G.S.R. 367. In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to article 309 and clause (5) of article 148 of the Constitution and after consultation with the Controller and Auditor General of India in relation to persons serving in the Indian Audit and Accounts Department, the President hereby makes the following rules further to amend the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, namely:

1. (1) These rules may be called the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Amendment Rules, 1996.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. In the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964,-

(a) in rule 13, for sub-rules (2) to (6), the following sub-rules shall be substituted namely:-

"(2) On occasions such as weddings, anniversaries, funerals or religious functions, when the making of gift is in conformity with the prevailing religious and social practice, a Government servant may accept gifts from his near relatives or from his personal friends having no official dealings with him, but shall take a report to the Government, if the value of such gift exceeds-

(i) rupees five thousand in the case of a Government servant holding any Group 'A' post;

(ii) rupees three thousand in the case of a Government servant holding any Group 'B' post;

(iii) rupees one thousand in the case of a Government servant holding any Group 'C' post; and

(iv) rupees five hundred in the case of a Government servant holding any Group 'D' post.

(3) In any other case, a Government servant shall not accept any gift without the sanction of the Government if the value exceeds-

(i) rupees one thousand in the case of Government servants holding any Group "A" or Group "B" post; and

(ii) rupees two hundred and fifty in the case of
(4) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rules (1) and (3), a Government servant, being a member of an Indian delegation or otherwise, may receive and retain gifts from foreign dignitaries if the market value of gifts received on one occasion does not exceed rupees one thousand. In all other cases, the acceptance and retention of such gifts shall be regulated by the instructions issued by the Government in this regard from time to time.

(5) A Government servant shall not accept any gifts from any foreign firm which is either contracting with the Government of India or is one with which the Government servant has or is likely to have official dealings. Acceptance of gifts by a Government servant from any other firm shall be subject to the provisions of sub-rule (3).

(b) in rule 15, in sub-rule (1), after clause (e), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:

"(f) participate in or associate himself in any manner in the making of -

(i) a sponsored media (radio or television) programme; or

(ii) a media programme commissioned by Government media but produced by a private agency; or

(iii) a privately produced media programme including video magazine.

Provided that no previous permission shall be necessary in case where the Government servant participates in a programme produced or commissioned by Government media in his official capacity.";

(c) after rule 15, the following rule shall be inserted, namely:

"15-A. Sub-letting and vacation of Government accommodation.

(1) Save as otherwise provided in any other law for the time being in force, no Government servant shall sub-let, lease or otherwise allow occupation by any other person of Government accommodation which has been allotted to him.

(2) A Government servant shall, after the cancellation of his allotment of Government accommodation vacate the same within the time limit prescribed by the allotting authority.";

(d) in rule 16, for sub-rules (1) and (2), the following sub-rules shall be substituted, namely:

"(1) No Government servant shall speculate in any share or other investment:

Provided that nothing in this sub-rule shall apply to occasional investments made through stock brokers or to other persons duly authorised and licensed or who have
obtained a certificate of registration under the relevant law.

Explanation.- Frequent purchase or sale or both, of shares, securities or other investments shall be deemed to be speculation within the meaning of this sub-rule.

(2) No Government servant shall make, or permit any member of his family or any person acting on his behalf to make, any investment which is likely to embarrass or influence him in the discharge of his official duties. For this purpose, any purchase of shares out of the quotas reserved for Directors of Companies or their friends and associates shall be deemed to be an investment which is likely to embarrass the Government servant.

(e) in rule 18, in sub-rule (3), for the abbreviations and figures "Rs.10,000/-" and "Rs.5,000/-", the abbreviations and figures 'Rs.15,000' and 'Rs.10,000' shall respectively be substituted.

(KRISHNA MENON)
DEPUTY SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NOTE: The Principal rules were published in the Gazette of India vide Ministry of Home Affairs Notification No.15/4/63-Estt.(A) dated 30th Nov., 1964 and subsequently amended vide:

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(KRISHNA MENON)
DEPUTY SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA