

Copy of Punjab Government Circular letter No. 140-2-GSI-65/5259, dated 4th March, 1965, from the Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab to all Heads of Departments, etc., etc.

*Subject:—*Possession by Government employees or by any other person on their behalf of pecuniary resources of property disproportionate to their known sources of income.

I am directed to say that a presumption of corruption fairly and reasonably arises against an officer who cannot account for large accretion of wealth which he could not possibly have saved from his known sources of income. This principle has received statutory recognition in section 5 (3) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947, and its application in a departmental enquiry against an officer charged with corruption could not, therefore, be unjust or inequitable. In fact, this principle has recently been up-held by the Supreme Court in the case of *Shri G.R. Mankar versus Union of India* (Civil Appeal No. 160 of 1963)

2. You are, therefore, requested to ensure that, in a departmental enquiry against an officer charged with corruption and found to be in possession of assets disproportion to his known sources of income, the Presenting Officer concerned bring the legal position, as set out in para 1 above, to the notice of the Enquiring officer.

3. Punjab Government's letter No. 4167-2GS-63/9945, dated the 28th March, 1963, may be treated as cancelled.

4. These instructions should be brought to the notice of all government employees working under you.

5. The receipt of this letter may please be acknowledged.