

Copy of Circular letter No. 6375-GS-61/23734, dated the 6th July, 1961, from the Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab to all Heads of the Departments, etc., etc.

**Subject :—Formation of Co-operative Societies by Government Servent.**

I am directed to say that the proviso to rule 12 of the Government Servants Conduct Rules 1955 enjoins that a Government servant may in accordance with the provisions of any general or special order of the Government take part in promotion, registration or management of a Co-operative Society registered under the Co-operative Societies Act, 1912 (II of 1912), or under any similar State Law. No general or special order as envisaged in the above rule has so far been issued. On the other hand, Thrift and Credit Societies of Government servants are in existence and functioning in various Departments without such Government servants having obtained previous sanction of the Government. Government has been advised that in the absence of any general or special order in this behalf, it is necessary for a Government servant to take previous sanction of Government to join a Co-operative Society. This position should, therefore be brought to the notice of all Government servants working under your control.

2. It has, however, been represented to the Government that if formal sanction is taken in individual cases, the enrolment of members of Co-operative Societies, Canteens and Stores will receive a set-back and this will not be desirable in view of Government policy to encourage such Co-operative Societies among Government servants to enable them to derive benefit from the Co-operative movement. Government have carefully considered this proposition and decided to exempt all Government servants generally from the operation of rule 12 of the Government Servant Conduct Rules, 1955 in so far as the following types of Co-operative Societies formed by Government servants are concerned :—

- (i) Service Co-operatives.
- (ii) Salary-earners Co-operative Thrift and Credit Societies.
- (iii) House Building Societies.
- (iv) Co-operative Stores and Canteens.
- (v) Co-operative Societies connected with Social Welfare or educational work.

These orders may as well be brought to the notice of all Government servants working under you.