

Pension (1898) Department
Government {1898} of Madras.

PUBLIC.

Current No 989



Recd. 5th Dec^r
Regd. " } 1898.

Enclosures —

Spare copies /

G.O., No. 1424, 25th November 1898.

NOVEMBER.

Public Servants.

Directing that the copies of the addendum to the pamphlet containing the Rules and Orders of the Governor-General in Council regulating the conduct of — be forwarded, when received, to departments of the Secretariat and to heads of departments under the Chief Secretary.

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Order, 7th Decr. 1898 No 906.

Recorded

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21/11/98

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper :—

From H. LUSON, Esq., Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department (Public), to the Superintendent of Government Printing, India, dated Simla, 16th November 1898, No. 2324.

In continuation of Home Department letter, No. 1510, dated the 19th July 1897, I am directed to request that 13,600 copies may be struck off of the accompanying Addendum to the second edition of the pamphlet containing Rules and Orders of the Governor-General in Council regulating the conduct of public servants in respect to borrowing money, receipt of complimentary addresses and other matters. The copies should be supplied direct from the press to the different Local Governments and Administrations and Departments of the Government of India in accordance with the appended Distribution List.

No. 2325.

Copy forwarded to Local Governments and Administrations for information (* in continuation of endorsements Nos. 1511—19, dated the 19th July 1897).

(* Omit to Hyderabad.)

(By order.)

(Signed) H. LUSON,
Dy. Secy. to the Govt. of India.

To the Government of Madras.

ENCLOSURES.

ADDENDUM

TO THE

PAMPHLET (second edition) containing the Rules and Orders of the Governor-General in Council regulating the conduct of public servants in respect of borrowing money, &c., circulated in 1891 (*vide* Home Department endorsement No. 9-Public—589-603, dated the 23rd March 1891).

Insert the following at page 19 of the pamphlet after the entry No. 12 :—

From the Right Hon'ble Lord GEORGE FRANCIS HAMILTON, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor-General of India in Council, dated 6th October 1898, No. 144 (Public).

I have received your letter of the 14th July, with enclosures, relating to a speech delivered by Mr. A. B.

2. It appears that Mr. A. B. made what is said to have conveyed the impression of being "an attack of a deliberate and somewhat violent character on the policy and proceedings of the Government."

3. It is not surprising that this action on the part of Mr. A. B. should at once have attracted the serious notice of his official superiors, or that he should have found it necessary, within eight days of the delivery of the speech, to express his deep regret for his conduct. This apology your Government thought well to accept, and your acceptance was communicated to him.

4. In these circumstances I have no intention of commenting on this particular incident, so far as it affects Mr. A. B. individually. But I think it right, while fully recognising that every officer is entitled to form and to hold his own opinion on public matters, to record my entire agreement with the Lieutenant-Governor's statement of the rules which must govern the conduct of Government servants in India. It should be distinctly understood that (to use his words) "a member of the Government service is not at liberty to make an attack upon what he knows or believes to be the policy or procedure deliberately approved by the Government," and that "it is no justification of such attack that he is actuated by conscientious motives or has a strong conviction of the correctness of his own judgment." I will add, further, that it is improper for an officer to convey to the public, whether in writing, or in a speech or otherwise, any opinion upon matters of Government policy which are, or likely to become, the subject of public discussion. It is, of course, inevitable that cases must from time to time occur in which the decisions of Government do not commend themselves to the officers who may have to carry them out. On such occasion the officers in question, after making proper representations to their official superiors, have only two courses open to them, namely, either to acquiesce loyally and silently in the decision of the responsible authorities, or to resign their positions in the service.

5. I am glad to have had of late more than one opportunity of stating publicly my high appreciation of the loyalty and self-devotion of the Indian Civil Service. Those qualities have never been more conspicuous than during recent years of difficult and anxious labour. But a clear understanding that the rules to which I have referred are in existence, and will be strictly enforced, can only tend to increase the efficiency of that service; and I request that your Excellency will take such steps as may seem to you advisable to make my views generally known, and to ensure that improprieties, such as that which you have on this occasion thought fit to condone, shall not be repeated in future.

Distribution List.

						Copies.
The Government of Madras	..	..	..	..	..	1,500

ORDER—No. 1424, Public, dated 25th November 1898.

Copies of the addendum to the pamphlet will, when received, be forwarded to departments of the Secretariat and to heads of departments under the Chief Secretary in continuation of G.O., No. 1020, Public, dated 2nd August 1897.

(True Extract.)

for Chief Secretary.

To departments of the Secretariat.
„ all heads of departments under the Chief Secretary.

Ed. C. M. Thambuswamy.