

No.25/29/66-Ests.(A)
Government of India.
Ministry of Home Affairs.

Dated, the 21st 21st January, 67.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Practice of untouchability by Government servants-
Instructions regarding.

The undersigned is directed to say that the Ministry of Home Affairs have issued instructions, vide Office Memorandum No. 70/17/61-Ests.(A) dated 8.12.61 (copy enclosed), impressing upon Government servants the need to strictly abide by the provisions of Article 17 of the Constitution and the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, and also to set an example to others in the matter of complete elimination of the practice of untouchability in any form. It was also stressed that very serious notice would be taken of the practice of untouchability in Government offices and by Government servants and that if a Government servant conducted himself in such a way as would amount to violation of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, such conduct on his part would constitute a good and sufficient reason for imposition of a suitable penalty prescribed in the appropriate rules of control and discipline.

2. It has recently been suggested to Government that Government servants should be asked to take a pledge that they would not observe 'untouchability'. The suggestion has been considered carefully and it has been decided that no such pledge need be prescribed for Government servants, as they are already required to take an oath of allegiance to the Constitution, article 17 of which forbids the practice of untouchability in any form. It is, however, considered necessary to reiterate the policy of Government in regard to the practice of untouchability. Ministry of Finance, etc., are, therefore, requested to bring the contents of this Ministry's O.M. No.70/17/61-Ests.(A) dated 8.12.61 to the notice of all Government servants once again and also make it clear to them that a Government servant who is found guilty of the practice of untouchability in any form will be considered unfit for the public service and disciplinary action will be taken against him.

3. In so far as persons serving in the Indian Audit and Accounts Department are concerned, this issues in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Encl: as above.

RMSHroff..

(R.M. Shroff)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

To

All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India etc. with usual number of spare copies.

- P.T.O.

No.25/29/55-Ests(A)

dated, the 21st January, 1967

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India, New Delhi with 200 spare copies.
2. Union Public Service Commission, New Delhi, with 10 spare copies.
3. Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities, Allahabad.
4. Central Vigilance Commission, New Delhi, with 5 spare copies.
5. Administrative Reforms Commission, New Delhi, with 5 spare copies.
6. Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, New Delhi.
7. All Union Territory Administrations.
8. All Zonal Councils .
9. All Vigilance Officers.
10. All Attached and Subordinate Offices of the Ministry of Home Affairs

Rmshroff ..

(R.M.Shroff)

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Copy to all Officers (Under Secretary and above) and Sections of the Ministry of Home Affairs.