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SUPREME COURT

SC Draws the Line

Stamp Vendors Held to Be Public Servants, But Bribery Conviction Quashed

Sheikh Rayees • May 3, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a judgment that reshapes the accountability net under the Prevention of Corruption Act, the Supreme Court has ruled that stamp vendors, though not government employees in the traditional sense, are very much "public servants" when they sell official stamp papers under a government license and at a government-fixed discount. The verdict came in a case involving a stamp vendor accused of charging INR2 extra for a INR10 stamp paper....

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