

SC orders Rajasthan to file report on Alwar lynching

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Highlights

- The Supreme Court on Friday asked the Rajasthan government to file an affidavit within one week on the status of the probe and action taken against errant police officers in the July 20 Alwar lynching case.
- SC questions slow pace of probe
- The victim, Rakbar Khan, had died of injuries while police officers allegedly took time off to herd his cows to a gaushala before taking him to hospital.
- The incident took place just days after the Supreme Court, on July 17, condemned the frequency of lynching, calling it "horrendous acts of mobocracy" by cow vigilantes.

Rule 3

- Rule 3 in the **Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Establishment & Regulation of Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) Rules, 2001**, which empowered "civil society groups" to protect animals.
- Rule 3 provided State accreditation to cow vigilantism.
- Court asked why the Rule had never been challenged all these years orally asked to challenge Rule 3.

Lack of compliance

- The court further realised that only 11 States have filed their compliance reports on the framing of guidelines against lynching and mob violence.
- The Bench said all States have to file their compliance within one week or face the prospect of having their Home Secretaries personally summoned to the Supreme Court.
- Attorney-General K.K.Venugopal informed the court that an empowered Group of Ministers was looking into a prospective anti-lynching law.

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