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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU

B.P.W

DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	3402-W	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	22-12-1882	198.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

General.
Establishment.

No. 168.

READ—the following papers :—

From Colonel H. L. PRENDERGAST, R.E., Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Chepauk, 8th December 1882, No. 3198.

There was a notification early in this year that fees have to be paid for Voluntary Examinations in Native languages, and I have the honor to request that I may be informed whether this rule applies to subordinates, Military and Civil of the Public Works Department.

No. 2295 C.

Referred to the Board of Examiners.

(By Order.)

(Signed) C. C. RAWSON, Captain, R.E.,
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

12th December 1882.

No. 168-A.

From D. S. WHITE, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Examiners, to the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, dated Madras, 20th December 1882, No. 629.

With reference to your endorsement (returned herewith) No. 2295 C., dated the 12th instant, on letter from the Superintending Engineer, Fifth Circle, of the 8th current, No. 3198, I have the honor, by direction of the President, to inform you that the rule regarding the fee to be paid for Voluntary Examinations in the Vernaculars applies equally to Military and Civil subordinates of the Public Works Department.

No. 169.

ORDER—dated 22nd December 1882, No. 3402 W., Public Works.

Communicated to all Superintending Engineers.

(True Extract.)

Captain, R.E.,
Ag. Under Secy. to Govt., P.W.D.

To Superintending Engineers.
To the Consulting Architect to Government.
" Examiner, Public Works Accounts.

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Spare Copies

GENERAL
ESTABLISHMENT

Govt. of 1882 Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated December, 22nd.

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 22nd Dec. 1882, No. 3402 W.

DECEMBER.

Nos. 168-169.

Examination Fees.

Regarding the — for examinations in the
Vernaculars.

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GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

24th December 1880, No. 478.

Examination Rules for Covenanted and Uncovenanted Officers.

Read the following paper:—

No. 24. From D. S. WHITE, Esq., Secretary to the Committee for the Examination of Assistants, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 20th November 1880, No. 2040.

I have the honor, by direction of the President, to bring the following circumstances to the notice of Government, and to request that the arrangements for the examination of officers, both Covenanted and Uncovenanted, may be revised, so as to afford some relief to the President of the Committee.

2. At present the work of the Committee mainly consists in conducting the following examinations:—

- I. Examination of Covenanted Civilians in all the prescribed languages and according to the Standards' Examinations.
- II. Examination of all Military Officers, including Medical Officers and Chaplains, in the prescribed languages excepting Hindustani.
- III. Examination in Hindustani of all officers in civil employ.
- IV. Examination of Uncovenanted Officers in the Vernaculars under the new Rules published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of the 11th November 1879.
- V. Examination of officers under the orders of the Madras Bank and in Railway employ.
- VI. Examination in special cases of candidates for the public service.
- VII. Examination of Police Officers in law.
- VIII. Examination in law of Cantonment Magistrates.
- IX. Examination in special languages, such as Uriya.

3. The examination of Junior Civilians is held as they arrive. Those of other Civilians in languages, of Military Officers generally, of Officers in Hindustani, of Officers of the Madras Bank and Railway and of Cantonment Magistrates in law, are held quarterly. The examination of Assistant Collectors, of Uncovenanted Officers under the new Rules, and of candidates for the public service is held half-yearly.

4. The President desires very slight changes to be made in connexion with the examination of Civilians and of Police officers and Cantonment Magistrates in law. In the Committee's letter, No. 1994, dated the 9th instant, now before Government, a simplification of the test for Junior Civilians on arrival has been recommended, and nothing more is required to be said on that point. But it seems desirable to hold the examination of Assistant Collectors according to the Standards Tests in January and July, instead of in June and December. In June the vacation allowed to Courts prevents the Committee from obtaining the services of some Judges, and in December the examination has sometimes to be held inconveniently near the Christmas holidays. As Police Officers are examined in law along with Assistant Collectors, and as they execute three of the papers given to Assistant Collectors under the Lower Standard, the change in regard to them is also necessary. The Cantonment Magistrates' examination is to be held quarterly, but there is no reason why it should not be held half-yearly concurrently with the Standards' Examinations.

5. As regards the agency for conducting the examinations, the President considers no change to be required. Excepting the tests in the first and second languages for Assistant Collectors, the examinations may be looked upon as technical, and it is absolutely necessary that the gentlemen who set the papers and those who actually examine the candidates should belong to the Revenue and Judicial Services. It is also necessary that the gentleman or President, who has to approve the papers when set and to pass a final decision on the papers executed, should be a Civilian of experience and one actually performing Revenue or Judicial work.

6. The portion of the tests which makes the President's duty so heavy is the *viva voce*, but in the Standards' Examinations such duty is thrown on District Committees, and it is also much subdivided, for several District Committees are appointed on each occasion, and they have but to examine Assistant Collectors, for Police Officers and Cantonment Magistrates do not have any but written papers put before them. It thus follows that the President has merely to approve papers set, and to give a final decision on marks assigned. At present the Translators set the dictation and translation papers and furnish two arzis, the Sub-Secretary to the Board of Revenue sets the Revenue papers, a Judge of the High Court and the Registrar on the Appellate Side set the Judicial papers, and the Inspector-General of Police sets a departmental paper. The whole of these gentlemen afterwards assign marks. The District Committees furnish Revenue and Magisterial cases and arzis for Assistant Collectors, and pronounce upon the execution of them as well as upon the answers to questions on the Revenue history of the district, which it may be stated are standing questions:

7. It is with the Vernacular examinations that the difficulty begins. They range from simple Colloquial to Honor Examinations, and it is they which strain existing agency so as to produce serious inconvenience. Had the difficulty not been one of gradual growth, it would have made itself more felt long ago, and steps would probably have been taken to meet it. In the old days, the duty of the Committee was limited to examining Civilians; but inasmuch as it was an agency for carrying out examinations, and the only civil one existing, it was apparently found convenient to employ it whenever fresh necessity arose, and it is thus that the work of the President has assumed proportions with which he finds it very difficult to grapple. But heavy as the work is, it promises to indefinitely extend itself; for the Rules published in the Gazette of the 11th November last have scarcely had time to affect the Uncovenanted Service. They may be expected, however, to do so in six months or a year, and then it will become impracticable to deal with all the candidates who may come up, unless the work is spread over a week or ten days. It must then, as it is desirable now, be a matter for decision whether it is expedient that so much of the President's time should be withdrawn from his other and primary duties. At present some relief is given to the President by appointing a member of the Committee and the Translator as a Sub-Committee when more languages than one are brought up; but if there are examinations for high proficiency or degrees of honor as well as mere pass examinations, such an arrangement becomes almost impracticable, because the Translator to Government, who is the examiner, has to sit with the President.

8. Looking to the facts that the Rules, published in the Gazette of the 11th November 1879, affect Uncovenanted Officers, that some of the candidates who come up are not Civilians or Uncovenanted Officers, that the examinations may be ranged under the general subject of education, and that the Director of Public Instruction and Commissioner for the Uncovenanted Civil Service Examinations is a Civilian, it has appeared to the President that the examination of all candidates, except of Civilians, might be transferred to the Commissioner; but here again the same difficulty would arise; for, the *viva voce* part of the test being indispensable, the duty would be equally burdensome to the Commissioner. But there is another and insurmountable objection, which is that the Director is a touring officer, who may be absent from Madras just when his services are required for approving papers and presiding at the examinations.

9. The only way out of the difficulty therefore is to introduce division of labor; in other words, to relieve the President of the work of personally presiding at

examinations not excepting the examination of Civilians, and to entrust it entirely to the different Translators to Government aided in examinations for High Proficiency and Honors by "scholars of reputation" who may be appointed, as at present, special and temporary members of the Sub-Committee. All the papers set by the examiners, however, should be sent for the approval of the President, and when the examinations are over the written report should be sent for his final opinion. This arrangement would be advantageous even to the Translators to Government, for they would hold the examinations in their own offices, and would not have to come to the Revenue Board Office as they do now.

10. It may be questioned whether it would be advisable to leave so much to the Translators, but there is precedent for such an arrangement in the examination of European Educational Officers who are examined by the Translators alone; and besides, it is to be remembered that in all examinations above the Military Higher Standard, which in most cases is the test for a pass, there will be a safeguard in the presence of the special member of the Committee. It is not to be forgotten, also, that Higher Standard Examinations are now held up-country before officers who, as a rule, cannot possess such high qualifications as the Translators to Government; while the passing of the papers by the President, and the provision for a final opinion by him, are calculated to afford all further and needful security.

11. As a further measure of relief to both the President and Translators to Government, and also as a means of creating saving in the fees now paid to "scholars of reputation" who are not in the public service, the President directs me to recommend that quarterly examinations be given up, and that the whole of the Vernacular examinations be held together, in both the Mofussil and Madras, in January and July. As it is, officers up-country complain of the frequency with which their services are required as examiners, and it has been suggested to the Committee that Vernacular examinations should be so timed as to make them go with the Standards' Examinations of Assistant Collectors.

12. The only objection to the above which seems to call for consideration is whether the arrangement would clash with the rules for the examination of Military Officers. The accompanying pamphlet containing the new Rules is submitted for the perusal of Government. From page 25 it appears that examinations are to be held monthly. Constituted as the Committee is, the President doubts whether such an arrangement could be carried out here, and it is because the existing examinations are so great a strain that the interval of six months is asked for. On the ground, also, that the examinations are voluntary, the President is of opinion that it would suffice if they were held half-yearly. The foregoing remarks apply more particularly to Tamil, Telugu, Canarese, and Malayalam. The other languages are so seldom studied in this Presidency that a half-yearly examination is not likely to incommode any candidate.

13. In making the above recommendations, and in order to commend them to the acceptance of Government, the President has been careful not to disarrange the office arrangements of the Committee. All applications for examination will be received as usual; the papers will be obtained and submitted to the President just as they are at present; the arrangement in regard to special members will remain as it is; and it will only remain to tell candidates to be examined at Madras on each occasion to attend at the offices of the Translators instead of at the Revenue Board Office.

14. As the next examination will take place in January, early orders are solicited on this letter; and, as Government are put to expense in connexion with examinations, especially when special members are appointed, the President considers that a fee of 15 or 20 rupees for each voluntary examination and for the examination of gentlemen not in the Government service may appropriately be charged.

15. The following is a summary of the recommendations made:—

- (a.) The Standards' Examinations of Assistant Collectors and the examination of Police Officers in law to be conducted as they now are, but to be held in January and July instead of in June and December.

- (b.) The examination of Cantonment Magistrates now arranged for quarterly to be held along with the Standards' Examinations half-yearly.
- (c.) All examinations in the Vernaculars at Madras to be conducted half-yearly in January and July by the Translators to Government at their offices with the usual aid of "scholars of reputation" in the case of High Proficiency and Honor Examinations.
- (d.) The President's duty in all cases to be limited to scrutinizing papers set, and pronouncing a final opinion on papers executed.
- (e.) The examinations in all native languages up-country to be held along with the Standards' Examinations in January and July.
- (f.) That a fee of 15 or 20 rupees be charged in certain cases.

No. 25.

ORDER THEREON, 24th December 1880, No. 478.

The proposals are sanctioned.

(True Extract.)

R. DAVIDSON,
Chief Secretary.

To the Committee for the Examination of Assistants,
with a Book returned.

Exd. J. Wright.

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5/2402

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER'S OFFICE,

5TH CIRCLE, MADRAS,

Chepauk, 8th Decr 1882.

No. 3198.

From

THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

5TH CIRCLE,

To

THE Chief Engineer
D.P.W.

SIR,

Enclosures.

There was a Notification
early in this year that fees have
to be paid for Voluntary Examina-
tions in Native Languages and I
have the honor to request that I
may be informed, whether this
rule applies to Subordinates Mil-
itary and Civil of the P. W.
Department.

I have the honor to be
Sir.

Your Most Obedt Servant
Chas. Sander
Supt. P.W.
Superintd Engineer
5th Circle.

Govt. of (1880) Madras.

EDUCATIONAL.

THE COMMITTEE FOR THE
EXAMINATION OF ASSISTANTS.

Dated December, 24th.

Issued

Recd.

G.O., 24th December 1882, No. 478.

DECEMBER
Nos. 24-25.

Examination Rules for Government and Unver-
sity Officers.—Certain alterations in the
Examination Rules for Government and Unver-
sity Officers proposed by the President of the
Committee for the Examination of Assistants,
enclosed.

No 2295C d/ 12th December/82

Referred to the
Board of Examiners
(By order)

C. L. S. S. S.
ag. under way to Govt. P. W. D.

From
THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
5TH CIRCLE,

To
THE Chief Engineer
P. W. Deptt.

Dated 8th December 1882.
Recd.

ENCLOSURES.

No. 3198.

Voluntary examina-
tions in Native languages.
Requests certain infor-
-mation regarding the fees
required for

Referred

To
The Secretary to the
Board of Examiners

Gentl
replied

No. 629.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS,
Madras, 20th December 1882.

From
D. S. WHITE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Board of Examiners,
Madras,

To
THE Chief Engineer
Public Works Department.

SIR,

returned herewith

With reference to your endorse-
ment No. 2295C dated the 12th instant
in letter from the Superintending Engineer,
5th Circle of the 8th Current, No. 3198, I
have the honor, by direction of the Pre-
sident to inform you that the rule
regarding the fee to be paid for Vo-
luntary Examinations in the Ver-
naculars applies equally to Mi-
litary and Civil Subordinates of the
Public Works Department.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servant
D. S. White
Secretary to the Board of Examiners

M.C. 8818

From

THE SECRETARY TO THE

BOARD OF EXAMINERS,

To

THE

Chief Engineer

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final
relat

A No. 3402 N. 22 Dec 82.

Communicated
to all Supts Engineers

No. 629

Dated 20

Despatched 20

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December 1882

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21/12/82

No.

ENCLOSURE 1

Subject.

No. 470 - 24.12.82 (Contd.)

B.
21/12/82

Supts Engineers ✓
Comd. Arty. Coyt ✓
Genl. Prov. ✓
21/12

Stating that the rule
regarding the fee to be paid
for voluntary examinations
in the Vernaculars applies
equally to Military and Civil
officers.

W. H. S. S. S.

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Gobt. of (1882) Madras
PUBLIC WORKS.

Dated

23/12

Recd.

Encl.

G. O. 22nd Dec 1882. No. 3402-11

Nos.

168-169

Examination fees

Regarding the —
for examinations in
the Vernaculars

130
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Entd. in Receipt Book