this question which was caused by the long time taken by the Director of Public Instruction for the submission of the report called for from him.

a/c
16/8/99

17/8/99

PH
15/8/99

