

Government of Gujarat,
Home Department,
Circular No. ASN-3276-9380-N,
Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar,
Dated :23rd November, 1976.

C I R C U L A R :- Article-17 of the Constitution of India abolishes Un touchability and forbids its practice in any form through out the country. The enforcing of any disability arising out of Un touchability has been made a cognizable offence under Un touchability (Offences) Act, 1955. Un touchability Act has been recently now amended by The/Un touchability (Offence) amendment and miscellaneous provision Act, hereafter known as the protection of Civil Rights Act and this comes into effect from 19th November, 1976.

It becomes now quite imperative on the part of the law enforcing agencies to see that the act is implemented effectively and properly. It is, therefore, impressed upon all police officers and staff in the field that a public servant who wilfully neglects the investigation of any offence punishable under the protection of Civil Rights Act shall be deemed to have abetted an offence punishable under the act. The Police Officers in the field are also requested to guide and suitably instruct the subordinate staff regarding the non-compoundable nature of Un touchability Offences.

Government has decided to have an intensive drive to ensure that public wells in each and every village of Gujarat are open to Harijans. In the first instance, a campaign for one month should be started which should further be continued by the village officers i.e. Sarpanch of the Village, Talati and Police Patel to see that the Harijans have access to public wells and each water works. Notwithstanding any arrangement of a separate well for Harijans their right of access to the public water wells or water facilities should be enforced. The Police Inspector, Talati, Police Patel will be held personally responsible if there is any lacuna on their part in the enforcement of

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the Government drive. During the drive special attention

should be paid to villages which are known for anti

Harijan attitude.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Gujarat,

Talati, Police Patel will be held personally responsible

if there is any lapse on their part in the enforcement of

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N.N.Mehta,
Deputy Secretary to the Government
of Gujarat, Home Department.

TO:

The Inspector General of Police, Gujarat State, Ahmedabad.

Copy with compliments to:

The Additional Inspector General of Police, Gujarat state,
Ahmedabad.

All District Magistrates.

All District Superintendents of Police.

The Superintendent of Police, Western Railway, Baroda.

ST/23/11