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SUPREME COURT

Supreme Court Says Witnesses Too Can Be Asked for Voice Samples

No Violation of Right Against Self-Incrimination

Sheikh Rayees • October 14, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

The Supreme Court has clarified that Magistrates have the authority to direct not only accused persons but also witnesses to provide their voice samples for investigation. The Court ruled that such samples — whether of voice, fingerprints, handwriting, or DNA — amount to material evidence, not testimonial compulsion, and therefore do not violate Article 20(3) of the Constitution, which protects against self-incrimination.

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