

Tele : 3377165

Air Headquarters
Vayu Bhawan
New Delhi-110011

Air HQ/ 23407/1305/PS

18 Jun 02

HQ WAC, IAF }
HQ EAC, IAF }
HQ CAC, IAF }
HQ SWAC, IAF } For CPSOs/SPSOs
HQ SAC, IAF }
HQ TC, IAF }
HQ MC, IAF }

LEAKAGE OF SENSITIVE INFORMATION ON SERVICE MATTERS TO PRINT MEDIA

1. Instances have come to the notice of this HQ that wives/children of some of the serving Air Force Personnel employed as regular/free lance journalists are disclosing sensitive/confidential information to the print/electronic media.
2. It is to be noted that existing regulations prohibit disclosure of sensitive/service information to print/media in any form. No person subject to Air Force Act shall publish or cause to be published any book or letter or article or other document on such matters or containing such information without the previous sanction of the Central Govt. This restriction is amply described in Section 21 of the Air Force Act 1950 read with Rule 21 of the Air Force Rules 1969. Further, as per para 598 of the Regs for the Air Force 1964, (Revised Edition) an officer or airman will be held responsible for all statements contained in communication to his relatives or friends on any service information or his views on service matters which may be subsequently published in the press.
3. In view of the above, all personnel working under your Command may be apprised through a confidential order/ Stn Standing orders of their responsibility to suitably instill a sense of propriety in the conduct of the spouse and dependent children with particular reference to communication with press or media. Besides they also should not communicate/vent their feelings in public/media in any manner which may jeopardize the security or have an adverse impact on the morale of the personnel. If such spouse or dependents of service personnel publish any sensitive/confidential service information it will be deemed that such information was passed/published at the behest of the service personnel. It may also be emphasized that besides the service personnel, spouse/dependent members of his family are also liable to be proceeded against under the Indian Official Secret Act 1923.
4. Kindly confirm.

(GD Sharma)

Gp Capt
D P S
For A O A

Copy to :

All Units under Air HQ

NDC

CAW

NDA

DSSC

DG RCPO

HQ ANC

Internal Copy to :

AA to CAS

SO to VCAS

SO to DCAS

SO to AOP

SO to AOA

SO to AOM

SO to IG

All BCOs