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SUPREME COURT

No Erasers at This Stage

Supreme Court Bars Deletion of Framed Charges Mid-Trial

Sheikh Rayees • April 18, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a firm stand against procedural shortcuts, the Supreme Court has ruled that once charges are framed during a criminal trial, they cannot be erased or undone by invoking Section 216 of the Criminal Procedure Code—or its corresponding provision, Section 239 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNSS). The bench, speaking through a judgment penned by Justice JB Pardiwala and joined by Justice Manoj Misra, made it crystal clear: Section 216...

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