

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

S.B. Criminal Writ Petition No. 3731/2025

Shri Prema Ram S/o Shri Harchand Ji, Aged About 65 Years,
Resident Of Village Karamawas, Tehsil Samdari, District Balotra
Rajasthan.

-----Petitioner

Versus

1. State Of Rajasthan, Through The Principal Secretary,
Home Department, Government Of Rajasthan,
Secretariat, Jaipur.
2. Director General Of Police, Police Headquarters, Jaipur.
3. Superintendent Of Police, District Balotra Rajasthan.
4. Station House Officer, Police Station Samdari, District
Balotra Rajasthan.
5. Chimana Ram S/o Unknown, R/o Karamawas And
Adjoining Villages Forming Part Of The So-Called Chautala
Panchayat Of Karamawas, Burad, Kamo Ka Bada, Kotdi,
Sewali, Rakhi, Sanwarda, And Bamsin, Tehsil Samdari,
District Balotra.
6. Ummeda Ram S/o Unknown, R/o Karamawas And
Adjoining Villages Forming Part Of The So-Called Chautala
Panchayat Of Karamawas, Burad, Kamo Ka Bada, Kotdi,
Sewali, Rakhi, Sanwarda, And Bamsin, Tehsil Samdari,
District Balotra.
7. Hakma Ram S/o Unknown, R/o Karamawas And Adjoining
Villages Forming Part Of The So-Called Chautala
Panchayat Of Karamawas, Burad, Kamo Ka Bada, Kotdi,
Sewali, Rakhi, Sanwarda, And Bamsin, Tehsil Samdari,
District Balotra.
8. Lachhi Ram S/o Unknown, R/o Karamawas And Adjoining
Villages Forming Part Of The So-Called Chautala
Panchayat Of Karamawas, Burad, Kamo Ka Bada, Kotdi,
Sewali, Rakhi, Sanwarda, And Bamsin, Tehsil Samdari,
District Balotra.
9. Vala Ram, R/o Karamawas And Adjoining Villages Forming
Part Of The So-Called Chautala Panchayat Of Karamawas,
Burad, Kamo Ka Bada, Kotdi, Sewali, Rakhi, Sanwarda,

And Bamsin, Tehsil Samdari, District Balotra.

-----Respondents

For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Manish Kumar
For Respondent(s) : Mr. Surendra Bishnoi, AGA

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE FARJAND ALI

Order

DATE OF CONCLUSION OF ARGUMENTS : 23/02/2026
DATE ON WHICH ORDER IS RESERVED : 23/02/2026
FULL ORDER OR OPERATIVE PART : Full Order
DATE OF PRONOUNCEMENT : 18/04/2026

BY THE COURT:-

1. The instant criminal writ petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India read with Section 528 of BNSS has been preferred on behalf of the petitioner whereby he is aggrieved by the fine imposed by the accused persons in a self-styled Khap Panchayat.
2. Briefly stated the facts of the case are that the petitioner alleges that following matrimonial disputes of his daughter, a self-styled "Chautala Panchayat" declared him and his family socially outcast ("nyat bahar") in 2016 and imposed an illegal fine of ₹10,00,000/- without any lawful authority. Under coercion, the petitioner's son paid the said amount in 2021; however, the boycott continued and further unlawful demands, including land and blank signed papers, were made. The Panchayat also enforced a complete social and economic boycott across multiple villages, causing grave hardship to the petitioner and his family. Despite documentary and video evidence and repeated complaints to police and district authorities, no FIR has been registered.

Aggrieved by such inaction, the petitioner has approached this Court for seeking appropriate directions and protection.

3. I have heard the counsel appearing on behalf of the parties and perused the material available on record.

4. This Court has already dealt with the issue involved in the present case in **Deepa Ram Meghwal & Ors. v. State of Rajasthan & Ors. [S.B. Criminal Writ Petition No. 1344/2025]** vide order dated 10.04.2026. For ready reference, the directions issued in the order dated 10.04.2026 are reproduced herein below:-

DIRECTIONS

A. General Compliance with Supreme Court Directions

21. This Court has carefully gone through the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in **Shakti Vahini** (supra) and finds itself in complete consonance with the same.

21.1 Accordingly, it is directed that the concerned authorities, including the District Magistrates/Collectors, Superintendents of Police, Station House Officers, as well as the officials of local self-government bodies such as Panchayats and Municipalities, shall strictly adhere to and implement the preventive, remedial and punitive measures as delineated by the Hon'ble Apex Court.

21.2 Any deviation or non-compliance with the aforesaid directions shall be viewed seriously and may invite appropriate proceedings for contempt for disobedience of the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

B. District-Level Institutional Mechanism and Monitoring

22. In order to effectively curb and cripple down this menace, this Court deems it appropriate to direct that the State shall designate a Nodal Officer at the District level, who shall function in close coordination with the District Collector, Superintendent of Police, local police machinery, and representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions as well as Municipal Bodies, so as to maintain constant vigil over such unlawful activities.

22.1 The said Nodal Officer shall ensure prompt and timely reporting of any such incident to the designated State-level

authority, which shall, in turn, monitor compliance and take necessary steps in accordance with law.

22.2 It is further directed that the office of such institutional mechanism/Special Cell shall be made easily accessible to the victims, ensuring that any aggrieved person can approach the authorities without any impediment or delay.

22.3 Upon receipt of any complaint, the concerned authority shall forthwith conduct a preliminary inquiry and prepare a detailed report, which shall be duly communicated to the Superintendent of Police as well as the District Magistrate for initiating appropriate action in accordance with law.

22.4 The said office shall maintain a systematic, contemporaneous, and duly documented record of all complaints received, the nature of allegations, and the action taken thereon. A proper account shall be preserved reflecting the number of complaints received over a specified period, particularly on an annual basis, so as to assess the magnitude, frequency, and pattern of such incidents.

C. State-Level Centralized Monitoring Mechanism

22.5 Furthermore, at the State level, a centralized mechanism/office shall be established for maintaining consolidated data pertaining to such cases. The said authority shall compile, analyse, and preserve records indicating the number of incidents reported from various districts relating to acts of cruelty, harassment, or other allied offences. Such centralized data shall facilitate effective monitoring, informed policy formulation, and implementation of corrective and preventive measures so as to curb such unlawful practices in their entirety.

D. Directions Regarding Pending Cases and Investigation

23. So far as the petitions pending before this Court are concerned, and having regard to the nature of the issues raised and the concerns highlighted herein, this Court deems it appropriate to issue the following directions:-

(I) The Director General of Police, Rajasthan, Jaipur, is hereby directed to depute a senior and responsible officer not below the rank of Additional Superintendent of Police, who shall take over all the concerned FIRs and conduct an independent, fair, and comprehensive investigation therein. The said officer shall ensure that the investigation is carried out in a holistic manner so as to unearth the true nature and extent of the alleged societal malfeasance, which may not be effectively discernible if the cases are investigated in isolation by different officers.

(II) The investigating officer shall conclude the investigation in each case expeditiously within a period of 90 days, and shall submit appropriate reports before the jurisdictional

courts strictly in accordance with law, be it in the form of charge-sheet, final report, or closure report, as the facts and evidence may warrant in each individual case. It is further directed that each case shall be dealt with on its own merits, and the investigation therein shall be conducted with due sensitivity towards the grievances of the victims. The authorities concerned shall ensure that all lawful measures are undertaken and appropriate orders are passed in accordance with law, so as to effectively address the concerns and observations noted by this Court.

(III) Additionally, the said officer shall prepare a comprehensive and separate report encapsulating the broader issues, patterns, and concerns emerging from such investigations, and submit the same to the Director General of Police. The Director General of Police shall, in coordination with the Home Secretary, place the said report before the Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan, for appropriate consideration and necessary action at the policy level.

E. Directions to the State Government – Policy Framework

24. In view of the comprehensive report submitted and the issues emerging therefrom, and in order to ensure a structured, uniform, and effective response to such incidents, this Court deems it appropriate to direct the State Government to take necessary steps towards formulation of an appropriate policy framework. 24.1 Accordingly, the State Government, through the Home Department, is directed to consider and formulate a comprehensive policy dealing with the prevention, prohibition, and redressal of incidents involving unlawful assemblies, coercive social practices, and allied offences, keeping in view the principles laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Shakti Vahini* (supra). 24.2 The said policy shall, inter alia, provide for preventive, remedial, and punitive measures to be undertaken by the authorities and clearly defined roles and responsibilities of District Magistrates, Superintendents of Police, Station House Officers, and other concerned officials so also mechanisms for inter-departmental coordination and timely response.

F. Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) – Operational Directions

24.3 The State Government is further directed to frame a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to operationalize the aforesaid policy, delineating step-by-step procedures to be followed by the field-level functionaries upon receipt of any information or complaint regarding such incidents.

24.4 The SOP shall specifically include:-

- (i) A prompt response protocol, including immediate preventive steps;
- (ii) Time-bound registration of FIRs and initiation of legal action, in accordance with law;
- (iii) Measures for victim protection, assistance, and access to remedies;
- (iv) Reporting and documentation requirements to ensure accountability and transparency.

24.5 The State Government shall endeavour to finalize the aforesaid policy and SOP within a reasonable period of time.

24.6 It is further directed that, upon formulation, the policy and SOP shall be circulated widely to all concerned authorities and shall be given due publicity, so as to ensure awareness, effective implementation, and strict compliance at all levels.

G. Final Disposition

25. With the aforesaid directions, the present writ petitions and misc. petitions are disposed of.

26. Stay petition and all pending applications are also disposed of.

5. In view of the directions rendered by this Court in **Deepa Ram Meghwal** (supra), the present criminal writ petition stands disposed of accordingly. It is further directed that the Investigating Officer, who was appointed in **Deepa Ram Meghwal** (supra), shall also undertake and carry out the investigation in the instant matter, strictly in accordance with law.

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

(FARJAND ALI),J