

New Delhi-2, the 28th February, 1955.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Joining of educational institutions by Government servants outside normal office hours.
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It has been brought to the notice of this Ministry on behalf of Government servants belonging to Scheduled castes/Scheduled tribes, that certain Ministries/Departments do not permit members of their staff belonging to these communities to join educational institutions outside the normal office hours.

2. As the Ministries are aware, it was proposed in this Ministry's Office Memorandum No.25/27/52-Ests, dated the 3rd May, 1952 to issue general instructions on the subject. The replies received to that Office Memorandum, however, revealed that while some Departments found that efficiency was suffering on account of Government servants attending regular course of study for University Degrees even outside office hours, a great majority of the Ministries was able to permit their employees to pursue such studies without detriment to official duties and that no serious problems had been created in most of Departments by Government servants joining educational institutions. It was not, therefore, considered necessary to issue any specific instructions on the subject. Ordinarily, there can be no objection to the pursuit of knowledge by Government servants in their leisure hours. But this must be subject to the condition that such pursuit does in no way detract from their efficiency. Wherever found necessary, the administrative authorities may require that Government servants under their control should take prior permission before joining educational institutions or courses of studies for University Degrees, as the joining of educational institutions involves advance commitment about attendance at specific hours and absence from duty during periods of Examinations. Ordinarily, permission is to be granted, but with a view to summarily dealing with cases where it is noticed that the Government servant has been neglecting his duties for the sake of his studies a condition may be attached saying that the permission may be withdrawn at any moment without assigning reason. This will, of course, be without prejudice to any other departmental action being taken where mere withdrawal of the permission is not considered adequate.

3. Government servants belonging to the scheduled castes/tribes may be allowed to take full advantage of the educational facilities subject to the policy stated above.

4. These instructions have been issued with the concurrence of the Comptroller and Auditor General in so far as persons serving under him are concerned.

K. N. Subbanna

(K.N. Subbanna)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

To

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Copy to all Sections

M.K.
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