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SUPREME COURT

Sanction Shield Can't Be Applied Retroactively Once Court Has Taken Cognizance

Supreme Court

Sheikh Rayees • April 2, 2026

PUBLISHED REPORT

The Supreme Court has clarified that a later expansion of prosecution safeguards for public servants cannot undo criminal proceedings that were validly initiated when no such protection existed. The ruling reinforces that the legality of cognizance must be judged on the law prevailing at the time the court first took notice of the offence. A bench comprising two judges upheld the continuation of criminal proceedings against a subordinate officer of...

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