4491

S. GOVERDHAN REDDY
REGISTRAR GENERAL

HYDERABAD
Dt: 16 .10.2026

ROC.NO.2787/SO/2025

To
All the Unit Heads in the State of Telangana.

Sir/Madam,

Sub:- High Court for the State of Telangana – Order dt.20.08.2026 in Miscellaneous Application Nos.2689-90 of 2025 in Criminal Appeal Nos.132-133 of 2017 – Certain directions issued to this High Court – Forwarding the same for compliance - Reg.

Ref:- Order dt.20.08.2026 in Miscellaneous Application Nos.2689-90 of 2025 in Criminal Appeal Nos.132-133 of 2017, on the file of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

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Adverting to the subject and reference cited, I am to inform that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India while passing Orders Miscellaneous Application Nos.2689-90 of 2025 in Criminal Appeal Nos.132-133 of 2017, between State of U. P. Vs. Ajmal Beg Etc., issued certain directions to the District Judiciary.

Therefore, I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Order dt.20.08.2026 in Miscellaneous Application Nos.2689-90 of 2025 in Criminal Appeal Nos.132-133 of 2017 and request you comply with the directions laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India

This may be treated as **"MOST URGENT".**

Yours sincerely,

16/10/26

REGISTRAR GENERAL

17 OCT 2026

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PRINCIPAL DISTRICT SESSIONS COURT * BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM *
17 OCT 2026

PRINCIPAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS COURT, BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM

Endt.Dis.No. 3550 **Date:** 22.10.2026

// Communicated //

The Officers are hereby instructed to comply with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and to comply with the directions issued by the Hon'ble High Court for the State of Telangana. All the concerned Superintendents are directed to download the copy from the District Judiciary Website.

PRINCIPAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE,
BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM

To

1. All the Judicial Officers working in the unit of District Judge, Bhadradri Kothagudem.
2. The Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Bhadradri Kothagudem

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

MISC. APPLICATION NOS. 2689-90 OF 2025
IN
(CRL. APPEAL NOS. 132-133 OF 2017)

THE STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH ... **APPELLANT(S)**

VERSUS

AJMAL BEG ETC. ... **RESPONDENT(S)**

ORDER

1. This Court *vide* judgment dated 15.12.2025 passed in ***State of U.P. v. Ajmal Beg*** [Criminal Appeal Nos. 132-133 of 2017], while allowing the said appeals and restoring the judgment of trial court convicting the appellants under section 304-B and 498-A of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, (corresponding Sections 80 and 85 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023) noted that while in this case,

Signature Not Verified
Digitally signed by NAVEEN D
Date: 2026.08.22 19:13:37 IST
Reason:

the accused person(s) has finally been brought to book, there are many cases in which it is not happen. Many, who openly seek and give dowry, go scot-free. It has been noted time and again, in various judicial pronouncements that Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 suffers from various difficulties in its implementation. This Court further, acknowledged that when it comes to the giving and taking of dowry in particular, this practice unfortunately has deep roots in society, hence, it being not a matter of swift change, a concentrated effort is needed on the part of all the involved parties, be it Legislature, Judiciary, law enforcement agencies, civil society organizations etc. Therefore, to address the systemic delay and ineffective implementation attending prosecutions under Section 304-B and Section 498-A, IPC and the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 following directions were issued:

> "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 Officers40 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, 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. Pursuant to the aforesaid directions, affidavits and data have been filed by several High Courts, States and Union Territories. We have heard the learned counsel appearing for the

States and, in particular, Mr. Kunal Chatterji, learned counsel, who has assisted this Court by placing on record a consolidated analysis of the affidavits/data so filed, along with suggestions received from the High Courts, States and Union Territories, and a set of proposed directions for the consideration of this Court.

3. Having considered the material placed before us and the submissions advanced, we now proceed to pass the following directions:

i. **Strengthening of Institutional Support Mechanisms:** States and Union Territories shall ensure effective functioning and dissemination of information regarding Dowry Prohibition Officers appointed/designated under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, and shall strengthen:

a. One Stop Centres,

b. Family Counselling Centres,

c. Women Help Desks,

d. victim assistance mechanisms,

e. helplines, and

f. online grievance redressal systems for facilitating access to support and legal remedies for aggrieved women.

ii. **Awareness and Educational Measures:** States and Union Territories, in coordination with Departments of Education, Women and Child Development Departments, State Legal Services Authorities and other appropriate bodies, shall undertake sustained awareness and sensitization programmes concerning:

a. the social evil of dowry,

b. gender equality,

c. constitutional values,

d. and women's rights, including through educational curricula, awareness campaigns, community outreach programmes and legal literacy initiatives.

iii. **Priority Classification and Monitoring of Cases:** All Courts dealing with offences

under Sections 304B and 498A IPC/Sections 80 and 85 BNS, 2023 shall, as far as practicable, treat such matters as priority cases and endeavour to ensure expeditious disposal thereof, without adversely affecting the hearing of other categories of cases. The concerned District Judiciary shall identify cases pending beyond three years, particularly those pending at the stage of framing of charge or recording of evidence, and undertake periodic monitoring thereof through monthly or quarterly review mechanisms.

iv. **Time-Bound Progression of Trial:** All Trial Courts shall endeavour, as far as practicable and subject to compliance with statutory safeguards under the CrPC/BNSS, to:

a. secure prompt appearance of accused expeditiously after filing of charge-sheet;

b. consider framing of charge preferably within 60 to 90 days from filing of charge-sheet;

c. commence recording of evidence within a reasonable period after framing of charge; and

d. proceed with recording of evidence on a continuous or day- to-day basis in terms of Section 309 CrPC/Section 346 BNSS, 2023.

Provided the timelines indicated herein may ordinarily be adhered to as directory benchmarks, subject to exceptional cases involving multiple accused, supplementary charge-sheets, forensic delays, non-availability of accused, or other reasons to be recorded.

v. **Witness Regulation of Adjournments and Management/Witness Calendar:**

a. Trial Courts/High Courts shall discourage unnecessary adjournments and ensure that adjournments are granted only upon recording reasons in writing. Where counsel for the accused repeatedly remains absent without sufficient cause, appropriate Legal Aid Counsel or Amicus Curiae may be

appointed to ensure that proceedings are not unnecessarily delayed. Additionally, where the Investigating Officer has been transferred or retired, a substitute or holding officer shall be nominated sufficiently in advance to avoid adjournments.

b. Immediately after framing of charge, the Trial Court shall prepare a witness calendar indicating dates for examination of material witnesses, service of summons and sequencing of evidence. This will ensure structured witness management mechanisms, as far as practicable, to secure timely attendance of witnesses and avoid repeated deferment of evidence. Investigating Officers shall ensure prompt service of summons and production of witnesses.

vi. **Use of Technology and Digital Monitoring:** The High Courts shall

endeavour to integrate, within the existing Courts Dashboards/CIS infrastructure:

a. stage-wise pendency tracking,

b. digital dashboards,

c. automated alerts for old pending matters,

d. and case monitoring systems in respect of cases arising under Sections 304B and 498A IPC/Sections 80 and 85 BNS.

vii. **Review of Pending Matters Before High Courts:** All High Courts shall endeavour to periodically review old pending criminal appeals, revisions, petitions under Section 482 CrPC/Section 528 BNSS, 2023 and bail matters, particularly matters involving interim stay of trial proceedings, and take appropriate steps for their expeditious listing and disposal. Wherever proceedings are stayed, such orders may be periodically reviewed in accordance with law.

viii. **Training, Sensitization and Specialized Prosecution:** All States/Union Territories

and Hon'ble High Courts shall ensure periodic training and sensitization programmes for:

a. Judicial Officers.

b. Police Officials,

c. Prosecutors,

d. Protection Officers,

e. Counsellors, and

f. Other stakeholders dealing with dowry-related offences, through Judicial Academies, Police Training Institutions and other appropriate bodies.

States may also endeavour to designate prosecutors having experience and sensitization in offences against women for conducting prosecutions under Sections 304B and 498A IPC.

ix. **Mediation/Counselling in Appropriate Matrimonial Disputes:** In cases arising primarily out of matrimonial discord and not involving allegations of death, grievous physical violence, or other serious offences,

the concerned Courts may, wherever permissible in law and considered appropriate, explore the possibility of mediation or counselling through duly mediators/counsellors, without compromising the rights of parties or the seriousness of cognizable offences.

x. **Compliance and Periodic Reporting:** All High Courts and States/Union Territories shall file status/compliance reports on 15th of January, May and September before this Court for consideration and further directions, if any, until the pendency of cases under Sections 304B and 498A IPC/corresponding Sections 80 and 85 of BNS, 2023 and cases involving Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 is substantially reduced, indicating, inter alia, the following:

a. pendency and disposal statistics,

b. stage-wise status of cases,

c. awareness initiatives undertaken,

d. appointment/designation of Dowry Prohibition Officers,

e. training programmes conducted,

f. and measures adopted pursuant to the present directions.

4. List the cases with compliance-cum-periodic reports on 15th October, 2026.

5. We appreciate the efforts put in by Mr. Kunal Chatterji, learned counsel, and learned senior counsel/counsel appearing for the respective parties.

.....J.
[SANJAY KAROL]

.....J.
[AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH]

NEW DELHI;
AUGUST 20, 2026.

ITEM NO.32 COURT NO.8 SECTION II

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

Miscellaneous Application Nos.2689-2690/2025 in Crl.A. Nos.132-133/2017

THE STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

AJMAL BEG ETC. RESPONDENT(S)

FOR ADMISSION

Date : 20-08-2026 These applications were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KAROL
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH

For Petitioner(s) :Mr. Sharan Dev Singh Thakur, Sr. A.A.G.
Mr. Sudeep Kumar, AOR
Mr. Abhishek Saket, Adv.
Ms. Manisha, Adv.
Ms. Rupali, Adv.
Ms. Reya Paul, Adv.
Ms. Harshita Chawla, Adv.

Mr. Kunal Chatterji, AOR

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

Mr. Varinder Kumar Sharma, AOR
Mr. Hit Lal, Adv.

Mr. Aravindh S., AOR
Mr. Aadithya Aravindh, Adv.
Ms. Anika Bansal, Adv.

Mr. Avneesh Arputham, AOR
Mr. Ankit Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Rajat Bhardwaj, A.A.G.
Ms. Baani Khanna, AOR
Mr. Robin Singh, Adv.
Mr. Kapil Balwani, Adv.
Ms. Komal Thakkar, Adv.

Ms. Tejal Tapaswini Nagauri, Adv.

Mr. P. I. Jose, AOR
Ms. P S Chandralekha, Adv.

Ms. Mrinmayee Sahu, Adv.
Ms. Mrinmayee Sahu, AOR
Mr. Sugam Kumar Jha, Adv.
Ms. Amruta Padhi, Adv.

Mr. Aljo K. Joseph, AOR
Mr. Sashwat Mishra, Adv.

Mr. Aaditya Aniruddha Pande, AOR
Mr. Siddharth Dharmadhikari, Adv.
Mr. Shrirang B. Varma, Adv.
Mr. Sourav Singh, Adv.
Ms. Chitransha Singh Sikarwar, Adv.

Mr. Bhuvan Kapoor, Adv.
Mr. Varun Chugh, Adv.
Mr. Krishna Kant Dubey, Adv.
Mr. Mukesh Kr. Verma, Adv.
Mr. Shashwat Parihar, Adv.
Mr. Yogesh Vats, Adv.
Mr. Shreekant Neelappa Terdal, AOR

Ms. G. Indira, AOR
Mr. Dinesh Kumar Mudgal, Adv.
Mr. Devendra Upadhayay, Adv.
Mr. Hitesh Kumar Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Anupam Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Akhileshwar Jha, Adv.
Mr. Avnish Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Sameer Abhyankar, AOR
Mr. Aryan Srivastava, Adv.
Mr. Krishna Rastogi, Adv.

Mr. Ankit Roy, AOR
Ms. Mrinalini Ramesh, Adv.
Ms. Jaya Pandey, Adv.

Mr. T. G. Narayanan Nair, AOR
Ms. Samyuktha H Nair, Adv.

Mr. Rahul Gupta, AOR

Mr. Anando Mukherjee, AOR
Mr. Shwetank Singh, Adv.
Mr. Utkarsh Anand, Adv.

Ms. Sanjana Saddy, AOR
Mr. Aman Choudhary, Adv.

Mr. Kunal Chatterji, AOR
Ms. Maitrayee Banerjee, Adv.
Mr. Rohit Bansal, Adv.
Mr. Varij Nayan Mishra, Adv.

Mr. Surjendu Sankar Das, AOR
Mr. Vishwajeet Singh Shekhawat, Adv.

Ms. Disha Singh , AOR
Ms. Eliza Barr, Adv.
Ms. Akansha, Adv.
Ms. Anjali Saxena, Adv.
Mr. Govind Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Aaditya Singh Rajawat, Adv.

Mr. Arjun Garg, AOR
Ms. Manisha Ambwani, AOR

Ms. Swati Ghildiyal, AOR
Ms. Neha Singh, Adv.

Mr. Amit Sharma, AOR
Mr. Dipesh Sinha, Adv.
Ms. Pallavi Barua, Adv.
Ms. Aparna Singh, Adv.

Mr. V.V.M.B.N.S. Pattabhiram, D.A.G.
Mr. Aditya Vaibhav Singh Ga, Adv.
Mr. Harmeet Singh Ruprah, AOR
Mr. Kanishk Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Shekhar Raj Sharma, A.A.G.
Mr. Akshay Amritanshu, AOR
Ms. Nidhi Narwal, Adv.
Ms. Srishti Jain, Adv.
Mr. Sarthak Srivastava, Adv.
Mr. Utkarsh Rai, Adv.

Mr. Shuvodeep Roy, AOR

Mr. Gopal Jha, AOR
Mr. Tilak Vij, Adv.
Ms. Shireesha Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Sawan Datta, Adv.
Ms. Priyanshi Goel, Adv.
Ms. Ratna Priya Pradhan, Adv.
Mr. Nimish Arjaria, Adv.
Mr. Atul Kumar, Adv.

Ms. Sansriti Pathak, A.A.G.
Mr. Saurabh Rajpal, Adv.
Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, AOR

Mr. Sudarshan Singh Rawat, AOR
Mr. Madhav Gupta, Adv.
Ms. Nidhi Jain, Adv.
Mr. Sunny Sachin Rawat, Adv.

Ms. Radhika Gautam, AOR

Mr. Aditya Bharat Manubarwala, Adv.
Mrs. Tanishka Grover, Adv.
Mrs. Akriti Aditya Manubarwala, Adv.
Mrs. Shaila Arora, Adv.
Mrs. Charvi Virmani, Adv.
Mrs. Pradnya Sachin Markar, Adv.
Mr. Bharat Thakorlal Manubarwala, AOR

Mr. Samir Ali Khan, AOR
Mr. Kashif Irshad Khan, Adv.
Mr. Pranjal Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Ahanthem Henry, Adv.
Mr. Ahanthem Rohen Singh, Adv.
Mr. Mohan Singh, Adv.
Mr. Aniket Rajput, Adv.
Ms. Khoisnam Nirmala Devi, Adv.
Mr. Yeshu Mehta, Adv.
Mr. Tanay Hegde, Adv.
Mr. Ravi Kumar Bodhani, Adv.
Mr. Kumar Mihir, AOR

Mr. Yashvardhan, Adv.
Mr. Apoorv Shukla, AOR
Ms. Prabhleen A. Shukla, Adv.
Ms. Ilashri Gaur, Adv.

Mr. Nishant Awana, AOR
Ms. Rini Badoni, Adv.
Mr. Suraj Kundu, Adv.
Mr. Amogh Pandey, Adv.

Mr. D. K. Thakur, Adv.
Mr. Rajeev Kumar Gupta, Adv.
Mr. Tavleen Singh, Adv.
Ms. Vallabhi Shukla, Adv.
Mr. Rohit Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Bimlesh Kumar Singh, AOR
Mr. Neeraj Agarwal, Adv.
Mr. Akash Sajan Sapelkar, Adv.

Mr. Shekhar Raj Sharma, A.A.G.
Mr. Samar Vijay Singh, AOR
Ms. Nidhi Narwal, Adv.
Ms. Srishti Jain, Adv.
Ms. Sabarni Som, Adv.
Mr. Aman Dev Sharma, Adv.

Mr. B. Shravanth Shanker, AOR
Ms. Grahita Agarwal, Adv.
Mr. I.V. Sai Nikhil, Adv.
Ms. Prerna Robin, Adv.
Mr. Shivam Kunal, Adv.
Mr. Dandu Laxman, Adv.
Mr. B. Yeshwanth Raj, Adv.
Mr. Shreyas Jayasimha, Adv.
Mr. Tushar Gadia, Adv.
Mr. Suryansh Jamwal, Adv.

Ms. Eliza Barr, Adv.
Ms. Akansha, AOR
Mr. Govind Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Pukhrambam Ramesh Kumar, AOR
Mr. Karun Sharma, Adv.
Ms. Anupama Ngangom, Adv.
Ms. Rajkumari Divyasana, Adv.

Mr. Sunny Choudhary, AOR

Mr. Guntur Pramod Kumar, AOR
Ms. Prerna Singh, Adv.
Mr. Dhruv Yadav, Adv.

Ms. Deepika Nandakumar, AOR
Ms. Kanimozhi J., Adv.

Mr. Gunnam Venkateswara Rao, AOR
Ms. Devyani Mahra, Adv.
Mr. Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Adv.
Mr. Poli Naidu Vudamala, Adv.

Mr. Shantanu Sagar For Patna High Court, Adv.
Mr. Anil Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Gunjesh Ranjan, Adv.
Mr. Prakash Kumar Mangalam, Adv.
Mr. Manoneet Dwivedi, Adv.
Mr. Abhishek Kumar Gupta, Adv.
Ms. Anshala Verma, Adv.
Mr. Ruchira Gupta, S.C.

Ms. Ishika Gupta, Adv.

Mr. Shantanu Sagar, AOR

Mr. Kunal Mimani, AOR

Ms. Kanika Kalaiyarasan, AOR

Mr. Abhay Kumar, AOR
Mr. Shagun Ruhil, Adv.
Mr. Shreenivash, Adv.
Mr. Karan Chopra, Adv.
Ms. Sakshi Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Sanchit Garga, AOR
Mr. Kunal Rana, Adv.
Mr. Shashwat Jaiswal, Adv.
Ms. Diksha Arora, Adv.
Mr. Bhanu Pratap Singh, Adv.
Mr. Vijender Kumar, Adv.
Ms. Oorja Goel, Adv.
Ms. Ankita Sharma, AOR

Mr. Rushab Aggarwal, Adv.
Mr. Pashupathi Nath Razdan, AOR

Ms. Devina Sehgal, AOR
Mr. Srikanth Varma Mudunuru, Adv.

Ms. Nidhi Mittal, AOR

Mr. Sanjai Kumar Pathak, AOR
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Mr. Arvind Kumar Tripathi, Adv.
Mr. Robin Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Harshad V. Hameed, AOR

Mr. Amit Pai, AOR
Ms. Pankhuri Bhardwaj, Adv.
Ms. Bhavana Duhoon, Adv.
Mr. Abhiyudaya Vats, Adv.
Mr. Shathaayu Patil, Adv.

Mr. Niranjan Sahu, AOR

Mr. Avijit Mani Tripathi, AOR
Mr. Z.H. Isaac Haiding, Adv.
Mr. Daniel Stone Lyngdoh, Adv.
Ms. Marbiang Khongwir, Adv.
Mr. T.K. Nayak, Adv.

Mr. Kunal Vajani, A.A.G.
Mr. Sanchit Garga, AOR

Mr. Guneet S. Sidhu, Adv.
Mr. Amitoj Chadha, Adv.

Ms. Kanika Kalaiyarasan, AOR

Upon hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

1. List the matters with compliance cum periodic reports on 15.10.2026.

2. The Registry to communicate a copy of this order to all concerned forthwith.

(D. NAVEEN)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(ANU BHALLA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

(The detailed signed order is placed on the file)