

2. The matter has been reviewed in the context of the provisions contained in the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961. Section 2 of this Act defines dowry as 'any property or valuable security given or agreed to be given directly or indirectly by one party to a marriage to the other party to the marriage, or by the parents of either party to a marriage or by any other person, to either party to the marriage or to any other person at or before or after the marriage as consideration for the marriage of the said parties, but does not include dower or mahar in the case of persons to whom the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) applies'. For removal of doubts, Explanation I below Section 2 of that Act declares that any presents made at the time of marriage to either party to the marriage in the form of cash, ornaments clothes or other articles, shall not be deemed to be dowry within the meaning of this Section, unless they are made as consideration for the marriage of the said parties'. Persons who are guilty of giving or taking or abetting the giving or taking of dowry, or demanding any dowry, directly or indirectly, from the parents or guardian of a bride or bride groom, as the case may be, are liable to the punishments prescribed in Sections 3 and 4 of the said Act. In the circumstances, Railway servants should not give or take or abet the giving or taking of dowry; nor should they demand dowry, directly or indirectly, from the parents or guardian of a bride or bridegroom, as the case may be. Dowry can, therefore, no longer be treated as a 'customary gift' as has been stated in Board's letter dated 25-4-1957 referred to in para. 1 above. Any violation of the provisions of Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, by a Railway servant will constitute a good and sufficient reason for instituting disciplinary proceedings against him, in addition to such legal action as may be taken against him in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

3. Receipt of presents by Railway servants at the time of their marriage, in the form of cash, ornaments, clothes or other articles, otherwise than as consideration for marriage, from relatives and personal friends, will be regulated by sub-rules (3) and (4) of Rule 13 of the Railway Services (Conduct) Rules, 1966. The receipt of such presents, from persons other than relatives and personal friends, will be regulated by sub-rule (1) of Rule 13 *ibid* read with sub-Rule (5) thereof. Purchases of items of movable property of giving presents at the time of marriage will be regulated by Rule 18 (3) of the Railway Services (Conduct) Rules, 1966, like any other transaction in movable property.

4. Board's letter No. E(D & A), 57 GSI-II, 25-4-1957 may be treated as cancelled.

Serial No. 3442.—Circular No. 831E/321-II(Eiv), dated 21-5-1966.

Sub.—Advance correction slip No. 141 to the Indian Railway Establishment Manual.

A copy of Railway Board's letter No. E(NG)65AGI/2, dated 18-4-1966 together with advance correction slip No. 141 received therewith is forwarded for information and guidance.

Copy of Railway Board's letter No. E(NG)65AGI/2, dated 18-4-1966 to G. Ms., All Indian Railways, etc.

Sub.—Form of Service Agreement for Class III staff.

Reference Railway Board's letter No. E(NG)61AGI/3, dated 23-8-1963 regarding the form of service agreement for Class III staff on the Railways. The Board decided that clause 3 of Form 4 in the Supplement to the Indian Railways Establishment Manual, Appendix 9, 1960 Edition, may be substituted as in the Advance Correction Slip No. 141 attached.

This has the sanction of the President.

The receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged.

Supplement to the I.R. Establishment Manual Appendix 9.

Advance Correction Slip No. 141.

Appendix 9—Form No. 4.

Service Agreement for Class III Railway servants.

Substitute the following for clause 3 of this agreement :—

23. The Railway servant shall be subject to the following condition of service namely :—

“that the Administration has full power and authority at any time to dismiss the Railway servant, or reduce him in rank or remove him as a disciplinary measure, after compliance with the provisions of Clause (2) of Article 311 of the Constitution of India or otherwise punish the Railway servant according to the rules of the service in which he is for the time being employed”.

(Railway Board's letter No. E(NG)65AC1/2, dated 18-4-1966).

Serial No. 3443.—Circular No. 831-E/81-IV(Eiv), dated 23-5-1966.

Sub.—Recognition of degrees/diplomas awarded by Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal, as equivalent to the corresponding degrees/diplomas awarded by an Indian University for purposes of employment under the Central Government.

A copy of the Ministry of Home Affairs' O.M. No. F.6/6/64-Estt. D, dated 11-3-1966 received under Railway Board's letter No. E(NG66RR1/6, dated 11-4-66 is forwarded for information and guidance.

Copy of Ministry of Home Affairs' O.M. No. F. 6/6/64-Estt. D, dated 11-3-66 addressed to all Ministries of the Govt. of India including Railway Board etc.

Sub.—As above.

The undersigned is directed to say that the Government of India have decided, in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission, to recognise the degrees/diplomas awarded by the Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal, as equivalent to the corresponding degrees/diplomas awarded by an Indian University, for purposes of employment under the Central Government. The above recognition is valid up to 31-12-1970.

2. These orders have been issued in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in so far as their application to the members of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department is concerned.