

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
(Office of the Registrar General (Camp) at Jammu)

Subject: Miscellaneous Application Nos. 2689-2690 of 2025 in Criminal Appeal Nos. 132-133 of 2017 titled State of Uttar Pradesh Vs Ajmal Beg etc.

CIRCULAR

No: 29 of 2026/RG

Dated: 01.10.2026

In compliance to the directions rendered by the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its Order dated 20.08.2026, passed in Miscellaneous Application Nos. 2689-2690 of 2025 in Criminal Appeal Nos. 132-133 of 2017 titled State of Uttar Pradesh Vs Ajmal Beg etc, following directions are hereby issued for its adherence by all trial Courts:-

- I. **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 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 quarterly review mechanisms.
- II. **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.

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

- a. Trial Courts shall discourage unnecessary adjournments and ensure that adjournments are granted only upon recording

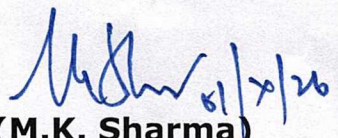
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reasons in writing. Where counsel for the accused repeatedly remains absent without sufficient cause, appropriate Legal Aid Counsel or Amicus Curiae may be appointed to ensure that proceedings are not unnecessarily delayed.

- 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.

IV. **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 courts may, wherever permissible in law and considered appropriate explore the possibility of mediation or counseling through mediators/counselors, without compromising the rights of parties or seriousness of cognizable offences.

By Order.

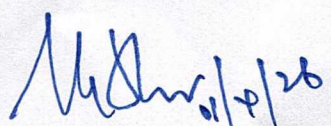

(M.K. Sharma)
Registrar General

No:- 46680-702 RG/GS

Dated:- 01.10.2026

Copy of the above forwarded to:

1. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh for kind information of His Lordship;
2. Secretary to Hon'ble Mr/Mrs. Justice _____;
..... for information of their Lordships
3. Registrar Vigilance, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Jammu;
4. Registrar Computers (I.T), High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Jammu;
5. Registrar Rules, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Jammu;
6. Registrar Judicial, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Jammu/Srinagar;
..... for information.
7. All Principal District and Sessions Judges, UTs of J&K and Ladakh for information/ necessary action and with the request to get the same circulated amongst the judicial officers under their respective jurisdiction(s), for necessary compliance at their end;
8. CPC, e-Courts, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Jammu for information.
9. Deputy Registrar, Supreme Court Section, High Court of J&K and Ladakh for information and necessary compliance.
10. Incharge NIC, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Jammu for information and uploading the same on the official website of the High Court.
11. Incharge Library, High Court Wing Jammu/Srinagar for information and keeping the record of the same.
12. Order file.


Registrar General