

Copy of letter No. 16935-GS-60/1295, dated the 23rd January, 1961, from the Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, to all Heads of Departments, etc. etc.

*Subject :— Celebration of marriages —Permission for.*

I am directed to bring to your notice that complaints have been made to Government that some officers, while celebrating the marriage of sons or daughters at the place of their posting, take undue advantage of their position in collecting material and arranging amenities. This practice brings a bad name to the official machine and to Government and it has now been decided that an officer who wants to celebrate the marriage of his son or daughter or other relation at the place of his posting should invariably obtain the prior permission of the appointing authority and where the appointing authority happens to be Government, then of the Administrative Secretary concerned. Such permission will not be required if the marriage is to be celebrated at the headquarters of the Government, i.e. Chandigarh or in the village or the town to which the officer himself belongs. In the case of displaced officers, who do not possess property anywhere in the Punjab, permission to celebrate the marriage in any particular place will still be necessary.

2. As regards leave for the celebration of the marriage, Government have decided that it should be applied for the officer concerned if he thinks it necessary, and will be granted to the extent administratively feasible.

3. I am also directed to emphasize that in order to avoid public criticism officers should when performing the marriage of their sons or daughters or other dependents, scrupulously avoid the use of their official position in the collection of material or arranging amenities through their staff or members of the public with whom they are directly or indirectly concerned in the discharge of their duties as Government servants. Officers should also not accept gifts and presents from such persons. In this connection, attention is invited to the provisions contained in rule 3 of the Government Servants Conduct Rules, 1955, and rule 10 of the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1954, which should be observed scrupulously by all the officers.

4. I am to request that these instructions be brought to the notice of all persons working under you for compliance.