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SUPREME COURT

Supreme Court Tears Into Misuse of Gangsters Act

One Clash Doesn't Make a Criminal Syndicate

Sheikh Rayees • June 19, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a sharp rebuke to the overreach of state power, the Supreme Court has ruled that the U.P. Gangsters and Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act, 1986, cannot be flung like a net over individuals based solely on their presence in a single violent incident—no matter how serious—unless there's solid proof of them being part of a habitual criminal operation. The ruling lays down a clear line: participation in a communal disturbance...

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