

The Public Examinations (Offences) Act, 1980

(ACT NO. XLII OF 1980)

An Act to provide for the punishment of offences relating to public examinations.

WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for the punishment of offences relating to public examinations;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

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| Short title | 1. This Act may be called the Public Examinations (Offences) Act, 1980. |
| Definitions | <p>2. In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-</p> <p>(a) “Board” means a board, body, authority or institution, by whatever name called, established or constituted by or under any law for the time being in force for the organisation, regulation, supervision, control or development of education of any type;</p> <p>(b) “examination hall” means a place or premises where a public examination is held;</p> <p>(c) “examinee” means a person in whose name a written authority, by whatever name called, for admission to a public examination has been issued by a University or Board;</p> <p>(d) “public examination” means any examination that is, or may be, held, conducted, regulated or organised by a University or Board; and</p> <p>(e) “University” means a University established by or under any law for the time being in force.</p> |
| Personation at public examination | 3. Whoever,- |

(a) not being an examinee, enters the examination hall during a public examination declaring himself or holding himself out as an examinee; or

(b) appears at a public examination in the name of any other person or in a fictitious name,

shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ¹[five years and shall not be less than one year].

**Publication
or
distribution
of question
papers
before
public
examination**

4. Whoever discloses, publishes or distributes, by any means whatsoever, before any public examination is held,-

(a) any paper containing any question set for such examination; or

(b) any paper containing any question falsely purporting to be set for such examination or intending that the same may be treated as identical with any question set for such examination,

shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ²[ten years and shall not be less than three years, and shall also be liable to fine].

**Altering or
tampering
with any
marks, etc.**

5. Whoever, without any lawful authority, alters or tampers with, in any manner, any marks, mark sheet, tabulation sheet, certificate, diploma or degree relating to any public examination, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to four years, or with fine, or with both.

**Making,
etc., of false
mark sheet,
certificate,
diploma or
degree**

6. Whoever makes, prints, distributes, or uses or, without lawful excuse, has in his possession any mark sheet, certificate, diploma or degree relating to any public examination which he knows to be false or not issued by the University or Board having authority to issue the same, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ³[seven years and shall not be less than three years, and shall also be liable to fine].

**Possession
of blank
form of**

7. Whoever, without lawful excuse, has in his possession any blank form of mark sheet, certificate, diploma or degree relating to any public