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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 2314	Press -Mis.-
12-13	
Dated 1 8	1867 .

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department.

1st August 1867.

No. 12. Read the following Circular from the Government of India, Public Works Department, (Establishment,) dated Simla, 4th July 1867, No. 62:—

Examinations in the Native languages in the Public Works Department.

Read again the following papers:—

Public Works Department Standing Order No. 70 of 1864.

OBSERVATIONS.—The Governor General in Council observes that the rules now in force for examinations in the Native languages in the Public Works Department were introduced in 1864, consequent on the issue of the Military Department General Order No. 734 of 9th September 1864.

2. By these rules it is required that, before an Assistant Engineer can be promoted from the 2nd to the 1st Grade, he shall pass the first or lower standard examination, and before he can be promoted to be an Executive Engineer, he shall pass the second or higher standard.

3. The rules have for some time been objected to by various authorities as too severe, and as having unduly impeded promotion in the Engineer Establishment; but as the matter had been so recently considered and settled, it has hitherto been deemed proper to adhere to the rules rigidly.

4. Prolonged experience and a general re-consideration of the question, however, now satisfies the Government of India that the Officers of the Public Works Department do not require a knowledge of the native languages of the same standard as Civil and Political Officers and Military Interpreters. The duties of the last three classes of Officers sometimes involve matters of life and death, and also require frequent intercourse with native chiefs and gentlemen. In the Public Works Department matters of such grave importance do not depend on the knowledge of the Officer of the native languages, and his official intercourse is not likely often to be with any native in a higher position than a contractor.

5. Ability to read, and especially to read native accounts and letters, is, His Excellency in Council considers, essentially necessary to a perfectly efficient Executive Engineer to make him in some degree independent of his native subordinates, and able to cope with attempts to cheat; but critical accuracy in reading and writing, His Excellency in Council considers, may well be dispensed with.

6. His Excellency in Council has accordingly been pleased to resolve that the higher standard examination shall be altogether dispensed with in the Public Works Department, and that the lower standard examination, or an equivalent examination in the language of the district in which an Officer may be employed, be substituted for it in the qualification required for promotion to the rank of Executive Engineer, with the addition of tests to show ability to read native accounts and letters.

7. This standard will be considered as quite departmental, and Officers who pass it will have the letters D. S. (Departmental Standard) affixed to their names in the classified list. The examination for the lower standard will be conducted under existing rules, and the ability to read native letters and accounts will be established by a report from the Superintending Engineer that he has satisfied himself that the person examined is so capable.

8. Again, for the lower standard examination as a qualification for promotion to the rank of Assistant Engineer, 1st Grade, His Excellency in Council is pleased

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Public Works Department,
1st August 1867.*

to substitute an examination in colloquial Hindoostanee (or other language as the case may be) to be passed before a Committee of three Officers of the Public Works Department assembled under the orders of a Superintending Engineer.

9. The Committee will prepare twelve questions, or short sentences, on matters relating to the duty of an Engineer in connection with his works, which the candidate will be required to translate at once on their being read to him, into Hindoostanee (or other district language) *viva voce* in a sufficiently accurate manner to be intelligible to a native; these questions must be sent up with the Committee's certificate that they have been sufficiently well translated by the candidates in presence of the Committee, and that the candidate has further conversed intelligibly with a native workman in their presence. To this the Superintending Engineer will add his opinion of the sufficiency of the questions, and his belief formed on personal communication that the candidate has really acquired the colloquial knowledge necessary for the satisfactory performance of his duties. On these certificates being approved by the Local Government or Administration, the mark † will be entered in the classified list to indicate that the Officer has passed this examination, and is qualified for promotion accordingly.

10. Officers, who desire to do so, may still go up for examination by the higher standard, and will continue to receive the usual Moonshee allowance both for the higher and lower standard.

11. It is to be distinctly understood that these orders are not to have retrospective effect in regard to the promotion of any Officers which may have been retarded owing to their not having passed in the language by the standards hitherto in force.

12. These rules will not affect Officers who desire to join the Department from the Staff Corps, who will have to conform to the Staff Corps test.

Bengal.	British Burmah.
North-Western Provinces.	Mysore.
Punjab.	Hyderabad.
Central Provinces.	Central India
Oudh.	Rajpootana.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations marginally noted, for information and guidance.

Also, that a copy be forwarded to the Governments of Madras and Bombay, for information.

Also, to the Military Department for information.

(Signed) C. H. DICKENS, Colonel, R. A.,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 13. ORDER THEREON, 1st August 1867, No. 2,314.

ESTABLISHMENT, No. 1.

Ordered to be recorded.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) J. H. M. SHAW STEWART, Major, R. E.,
Under Secretary to Government.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

Circular No. 62 Public Works.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
Establishment.

SIMLA, the 4th July 1867.

Examinations in the Native languages in the Public Works Department.

READ again the following papers:—

Public Works Department Standing Order No. 70 of 1864.

OBSERVATIONS.—The Governor General in Council observes that the rules now in force for examinations in the Native languages in the Public Works Department were introduced in 1861, consequent on the issue of the Military Department General Order No. 731 of 9th September 1864.

2. By these rules it is required that, before an Assistant Engineer can be promoted from the 2nd to the 1st Grade, he shall pass the first or lower standard examination, and before he can be promoted to be an Executive Engineer, he shall pass the second or higher standard.

3. The rules have for some time been objected to by various authorities as too severe, and as having unduly impeded promotion in the Engineer Establishment; but as the matter had been so recently considered and settled, it has hitherto been deemed proper to adhere to the rules rigidly.

4. Prolonged experience and a general re-consideration of the question, however, now satisfies the Government of India that the Officers of the Public Works Department do not require a knowledge of the native languages of the same standard as Civil and Political Officers and Military Interpreters. The duties of the last three classes of Officers sometimes involve matters of life and death, and also require frequent intercourse with native chiefs and gentlemen. In the Public Works Department matters of such grave importance do not depend on the knowledge of the Officer of the native languages, and his official intercourse is not likely often to be with any native in a higher position than a contractor.

5. Ability to read, and especially to read native accounts and letters, is, His Excellency in Council considers, essentially necessary to a perfectly efficient Executive Engineer to make him in some degree independent of his native subordinates, and able to cope with attempts to cheat; but critical accuracy in reading and writing, His Excellency in Council considers, may well be dispensed with.

(2)

6. His Excellency in Council has accordingly been pleased to resolve that the higher standard examination shall be altogether dispensed with in the Public Works Department, and that the lower standard examination, or an equivalent examination in the language of the District in which an Officer may be employed, be substituted for it in the qualification required for promotion to the rank of Executive Engineer, with the addition of tests to shew ability to read native accounts and letters.

7. This standard will be considered as quite departmental, and Officers who pass it will have the letters D. S. (Departmental Standard) affixed to their names in the classified list. The examination for the lower standard will be conducted under existing rules, and the ability to read native letters and accounts will be established by a report from the Superintending Engineer that he has satisfied himself that the person examined is so capable.

8. Again, for the lower standard examination as a qualification for promotion to the rank of Assistant Engineer, 1st Grade, His Excellency in Council is pleased to substitute an examination in colloquial Hindoostanee (or other language as the case may be) to be passed before a Committee of three Officers of the Public Works Department assembled under the orders of a Superintending Engineer.

9. The Committee will prepare 12 questions, or short sentences, on matters relating to the duty of an Engineer in connection with his works, which the candidate will be required to translate at once on their being read to him, into Hindoostanee (or other district language) *vis à voce* in a sufficiently accurate manner to be intelligible to a native; these questions must be sent up with the Committee's certificate that they have been sufficiently well translated by the candidates in presence of the Committee, and that the candidate has further conversed intelligibly with a native workman in their presence. To this the Superintending Engineer will add his opinion of the sufficiency of the questions, and his belief formed on personal communication that the candidate has really acquired the colloquial knowledge necessary for the satisfactory performance of his duties. On these certificates being approved by the Local Government or Administration, the mark † will be entered in the classified list to indicate that the Officer has passed this examination, and is qualified for promotion accordingly.

10. Officers, who desire to do so, may still go up for examination by the higher standard, and will continue to receive the usual Moonshee allowance both for the higher and lower standard.

11. It is to be distinctly understood that these orders are not to have retrospective effect in regard to the promotion of any Officers which may have been retarded owing to their not having passed in the language by the standards hitherto in force.

(3)

12. There rules will not affect Officers who desire to join the Department from the Staff Corps, who will have to conform to the Staff Corps test.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Local Governments and Administrations marginally noted, for information and guidance.

Also, that a copy be forwarded to the Governments of Madras and Bombay, for information.
Also, to the Military Department for information.

(Signed) C. H. DICKENS, Colonel, R. A.,
Secretary to the Government of India.

C. H. Dickens Lieut.-Colonel, R. E.,
Offg. Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.

*To The Secretary to the Govt. of Madras
Public Works Department*

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P. H. 1067 20/7/67
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Establishment.

To *Pr. of Govt. for August*
27/5/67

CIRCULAR No. 62. PUBLIC WORKS,

Dated Simla, 11th July 1867.

Received *23rd July/67*

Spent 8th Aug 1867

Received

23/7/67

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Recorded
11/11/67

Examinations in the Native languages in the Public Works Department.

23/11-10th Aug 1867

12-13

26 July 1867 R. 25/12