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**THE PUNJAB DEPARTMENTAL INQUIRIES (POWERS)
ACT, 1958
(XLV of 1958)**

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TEXT

¹THE ²[PUNJAB] DEPARTMENTAL INQUIRIES (POWERS) ACT, 1958 (XLV of 1958)

[23rd September, 1958]

An Act

to confer powers for compelling attendance of witnesses and production of documents on officers conducting departmental inquiries against Government servants in the Province of ³[Punjab].

Preamble.— WHEREAS it is expedient to confer powers to compel attendance of witnesses and production of documents on officers conducting departmental inquiries against Government servants in the Province of ⁴[Punjab];

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. Short title and extent.— (1) This Act may be called the ⁵[Punjab] Departmental Inquiries (Powers) Act, 1958.

⁶[(2) It extends to the whole of the Province of ⁷[Punjab], except the Tribal Areas.]

2. Power to summon witnesses and to compel production of documents.— An officer conducting a departmental inquiry against a Government servant under any rules for the time being in force, may exercise the same powers for compelling the attendance of witnesses ⁸[,] production of documents ⁹[and issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses] as are exercisable by a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908¹⁰:

¹For Statement of objects and reasons, see Gazette of West Pakistan 1958 (Extraordinary), p. 1118.

This Act was passed by the West Pakistan Assembly on 25th April, 1958; assented to by the Governor of West Pakistan on 20th Sep., 1958; and, published in the West Pakistan Gazette (Extraordinary), dated 23rd Sep., 1958, pages 1293-1294.

²Substituted for the word "West Pakistan" by the Punjab Laws (Adaptation) Order, 1974 (Pb. A.O. 1 of 1974); and published in the Punjab Gazette (Extraordinary), dated 20.11.1974, pages 1425-A to 1425-PP, see Article 2 and Schedule, Part III, at entry No.16 (w.e.f. 14.8.1973).

³*Ibid.*

⁴*Ibid.*

⁵*Ibid.*

⁶Substituted by the West Pakistan Laws (Extension to Karachi) Ordinance, 1964 (VII of 1964); and published in the Gazette of West Pakistan (Extraordinary), dated 10.6.1964, pages 1911-1920, s.2 and Schedule, at serial No.14.

⁷Substituted for the words "West Pakistan" by the Punjab Laws (Adaptation) Order, 1974 (Pb. A.O. 1 of 1974); and published in the Punjab Gazette (Extraordinary), dated 20.11.1974, pages 1425-A to 1425-PP, see Article 2 and Schedule, Part III, at entry No.16 (w.e.f. 14.8.1973).

⁸Substituted for the word "and", by the West Pakistan Departmental Inquiries (Powers) Amendment) Ordinance, 1961 (XI of 1961); and published in the Gazette of West Pakistan (Extraordinary), dated 17.6.1961, pages 1581-1582, s.2.

⁹Inserted *ibid.*

¹⁰V of 1908.

Provided that the process issued by the officer conducting the departmental inquiry shall be served and executed by the civil court having jurisdiction in the place where the witness or the person in possession of the document, as the case may be, resides.

3. Penalties.— Any person disobeying a process issued by an officer in exercise of the powers conferred by section 2 shall be liable to the same penalties to which he would have been liable if he had disobeyed a process issued by the civil court.

4. Repeal.— The West Pakistan Departmental Inquiries (Powers) Ordinance, 1958¹, is hereby repealed.

¹West Pakistan Ordinance XV of 1958.