

Financial (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 374.

Dated 9th May 1895.

INDEXED

7/8

[Despatch Abstract.]

Government Examinations.-

Communicating to the Educational Department letter from the Commissioner for-, with the suggestion that the question of making the Sub-Assistant Inspectors' Test self-supporting either by raising the fees or by reducing the stipends to examiners, might be considered.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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15.
16.
17-3-3-00.

DEPARTMENT.

C. No.

FOR ORDERS.

In Current 565 Financial, the Commissioner for Government Examinations submits a statement showing what examinations are self-supporting and what are not.

The Civil Account Code recognises two important distinctions in determining the classification of receipts and charges on account of Examinations.-

- (i) Educational Examinations, which are conducted in the interests of general education or for testing general educational qualifications. These go under XIX - 22 Education.
- (ii) Service Examinations, which test the special qualification of candidates for entrance into particular departments of the public service. These go under XXI - 26 Scientific

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" " 687 " 151.

and other minor departments Miscellaneous.

2. Under the first head should fall University examinations, which deal with higher education, and all primary secondary and other minor examinations, which deal with elementary education.

3. University examinations are more than self-supporting, and are excluded from the Government accounts.

The fees are raised periodically, and a large surplus accrues every year,

the balance of the Madras University on 31st March 1894 being over 2

lakhs as shown in the margin.

The cost of primary education devolves for the most part on Municipal

and Local Funds and it is only where these bodies are unable to bear the charges that Government undertakes to meet a portion of the cost. The same principle should probably apply to the case of examinations connected with primary education, but no portion of the examination charges is borne by local bodies.

4. The various Government examinations (till recently styled the Uncovenanted Civil Service Examinations) are enumerated on page 18

FOR ORDERS

1893-94.	Lakhs.
opening balance...	2.49
Receipts...	1.59
Charges ...	1.55
Closing balance...	2.53

Note: This is not correct. Provincial funds bear the cost of the upper Primary education of boys in non-municipal areas. The cost of the Primary education of girls everywhere & the cost of the upper & lower Primary Education of boys in the Agency tracts.

22. 4.

of the Calendar for 1894 put up, and full particulars regarding each of them including the objects for which it was instituted, are furnished in the pages ~~is not~~ which follow. The distinction specified in para. 1 supra is not recognised to the full extent, but the examinations may be classified as follows:-

Class I - Educational examinations	Class II - Service examination
1. Primary Examination	1. Hand-writing test for under graduates.
2. Lower Secondary examination	2. Special test.
3. Upper Secondary examination.	3. ... for Salt offices
4. Govt. Technical examinations.	4. Salt & Abkari Competitive Exams.
	5. Sub-Inspectors of Schools.
	6. Medical entrance examination.

Some of the examinations in Class I serve also to test the fitness of candidates for the lower grades of the public service, but they are required in these cases more as a general qualification, like physical fitness, than as a sine qua non for the particular department.

5. In the case of examinations under Class II (Special tests &c.) there appears to be no reason why any of them should be a burden to the State, as but a small proportion of the candidates examined have

chance

chance of entering the public service

The only examination, which does not yield a surplus in this list, is the examination for Sub-Assistant Inspectors of Schools. The fees now charged (Rs. 12 for Test A - linguistic branch, Rs. 5 for each of the 4 branches of Test B) do not seem to be sufficiently high; either they should be raised, or the stipends to examiners should be reduced and equilibrium restored.

6. That all these Government examinations should be self-supporting as a whole has been recognised by Government all along and this has been repeatedly insisted on in the various budget orders passed in the Financial department as shown below:-

Budget 1891-92.

G.O. Serial of 27 October 1890 No. 752 (last paragraph)

G.O. Serial of 28 Nov. 1890 No. 723

Budget 1892-93

G.O. Serial of 19-10-91 No. 1059

(vide note by Sir Henry Stokes)

Budget 1893-94

G.O. Serial of 26-9-92 No. 991.

(vide note by Sir Henry Stokes)

Budget 1894-95

G.O. of 10-10-93 No. 1000

(last paragraph)

Note

There seems no objection to consulting the Commissioner for Public Exams. about this.

6/11/94

* Note As a general principle but not as a rule never to be departed from. See Sir Henry Stokes' note in G.O. of 17 Oct. 1891, No. 1059, (referred to below) where the occurrence of a deficit in the case of the Primary Exams. was declared to be inevitable for some time. The Educ. Dept. has never accepted the rule in the rigid form given to it in the Fin. Dept. & fees for Exams. have been fixed with regard to the interests of education as well as the public purse.

* in its present form.

3?

Note

In other words, a gain to Govt. in fourteen years of Rs. 45,327 & the deficit in the years following 1889-90 was anticipated. A main cause probably is that the Metric. Exam. has been substituted for the Middle School as a service test & the receipts from the former go to the University.

* ? Rs. 22,623? The surplus for 1889-90 was probably reckoned among the gains for the ten years ending 1889-90.

~~in the case of the Primary Exams. the surplus was also nearly a lakh.~~

Years	Examined.	Passed
1892-93	26,993	10,758
1893-94	29,014	11,707

In the case of Tests under Class I, the Commissioner reports a large deficit, in every case, except under the Lower Secondary examination, which is new.

7. From paragraph 9 of the Commissioner's letter in G.O. Financial dated 27th October 1890, No. 752, it will be seen that these examinations yielded a surplus aggregating Rs. 91,150 during the 10 years ending 1889-90. In Current 565 Financial now under disposal the Commissioner shows that between 1889-90 and 1893-94 there has been a deficit of Rs. 15,833. It therefore becomes necessary to analyse the statistics and see whether some remedy cannot be provided to restore equilibrium.

(1) Primary School Examinations.

It is more than 5 years since the Primary school examination was instituted, and the number of pupils examined is rising steadily. But the deficit in 5 years is nearly a lakh of rupees.

In G.O. dated 13th March 1895, No. 320 Educational it is considered that the time has not yet arrived for making this examination self-supporting but it should perhaps be ruled that some portion of the cost now borne by

Provincial revenues should be re-
covered from Municipal or Local
funds. Or a portion of the cost
should be transferred to the Edu-
cational Budget as required by the
Civil Account Code and as suggested by
by the Director himself in para-
graph 6 of his letter in the Edu-
cational order just referred to.

The percentage of expenditure
on primary education to take total
expenditure on education incurred
by each of the 3 services for
1893-94 is shown below.-

Provl. funds.....	12.76
Local funds.....	74.88
Municipal funds.....	60.54
TOTAL.....	31.49

It seems reasonable that the cost of
examinations should be more or less

✱

in the same proportion.

- ii Lower Secondary Education. This has
worked for only one year with surplus
it is believed that this will continue
(iii) Upper Secondary Examination.

This brought on a deficit of .08

in past years. A slight increase in

✱

the fees will no doubt serve to pro-
duce equilibrium.

(iv) Technical Examinations. These
have cost 34 lakh up to date, but

as

✱ This proposal implies that
local bodies can be charged a
portion of the cost of Inspection
by Govt. Officers but this
is not so. So far as the Primary
Exam. is a service test, arrange-
ments have already been made
to render it more nearly self-
supporting (S.O. 12 Mar. 1896,
N. 220, Ed); so far as it replaces
the Fourth Standard Results
Grant Exam., the cost of conducting
it falls on Provincial Funds;
alone. Local bodies have never
been held liable to conduct,
or contribute to the cost of
conducting, Results Grant Exams.
either can they be held liable
to contribute towards the
cost of the Primary Exam.
D. Duncan pointed out in
para. 6 of his letter read in the
S.O. quoted that the Excess Ex-
penditure on the Primary
Exam. is really a part of
the cost of Inspection & that
the institution of that Exam.
has saved for the cost of
additional inspecting staff
which, otherwise, would have
had to be employed.

by
22 Ap.

✱ But of the total cost of Primary
Edn. in 1893-94, Provl. bore 11 per
cent, Local bore 31 per cent &
municipal bore about 7
per cent. These are the proportions
in which, if at all, the division
of cost should be made; but as
observed above, the division of cost
would be opposed to accepted principles.

✱ Note It would destroy the
lingering sparks of vitality.
The question of re-constitution
this Exam. will come up shortly
in the Educ. Dept. which recently
decided that it must be maintained
if only for the sake of female
education. It is submitted that
no steps should be taken
to raise the fees until the
matter has been disposed of
in the Educ. Dept.

✱ Note The Syndicate will pro-
bably refuse the method on
which the University Exams.
are conducted. Do not inspire
complete confidence; but,
in connection with this question,
attention is invited to the
remarks on p. 25 of S.O. 2, 20 June
1897, N. 351, Ed.

by
22 Ap. 95.

as they deserve encouragement, and any
large increase in fees may deter candi-
dates from taking up these subjects, the
best plan will perhaps be to transfer
some of the higher branches gradually
to the University, if the Syndicate has
no objection to it.

8. It is manifestly unfair that
provincial revenues should incur ever
increasing expenditure under both heads
23 Education and 36 Scientific and other
minor departments. The Director and his
large inspecting agency could relieve
the Commissioner to some extent, while
the University which is an independent
examining agency should ^{in due course} take up as much
as possible out of the hands of Govern-
ment.

9. The old scheme of allotting
a definite proportion of Provincial
revenues, or a fixed percentage of
Provincial expenditure for Education
might perhaps be reconsidered with ad-
vantage but the figures are likely to be
much disturbed by scarcity, failure of
a monsoon, or unforeseen public works or
lay that the demands of a steadily growing
department like Education are likely
to be prejudiced rather than benefited
by the arrangements.

10. If the proposals in the above note are approved the deficits under Government Examinations will disappear. For orders whether they may be referred to the Commissioner, the Accountant General and the Syndicate for opinion.

Note on
Government Examinations

H. M.

Note
NOTE FOR THE CHIEF SECRETARY.

The accompanying note prepared by the B.C. was, under my instructions, ^{sent} to Mr. W. Bullenorth for his remarks before being sent up here. The points dealt with in it are more for Educational than Financial & the current has got into the latter Dept. owing to call for information from the Comm. for the Exam. when his budget was reviewed last year. There seem to be strong objections in the Ed. Dept. to ~~any~~ all but one of the suggestions in the note being carried out and the question of the Primary Exam. has only recently been before Govt. [S.O. 713. 3. 95. No. 220 Ed.].

Shall Financial transfer the current note to Ed.?
~~Yes~~ I don't think it ^{could} be troubled with the matter in its present stage

No; certainly not. Educational. C.B. 29. 4. 95
(letter from Mr. Bullenorth's note does not want to move in the matter. Financial called for the statement for its own information, & Ed. won't take action on the budget clerk's proposals unless H.M. comes with him. If I don't think, specific changes

C.B. 11/5 Financial Dept.
Read again S.O. 731. 10. 94. No. 916.
(para 2) (Q)
- S.O. 711. 2. 95. No. 137.
- C. No. 565. (Q)

Order of 9. May 1895. No. 374.
Comm. to the Educational Department with the suggestion ^{the question of} that ~~measures should be taken~~ for making the Sub Assistant Inspectors' Tests self-sustaining either by raising the fees or ^{by} reducing the depends to Examiners, might be considered.

C.B. 6.5.95
J.D. 8/5/95
DESPATCHED 17 MAY 95
Ed. Dept (Q) (with inc. No. 565 in orig.)
11/5

Note for the C.B.

Please see the letter. The above is the only point on which action seems to be called for at present. It is unnecessary to trouble H.M. with this as present. 14. 5. 95

C.B. 6.5.95

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