

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE MALAYAN UNION

REGISTRAR'S CIRCULAR NO.17/1946

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES*

I am directed to inform you that certain cases have been disclosed in which Government employees are engaged in commercial undertakings which may possibly conflict with their duties as Government servants.

2. Although a Government servant's time is theoretically wholly at the service of Government it is not suggested that he should be entirely debarred from entering into legitimate transactions which are not likely to absorb his time and energy and which do not and are not likely to affect his duties to his employer.

3. For example if a Government employee keeps fowls there is no reason why he should not sell their eggs if by so doing he is not brought into opposition with his work. The underlying principle is that in engaging in any activity of a commercial character extraneous to his work, no breath of suspicion must attach to a Government servant.

4. I am therefore to ask that employees of this department should disclose to me through the Assistant Registrars and District Judges whether they are concerned in any business or professional activity outside their ordinary work.

5. Nil returns should be rendered and if any positive returns are received I shall consider and advise those concerned whether I think that they are or are not conforming with the spirit of General Orders.

Sd:
REGISTRAR

The Registry,
Supreme Court,
Malayan Union,
Kuala Lumpur. 19th August, 1946.

(RSC.226/1946)