OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT JUDGE, PRAYAGRAJ.

ADMIN. ORDER NO. 30 **Dated : Jan. 12, 2026**

ORDER

While enclosing herewith a pdf copy of **judgement/ order dt.15.12.2025** passed by **Hon'ble Supreme Court** in **Criminal Appeal Nos. 132-133 of 2017 titled State of UP Vs. Ajmal Beg etc.**, vide **Hon'ble High Court's Letter No. 410/Admin. G-II/Allahabad Dt. 09.01.2026**, direction to circulate the same amongst all the Judicial Officers working under supervision and Administrative control of the undersigned, for information and strict compliance of the direction contained therein, with regard to **expeditious disposal of cases pending u/s 304-B, 498A**, has been provided.

II. In compliance of Hon'ble Court's above directions, following order is being passed with immediate effect:

(a) The System Officer is directed to provide a soft/pdf copy of **judgement/ order dt.15.12.2025** passed by **Hon'ble Supreme Court** in aforementioned matters as well as Hon'ble High Court's Letter No. **410/Admin. G-II/ Allahabad Dt. 09.01.2026** to all the Judicial Officers working under supervision and Administrative control of the undersigned for information and strict compliance of the direction contained therein, with regard to **expeditious disposal of cases pending u/s 304-B, 498A.**

(b) A hard-copy of above mentioned **judgement/order dt. 15.12.2025** passed by **Hon'ble Supreme Court** in aforementioned matters as well as Hon'ble High Court's Letter No. **410/Admin. G-II/ Allahabad Dt. 09.01.2026** be also circulated among all the Judicial Officers working under supervision and Administrative control of the undersigned for information and strict compliance of the direction contained therein, with regard to **expeditious disposal of cases pending u/s 304-B, 498A.**

(c) In compliance of order/judgement dt.12.08.2025 passed by Hon'ble High Court in Crl. Misc. Application u/s 528 BNSS No. 6400 of 2025 titled Smt. Bacchi Devi Vs State of UP And Another, a meeting of all Judicial Officers of the Judgeship is convened on **13.01.2026** at **4.35 PM**, in the **Meeting Hall,** situated at the II-Floor of Newly constructed 24-Court Room Building of District Court Prayagraj for discussion and deliberation regarding compliance of **judgement/order dt. 15.12.2025** passed by **Hon'ble Supreme Court** in **Criminal Appeal Nos. 132-133 of 2017 titled State of UP Vs. Ajmal Beg etc.** All the Judicial Officers of the Judgeship are directed to participate in the said meeting.

Inform all concerned for strict compliance.

12-1-2026

(**Satya Prakash Tripathi**)
District & Sessions Judge
Prayagraj.

Dated : Jan. 12, 2026

Through Email

From,

Registrar General
High Court of Judicature at
Allahabad

To,

All the District and Sessions Judges/OSD
All the Principal Judges, Family Courts
All the Presiding Officers of Commercial Courts, MACTs & LARRAs
State of Uttar Pradesh

No. 410 **/Admin. G-II/Allahabad** **Dated:** 09/01/ **2026**

Sub: Compliance of judgement/order dated 15.12.2025 passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court in Criminal Appeal Nos. 132-133 of 2017 titled State of UP Vs Ajmal Beg etc.

Madam/Sir,

While enclosing herewith a copy (**pdf enclosed**) of aforesaid order/judgement dated **15.12.2025** passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court**,** I am directed to request you to circulate the same amongst all the Judicial Officers working under your kind supervision and Administrative control for information and strict compliance of the direction contained therein, with regard to expeditious disposal of cases pending u/s **304-B, 498A**.

With Regards,

Encl:- **As above**

Yours faithfully,

09/01/26

Registrar General

No. **/Admin. G-II/Allahabad** **Dated:** **2026**

Copy forwarded to **the Director, Judicial Training & Research Institute, Lucknow** for necessary compliance at **paragraph 26(c)** of the instant judgement.

With Regards,

Registrar General

ITEM NO.1501 COURT NO.11 SECTION II

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Criminal Appeal Nos.132-133/2017

STATE OF U.P. Appellant(s)

VERSUS

AJMAL BEG ETC. Respondent(s)

Date : 15-12-2025 These appeals were called on for pronouncement of judgment today.

For Appellant(s) : Mr. Abhishek Saket, Adv.
Mr. Sudeep Kumar, AOR
Ms. Manisha, Adv.
Ms. Rupali, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Shekhar Kumar, AOR

Mr. Shantanu Krishna, AOR
Ms. Vaishnavi Srivastava, Adv.

1. Hon'ble Mr.Justice Sanjay Karol has pronounced a reportable judgment of a Bench comprising His Lordship and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh.

2. The relevant portion of judgment is extracted as under:

> **"24. The upshot of the discussion made in the preceding paragraphs is that the High Court has erred in setting aside the judgment of conviction returned by the Additional District Judge, Bijnor, and acquitting Ajmal and Jamila in connection with the FIR bearing No. 94/2001 registered at P.S Kiratpur, under Sections 498-A and 304-B, IPC and Section 3/4 of the DPA, 1961. The State's appeals, therefore, deserve to be allowed.**

Signature Not Verified
Digitally signed by RAJNI MUKHI
Date: 2025.12.19 21:49:21 IST
Reason:

The judgment of the Trial Court, insofar as it relates to the conviction of both Ajmal and Jamila, is restored, as also the quantum of sentence in respect of Ajmal is concerned. However, insofar as the respondent in Criminal Appeal No. 133 of 2017 is concerned, i.e., Jamila, who, as we have recorded in our order reserving judgment dated 10th September 2025, is 94 years of age - the question we must ask ourselves is whether any fruitful purpose will be served by sending her to prison. While weighing and assessing sentencing particularly in case of convicts of advanced age such as *in praesenti causa,* the Court must take into consideration humanitarian considerations which dictate that imposing imprisonment may be inhumane, given the severe physical frailty, likely medical dependency, and reduced capacity to endure the hardships of custody, thereby implicating and compromising the dignity protected under law. As such, while we restore the conviction as awarded by the Trial Court however, in the attending facts and circumstances of this case, we refrain from incarcerating her. Respondent Ajmal in Criminal Appeal No. 132 of 2017 is directed to surrender before the concerned Court, within a period of four weeks from today, for serving the sentence awarded by the Trial Court.

26. With an intent to further this change, we issue the following directions:

(a) to ensure that the change brought in is able to make an impact on the efforts to eradicate this evil, it is to be ensured that the future generation, youngsters of today, are informed and made aware about this evil practice and the necessity to eschew it. As such, it is directed that States and even the Union Government consider changes as are necessary to the educational curricula across levels, reinforcing the

constitutional position that parties to a marriage are equal to one another and one is not subservient to the other as is sought to be established by giving and taking of money and or articles at the time of marriage;

(b) The law provides for the appointment of Dowry Prohibition Officers[1] in States. It is to be ensured that these officers are duly deputed, aware of their responsibilities and given the necessary wherewithal to carry out the duties entrusted to them. The contact details (name, official phone number and email ID) of such an officer designated to this position are disseminated adequately by the local authorities ensuring awareness of citizens of the area;

(c) the police officials, as also the judicial officers dealing with such cases, should periodically be given training, equipping them to fully appreciate the social and psychological implications which are often at the forefront of these cases. This would also ensure a sensitivity of the concerned officials towards genuine cases versus those which are frivolous and abusive of the process of law;

(d) it is not lost on us that the instant case began in 2001 and could only be concluded 24 years later by way of this judgment. It is but obvious that there would be many such similar cases. The High Courts are requested to take stock of the situation, ascertain the number of cases pending dealing with Section 304-B, 498-A from the earliest to the latest for expeditious disposal; and

(e) in furtherance of (a) above, we also recognize that many people today are/have been outside the education fold, and that it is equally, if not more so, important to reach them and make accessible and comprehensible,

1 Section 8B of DPA

the relevant information regarding the act of giving or taking of dowry as also other acts sometimes associated therewith, other times independent thereof (mental and physical cruelty) is an offence in law. The District Administration along with the District Legal Services Authorities, by engaging and involving civil society groups and dedicated social activists, is requested to conduct workshops/awareness programs at regular intervals. This is to ensure change at the grassroot level.

27. Let a copy of this judgment be circulated electronically to the Registrar General of the High Courts who are requested to place the same before the Learned Chief Justices and solicit directions in accordance with the above, and also, to the Chief Secretaries of all States for necessary follow up action.

27.1 While the main appeals are disposed of, so far as these directions are concerned, to ensure compliance thereof, as also issue any other directions as may be necessary, list this matter after four weeks. States are requested to file affidavits indicating the position *qua* the direction given under (b) hereinabove. The High Courts shall do the same for (d).”

2. Appeals are disposed of in terms of signed reportable judgment.

3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(RAJNI MUKHI)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(ANU BHALLA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

(Signed reportable judgment is placed on the file)