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SUPREME COURT

# Supreme Court Orders New SIT Investigation Into 2012 Dharmasthala Rape-Murder Case

Sheikh Rayees • September 23, 2026

## PUBLISHED REPORT

The Supreme Court has ordered a fresh investigation into the 2012 rape and murder of a 17-year-old student in Karnataka's Dharmasthala, holding that the earlier investigations suffered from serious shortcomings. A Bench of Justices Sanjay Kumar and Sanjeev Sachdeva, in its September 21 judgment in *Kusumavati Gowda v. Government of Karnataka and Others*, overturned the Karnataka High Court's refusal to order a reinvestigation. The Court was sharply critical of the...



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