Public Works (1897) Department.

G.O., No. 639 R.

DATED 11. Sept. 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Practical Course. Extg. Govt. Resolution on the subject of the abolition of the — in England for passed Engineering Students of Coopers Hill College except for one or two students selected for a Special Course for two years or less. Comptd. to the Coursg. Engineering for Rys: for guidance

[P.W. 25. 5,000—30-11-96.]

Indexed. 21/9/97

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Public Works (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 8998

B/-

From The Govt of India

Order No 639 R dated 11-9-97

Communicates to the Consulting Engineers for Railways for information & guidance.-

2. Attention is invited to para 6 of the Resolution.

FWS R

10/9/97

Dated 1st September 1897.

Received

Registered 8-9-97

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Passed Engineer Students of Coopers Hill College.

Forwarding Resolution regarding the abolition of the practical course in England for _____, except for one or two students selected for a special course for two years or less.

To

The Consulting Engr for Rys /
- a - Agent & Main line Rly /
- a - Agent S. & Rly /
- a - Agent & Ch. Engr Nilgiri Rly
- a - Govt Rly Engineers

D. 7/9/97

D. Os. 5008

BACK PAPERS.

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FURTHER PAPERS.

No.	Date.

SCRT SECRETARY TO
RECEIVED
8 SEP 1897
GOVT. OF MADRAS

No. 2352 G.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL.

Simla, the 1st September 1897.

RESOLUTION.

Abolition of the practical course in England for passed Engineer Students of Coopers Hill College, except for one or two Students selected for a special course for two years or less.

Read—

Government of India, Public Works Department Circular letter No. 1963 G., dated 5th August 1896.

Replies from Local Governments, Administrations and Officers thereto.

Read also—

Despatch to the Secretary of State, No. 18 P. W., dated 28th April 1897.

Despatch from the Secretary of State, No. 17 P. W., dated 15th July 1897.

In the circular letter quoted in the preamble, an expression of opinion was invited from Local Governments, Administrations and Officers selected by them, on the question of abandoning the practice of detaining passed students of Coopers Hill College after they had completed their College course for a year's practical training in England. This enquiry was made, because it had been suggested that the knowledge of Engineering methods gained by the students during their practical course was incommensurate with the time spent thereon and with the attendant expense to the State, and that such experience could as readily be acquired by the young engineer on works in India without any preliminary practical course in England. The result of the reference was that the practical course in England was condemned by a large majority of those consulted. The Government of India, moreover, held that there was nothing to choose as a class between the officers who had originally come to India direct, and those who had remained in England, for a certain period of practical training. Under these circumstances the Government of India recommended to the Secretary of State the abolition of the practical course, except in the case of one or two selected students in each year who might have shown an aptitude for special subjects such as mechanical or sanitary engineering, mining or architecture, and who would be required to go through a two years' course in any one of these special branches. It was, however, explained that such selected students on coming out to India would not necessarily be employed on the class of work in which they were specially trained, but that endeavours would be made to so employ them.

2. The Secretary of State has concurred in the views of the Government of India, and has decided to abolish the ordinary practical course in England with the following exception, *viz.*, that each year a limited number of students who have qualified for Indian appointments shall be detained in England for the purpose of practical training in certain subjects. The several specified subjects are mechanical, sanitary, and electrical engineering, mining and architecture; and only such Assistant Engineers as show a special aptitude for one or more of

the subjects will be eligible for the privilege of receiving the special training. The number so detained will not ordinarily exceed two; and the period of the special course will usually be two years, unless in exceptional cases the Principal, Coopers Hill College, recommends a shorter period. The conditions under which the selected Engineers will follow their course will, as regards pay and service for leave and pension, be the same as those attaching to the present practical course.

3. The Secretary of State has further decided that the new system shall come into full operation in the autumn of 1898, but he has accorded to Assistant Engineers who passed out of Coopers Hill College in July 1897, the option of proceeding direct to India, or of remaining for the one year's practical course hitherto followed.

4. The relative seniority of the Engineers detained for practical training as compared with those of their year who have come direct to India will, apart from selection, depend on their position on the College list; subject to the condition that the prescribed professional test laid down in Public Works Department Code, Volume I, Chapter II, paragraphs 23—25 is passed within a reasonable time, that is, within two years from date of arrival in India. Promotion to the rank of Assistant Engineer, 2nd grade, will in no case be made until the test has been passed.

5. It is not intended that those Coopers Hill Engineers who come out to India after passing their College course shall undergo a course of practical training in this country; but, as their successful training is most likely to be secured by placing them immediately on arrival in responsible charge of work under experienced Engineers, they will in the first instance be posted to administrations where large engineering works are in progress, or are likely to commence for employment on such works. They will not necessarily be posted on first arrival to the particular Province or Branch of the Department, in which the choice, they were permitted to exercise on leaving the College, would entitle them to serve. But, if otherwise posted, they will, as a rule, on completion of their first year in the country, be transferred to the Province or list of their original choice.

6. Local Governments and Administrations will report on the 1st of July of each year the large engineering works in progress, or likely to be commenced, to enable the Government of India to arrange the posting of these officers on arrival in India.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Resolution be communicated to the Local Governments, Administrations and Officers noted on the margin for information and guidance, and that it be published in Part I of the *Gazette of India*.

The Governments of Madras and Bombay, Public Works Department' General and Railway Branches.
The Governments of Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Punjab.
The Government of Burma, Public Works Department, General and Railway Branches.
The Chief Commissioners of the Central Provinces, Assam and Coorg.
The Resident at Hyderabad.
The Agents to the Governor General for Rajputana, Central India and Baluchistan.
The Accountant General, Public Works Department,
The Director-General of Railways.
The Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Railways, Calcutta, Lucknow and Assam.

G. Gulwalkar

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

G. C. Press, Simla.—No. 936 P. W. D.—2-9-97.—1,322.

To

The Joint Secy to the Govt of Madras
P.W. Department, Railway Branch

Form No. 1.

Reminders.

*Reply No.*_____

*dated*_____

No.

*Madras,*_____ 189

From

THE CONSULTING ENGINEER FOR RAILWAYS,

MADRAS,

To

THE AGENT AND MANAGER, M. RY.
,, ,, S. I. RY.
~~,, ,, H. H. THE N. G. S. RY.~~
,, ,, AND CHIEF ENGR., N. RY.
,, ,, S. M. RY.
,, ENGR.-IN-CHIEF, B. M. RY.
,, ~~MANAGER~~, E. C. RY.

SIR,

With reference to para 6 of Govt of India Resolution No: 2352 G 7-9-97— communicated to you with P. O No: 6390 7th Sept 1897, I have the honour to request that you will be so good as to furnish this office with the necessary report not later than the 15th inst in regard to large engineering works in progress or likely to be commenced.

How are not first works Letter need not issue

D.

Submitted for orders as to whether Agents may be addressed. The construction of the Calicut-Cannanore & Goodalur-Ramipet extensions are going on but it is doubtful whether these can be called "large engineering works".

7/6/98