



**HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE FOR RAJASTHAN
AT JODHPUR**

S.B. Criminal Miscellaneous (Petition) No. 6995/2025
CNR: RJHC010775392025 | URN: CRLMP / 12303U / 2025

Rajaram Paliwal S/o Ratan Lal, Aged About 45 Years, Resident Of
Lolawas Luni Jodhpur

-----Petitioner

Versus

1. State Of Rajasthan, Through Pp
2. The Sho, Ps Luni
3. Commissioner Of Police, Police Commissionerate Jodhpur

-----Respondents

For Petitioner(s) : Ms. Rituraj Deval
For Respondent(s) : Mr. Vikram Rajpurohit, DyGA

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE FARJAND ALI

Order

DATE OF CONCLUSION OF ARGUMENTS : 22/07/2026
DATE ON WHICH ORDER IS RESERVED : 22/07/2026
FULL ORDER OR OPERATIVE PART : Full Order
DATE OF PRONOUNCEMENT : 24/07/2026

BY THE COURT:-

1. The instant criminal miscellaneous petition under Section 528 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 has been preferred on behalf of the petitioner seeking a direction for fair and impartial investigation in connection with FIR No. 161/2025 dated 19.07.2025 registered at Police Station Luni, District Jodhpur City for the offences punishable under Sections 308(2), 127(2), 61(2) and 308(7) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.
2. Briefly stated the facts as mentioned in the FIR are that the complainant, Rajaram Paliwal, alleged that after marrying Rajni on 03.12.2022 according to customary rites, he and his family were ostracized by members of the Paliwal community on the allegation



that his wife belonged to another caste. Several community meetings (panchayats) were convened, during which the complainant and his family were allegedly confined, humiliated, threatened with social boycott, and coerced into paying a sum of Rs.1,00,000 as a penalty, with a further demand of Rs.21,00,000.

It was further alleged that the accused persons restrained the complainant's relatives from maintaining any social relationship with his family and threatened similar ostracism in case of non-compliance. Owing to the continued threats, harassment, and social exclusion, the complainant asserted that he and his family suffered severe mental and physical distress and apprehended danger to their lives. Consequently, the present FIR came to be registered seeking criminal action against the accused persons and recovery of the amount allegedly extorted from the complainant.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner, while fairly submitting that the investigation is now being conducted by the Investigating Officer appointed pursuant to the directions issued by this Court in **Deepa Ram Meghwal & Ors. v. State of Rajasthan & Ors. [S.B. Criminal Writ Petition No. 1344/2025]** has drawn the attention of this Court to certain subsequent developments which, according to her, have a direct bearing on the fairness and efficacy of the ongoing investigation.

3.1 It has been submitted that the accused persons had earlier approached this Court by filing a petition seeking quashing of the present FIR, which also came to be heard by this Court. The said petition was dismissed and, while doing so, this Court directed that the Investigating Officer appointed in Deepa Ram Meghwal



(supra) shall also undertake the investigation of the present FIR in order to ensure an independent, fair and comprehensive investigation. Reference in this regard has been made to S.B. Criminal Misc. Petition No. 8994/2025.

3.2 Learned counsel further submits that the petitioner does not harbour any grievance whatsoever against the present Investigating Officer or the manner in which the investigation is being conducted. However, it has been urged that notwithstanding the elaborate, reformatory and far-reaching directions issued by this Court in Deepa Ram Meghwal (supra), read with the protective framework envisaged by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in **Shakti Vahini v. Union of India & Ors.** reported in (2018) 7 SCC 192, the accused persons have allegedly continued to interfere with the course of justice by extending threats and intimidation to independent witnesses connected with the present case.

3.3 It has been specifically contended that three independent witnesses, namely, (i) Laduram S/o Chunilal, (ii) Ashok Paliwal S/o Devaram, both residents of Village Lolawas, and (iii) Anil S/o Tulsiram, resident of Village Kakelaw, have allegedly been subjected to grave threats, coercion and sustained social ostracism at the hands of the accused persons. It is further alleged that the families of the aforesaid witnesses have also been excommunicated from the community on account of their willingness to support the prosecution. On the strength of the aforesaid allegations, learned counsel has prayed that appropriate observations may be made so as to ensure that the accused persons do not obstruct, influence or derail the ongoing



investigation by intimidating witnesses or adopting coercive social practices.

4. Heard learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner and learned DyGA as well as perused the material available on record.

5. Having bestowed thoughtful consideration to the aforesaid submissions, this Court is of the opinion that the directions issued in Deepa Ram Meghwal (supra) were intended not merely to ensure a fair investigation in individual cases but also to dismantle the unlawful societal practices of coercion, intimidation and social ostracism which strike at the very foundation of the rule of law. Needless to observe that any attempt by any person to threaten, influence, coerce or socially boycott witnesses during the course of investigation would constitute a serious interference with the administration of criminal justice and cannot be countenanced by a Court of law.

5.1 Accordingly, it is observed that if the aforesaid witnesses, or any other person similarly situated, submit representations before the Investigating Officer alleging intimidation, coercion, social boycott or threats in connection with the present case, the Investigating Officer shall examine such representations objectively and expeditiously and shall take such preventive, protective and penal measures as may be warranted under law. In the event the allegations are found to possess substance, immediate and effective action shall be initiated against the persons responsible, strictly in accordance with law, so as to ensure that no witness is deterred from speaking the truth and



that the investigation proceeds uninfluenced by extraneous pressures.

5.2 It is further clarified that any endeavour to obstruct the course of investigation, terrorise witnesses or perpetuate unlawful social sanctions shall be viewed with the seriousness it deserves and the competent authorities shall remain under an obligation to deal with such conduct in accordance with the mandate of law as well as the spirit underlying the directions issued by this Court in Deepa Ram Meghwal (supra) and by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Shakti Vahini (supra).

6. In view of the above discussion, the instant criminal misc. petition is disposed of.

7. Stay petition and all pending applications stands disposed of.

(FARJAND ALI),J

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