

MOST IMMEDIATE

Secretary

Special Officer

Entry No.

Page No.

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08/9/20

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No.SO (I&C) 5-23/2020

**GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
SERVICES & GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT
(IMPLEMENTATION & COORDINATION WING)**

Dated Lahore, the 29th August, 2020

1. The Senior Member Board of Revenue, Punjab, Lahore.
2. The Chairman, Planning & Development Board, Punjab, Lahore.
3. The Inspector General of Police, Punjab, Lahore.
4. Secretary/Military Secretary to Governor, Punjab, Lahore.
5. The Additional Inspector General, Special Branch, Punjab, Lahore.
6. The Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Punjab, Lahore.
7. The Secretary (Coordination), Chief Minister's Office, Punjab, Lahore.
8. All Administrative Secretaries, Govt. of the Punjab.
9. All Divisional Commissioners in the Punjab.
10. All the Regional Police Officers, Punjab.
11. All the Deputy Commissioners in the Punjab.
12. All the District Police Officers in the Punjab.
13. The Secretary to Provincial Ombudsman, Punjab, Lahore.
14. The Director General, Public Relations, Punjab, Lahore.
15. The Director (Archives), S&GA Department.
16. PSs to all Provincial Ministers/ACS/Secretary (I&C), S&GA Department.
17. The Superintendent, Government Printing Press, Punjab, Lahore.

Subject: - **INSTRUCTIONS UNDER PUNJAB CIVIL SERVANTS (CONDUCT) RULES, 1966 REGARDING PROCEDURE FOR PARTICIPATION IN ELECTRONIC, PRINT AND SOCIAL PLATFORMS.**

It has been observed that Government Servants participate in electronic, print and digital social media platforms to air their views on a variety of subjects without observing formal adherence to the procedural requirement under Punjab Civil Servants (Conduct) Rules, 1966.

2. Under the Punjab Civil Servants (Conduct) Rules, 1966, no government servant can participate in any media platforms, except with the express permission of the Competent Authority. Rules 20, 21, 22, 25-A, 25-B of the Punjab Civil Servants (Conduct) Rules, 1966 bar the government servants from expressing views against policy or ideology of Pakistan, which may harm the security of Pakistan or friendly relations with foreign states, offend public order, decency or morality, or amount to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence, besides propagation of sectarian creeds, and also places a bar on

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government servants from taking part in any public demonstration directed against a government decision or policy. However, it also stipulates that seeking prior approval is not mandatory if a contribution is of purely literary, artistic or scientific character.

3. Furthermore, the Rules *ibid* bar a government servant from making any statement of fact or opinion which is capable of embarrassing the Government in any document published or in any communication made to the press or in any public utterance or television programme or in any radio broadcast delivered by him. Also, Rule 18 bars the government servant from communicating any official document or information to a Government servant unauthorized to receive it or to a non-official person or to the press.

4. In this regard, a reference dated 23.07.2020 has also been received from the Establishment Division on the above subject (copy enclosed) where upon the Chief Minister Punjab is pleased to direct that all civil servants must observe the provisions of the Punjab Civil Servants (Conduct) Rules, 1966 in true letter and spirit. These may, therefore, be circulated to all government servants belonging to all the occupational cadres falling under the purview of Punjab Government. Any departure from or violation of these instructions will tantamount to misconduct, and is liable to be proceeded against relevant rules.

5. All Administrative Secretaries / Heads of the Departments are requested to ensure implementation of the above rules.

6. This may kindly be treated as '**Top Priority**'.


(JAWWAD RIFIQUE MALIK)
CHIEF SECRETARY, PUNJAB

CC: -

1. Mr. Salman Mufti, Joint Secretary (D), Government of Pakistan, Cabinet Secretariat, Establishment Division, Islamabad w/r to his circular letter No. 1/20/1976-D-3 dated 23.07.2020.