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SUPREME COURT

Supreme Court Clarifies

Absence of Complainant Doesn't Automatically Lead to Acquittal

Sheikh Rayees • April 1, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

The Supreme Court has ruled that the absence of a complainant does not necessarily result in the acquittal of the accused, in a significant interpretation of Section 256 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC). This provision, which corresponds to Section 279 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), has now been clarified to require a more nuanced approach when the complainant is absent. The court emphasized that acquittal under this...

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