

CASE STUDY

PUBLIC OFFICE HOLDER PECULATES GOVERNMENT FUNDS THROUGH UN-AUTHORIZED SPENDING TOWARDS BOGUS STORE ITEMS

MUHAMMAD ZAMAN, EX-DIRECTOR, AGRICULTURE RAWALPINDI SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS OF R.I. AND A FINE OF RS. 5 LACS ALONG WITH FORFEITURE OF ILL-GOTTEN PROPERTY WORTH RS. 10 MILLION

1. The case of Muhammad Zamam ex-Director Agriculture Rawalpindi is example of embezzlement of government funds towards accumulation of personal assets/property involving misuse of authority and malafide authorization of departmental budgetary expenditure. The accused misappropriated huge amount of state budget in connivance with his subordinate staff by way of preparation of fake quotation/bills in the name of ghost firms towards purchase of fertilizers, pesticides, fruit plants, seeds, bogus repair of vehicles and fake purchase of other store items in Rawalpindi Agriculture Extension Directorate.
2. The investigations revealed that the accused had novel methods to embezzle funds through purchase of steel chairs, shamianas, furniture items, kitchenware, office equipment through inflated billings to ghost firms. He made fake entries in official record & log book and misused government tractor on his private land in his village Dhaggal Distt. Rawalpindi. His total personal assets built during his service tenure come to Rs.10.8 million that include two houses and a residential plot in Lahore, 220 kanals agri land in his native village in Distt Rawalpindi, 13 kanals of land in Haroonabad, saving certificates and other equities worth Rs. 1.5 million.
3. The accused was supposed to promote agricultural production in his region (Rawalpindi) through provision of professional agricultural services to the farmers, which he never did. He used his professional expertise and scientific knowledge to build his personal assets and properties. At the end of the day justice had its full wheel and he sentenced to 5 years of R.I. and a fine of Rs.5 lacs along with forfeitures of ill-gotten property worth Rs.10 million.

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