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SUPREME COURT

SC Clears the Air

Domestic Violence Complaints Can Be Quashed by High Courts, But With Caution

Sheikh Rayees • May 19, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a significant judicial recalibration, the Supreme Court declared on Monday that High Courts do have the authority to quash complaints under Section 12 of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005—using their inherent powers under Section 482 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (now echoed in Section 528 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2003). But the Court didn't hand over a free pass. It made clear...

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