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SUPREME COURT

Marks, Not Tenure

Supreme Court Overrules Tamil Nadu's Seniority Shortcut for Police Recruits

Sheikh Rayees • May 6, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a stern rebuke to bureaucratic shortcuts that favor past service over proven merit, the Supreme Court has torched a decades-old policy in Tamil Nadu that allowed lower-scoring in-service police candidates to leapfrog over higher-ranking open market recruits in the seniority list. The top court didn't mince words. It ruled that if you're entering through a direct recruitment exam, the ladder of seniority must rest firmly on your performance —...

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