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SUPREME COURT

Supreme Court Declares MSMED Act's Arbitration Rules Are Non-Negotiable, Even Over Private Contracts

Sheikh Rayees • May 15, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a decisive ruling, the Supreme Court has reinforced that the dispute resolution framework set by the MSMED Act trumps private arbitration agreements. The Court quashed the Karnataka High Court's attempt to block MSMED proceedings in Delhi just because the contract specified Bengaluru as the arbitration seat. The key takeaway: statutory mandates under the MSMED Act cannot be sidelined by private arbitration clauses.

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