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SUPREME COURT

School Headmistress Must Report Child's Sexual Abuse Complaint Without Conducting Private Inquiry

Supreme Court Revives POCSO Case

Sheikh Rayees • July 10, 2026

PUBLISHED REPORT

The Supreme Court has reaffirmed that school authorities cannot substitute the statutory duty to report allegations of child sexual abuse with their own internal fact-finding exercise. Holding that a private verification is no defence under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, the Court restored criminal proceedings against a school headmistress accused of failing to report a young student's complaint of sexual assault. A Bench of Justices...

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FULL STORY