

MEMORANDUM.

Bhubaneswar, the 8th April, 1958.

Sub:- Participation by Government servants in  
Proselytism - Instructions regarding.

The question has been raised whether a specific provision should be added to the Government Servants' conduct Rules to prohibit Government servants from taking part in proselytising activities.

The constitution of India is based on the principle of a secular state and expressly prohibits any discrimination in favour of or against any person or classes of persons on religions grounds. It follows that though servants of the State are entitled in their private lives freely to profess, practise or propagate any religion, they should so conduct themselves in public as to leave no room for an impression to arise that they are likely in their official dealings to favour persons belonging to any particular religion. Such an impression is bound to arise in respect of Government servant who participates in bringing about or organising conversions from one religion to another and such conduct would be even more reprehensible if in the process, he makes use directly or indirectly of his official position or influence.

As such cases are not likely to be very frequent, it has been decided that no specific provision need be added to the existing conduct Rules. Nevertheless, participating in proselytising activities or the direct or indirect use of official position and influence in such activities on the part of a Government servant may be treated as good & sufficient reasons for taking disciplinary action against him under the Civil Services (Classification, control and Appeal) Rules.

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These instructions will also apply to the members of the All India Services.

P.S. Habeeb Mohammed.

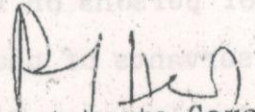
Under Secretary to Government.

Memo No. 5001 (82) Gen.,  
2R/1-14/58

Dated. 9/4/58

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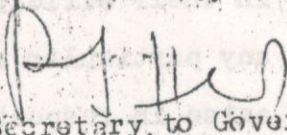
Officers or Officers subordinate to them may be informed accordingly.

  
Under Secretary to Government

Memo No. 5082 (143) /Gen.,

Dated. 9/4/58

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Under Secretary to Government.

Nb/8/4/-