

THE LAW OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE

(as applied by Administrative Tribunals)

By C. F. Amerasinghe *

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This treatise deals with a new and rapidly developing branch of International Law, which has not hitherto been the subject of a major work. The continuing proliferation of international organisations and the greatly increased number of civil servants employed by them have underlined the urgency of developing the legal machinery and conceptual apparatus necessary for handling this vast system.

As Dr Amerasinghe notes, the League of Nations employed no more than a few hundred civil servants while today a single institution like the World Bank alone has more than six thousand persons in its employment. The United Nations itself is a vast organisation and its numerous associated organisations, not to speak of the various other international agencies, are major employers by any standards. What is the law that governs their employees?

The problems involved are of special interest to developing countries in many ways. They are often the site of large international organisations, and as these organisations multiply, proposals come to them from time to time to be the host country of such organisations. Even more importantly many developing countries, and perhaps Sri Lanka in particular, provide significant numbers of

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