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Clock Starts at Control, Not Paperwork

High Court Says Arrest Memo Isn't Final Word on Detention Time ?

Sheikh Rayees • April 18, 2026

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a ruling that sharpens the line between paperwork and personal liberty, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has held that an arrest memo does not conclusively establish when a person was actually arrested. The Court underscored that the 24-hour constitutional safeguard begins the moment an individual's freedom is effectively curtailed — not when authorities decide to formalise it on paper.



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