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Government of Orissa
General Administration Department.

No.2R/1-12/97(Pt-II). 2702 /Gen., Bhubaneswar, Dt. 4.10.97

From: Shri H.S. Chahar, IAS,
Special Secretary to Government.

To
All Principal Secretaries to Government /
All Commissioners-cum-Secretaries to Government /
All Heads of Departments /
All Collectors.

Sub: Code of conduct of Government servants in
connection with Press and Elected Repre-
ntatives.

Sir,

I am directed to say that Rule 7 of the Orissa
Government Servants' Conduct Rules, 1959 lays down that

No Government servant shall, in any radio broadcast
or in any document published anonymously or in his own name or
in the name of any other person or any communication to the
press, or in any public utterance make any statement of fact or
opinion -

(i) which has the effect of an adverse criticism of
any current or recent policy or action of the Government of
Orissa the Government of India or the Government of any other
State; or

(ii) which is capable of embarrassing the relation
between the Government of Orissa and the Government of India
or the Government of any other State: or

(iii) which is capable of embarrassing the relation
between the Government of India and the Government of any
foreign State :

Provided that nothing in this rule shall apply
to the statement made or views expressed by a Government
servant in his official capacity or in the due performance of
the duties assigned to him.

(Contd...)

Explanation 1-Nothing contained in this rule shall be construed to limit or abridge the power of the Government to require any Government servant to publish and explain any policy or action of the Government in such manner as may appear to them to be expedient or necessary.

Explanation FI - For purposes of this rule a club shall be deemed to be a public place."

Similar provisions have also been made in the Rule 7 of All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1968.

Further in Book Circular No.47 dated 10.7.90 detailed instructions have been issued regarding the principles to be followed to maintain cordial relationship between the Members of Parliament and State Legislators and Government Servants.

But it has come to the notice of the Government that the above instructions are not being followed scrupulously. It is once again, therefore, brought to the notice of all Government Servants that Members of Parliament and State Legislators occupy very important place as representatives of the people. It should be part of the duty of every official to extend courtesies and provide adequate assistance to the Members to enable them to fulfil their obligations to the people. No Government servant should make statements or give opinion in public criticising the functioning of the Government or elected Representatives.

(Contd...P-3)

