

Government Circular, No. 46.

(CONFIDENTIAL; for Government Officers only.)



## The Official Secrets Act, 1911.

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The attention of all Officers paid out of the General Revenue of the Island is called to the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts, 1911.

The Act "inter alia" imposes heavy penalties on a person, who having in his possession or control, owing to his present or previous official position, any sketch, plan, model, article, note, document, or information communicates the same to any person other than a person to whom he is authorized to communicate it.

His Excellency, The Lieutenant-Governor wishes to impress upon all public officers in this connection the duty not only of never making any unauthorized communications directly or indirectly to representatives of the Press in reference to matters which have become known to them in the course of their official duties, but also of abstaining from mentioning such matters to anyone outside the Public Service in such circumstances as to incur a risk of their being made public. It is a recognised rule that no official information may be communicated to public journals without the sanction of the responsible heads of departments, and anyone infringing this regulation renders himself liable to instant dismissal. This includes not merely actual publication, but also the furnishing of information which is published by others.

By Order,

Government Office,  
Isle of Man.

B. E. SARGEAUNT,  
Government Secretary.

*27th June, 1913.*