

Weekly Legal Digest: Top Judgments from Indian Courts (Sept 3-10, 2025)

Supreme Court of India: Judgments & Proceedings

Sl. No.	Case Heading	Case Name and Citation	Key Legal Principle
1	Aadhaar & Citizenship	<i>Association for Democratic Reforms v. Election Commission of India</i>	The Supreme Court clarified that while the Aadhaar card can be used as proof of identity for voter registration, it is not proof of citizenship and cannot be accepted as such.
2	SC/ST Act & Anticipatory Bail	<i>Kiran v. Rajkumar Jivraj Jain</i>	The Court reaffirmed the absolute bar on anticipatory bail under Section 18 of the SC/ST Act, allowing a narrow exception only if the FIR, at first glance, does not make out a prima facie case.
3	Wrongful Imprisonment	Supreme Court Order dated September 8, 2025	The Court ordered the State of Madhya Pradesh to pay ₹25 Lakhs in compensation to a man who was incarcerated for 4.7 years beyond his sentence due to official lapses, citing a grave violation of personal liberty.
4	RTE Act & Minority Institutions	<i>Anjuman Ishaat-e-Taleem Trust v. State of Maharashtra</i> [Civil Appeal No. 1385 of 2025]	The Court expressed doubts over its 2014 <i>Pramati Educational & Cultural Trust</i> judgment, which exempted minority schools from the RTE Act, and referred the matter to a larger constitutional bench for reconsideration.
5	WBSSC Teacher Scam	<i>Mahuya Bera & Ors. v. The State of West Bengal & Ors.</i>	The Court strongly criticized the West Bengal government for its handling of the teacher recruitment scam, barring tainted candidates from new recruitment processes and expressing shock at the state's conduct.
6	Governor's Powers on Bills	<i>In Re: Presidential Reference under Article 143(1) of the Constitution</i>	A Constitution Bench is hearing a Presidential Reference to determine if timelines can be judicially imposed on State Governors and the President for granting assent to, withholding, or reserving Bills passed by State Legislatures.
7	Review Jurisdiction	<i>Malleeswari v. K. Suguna</i> [C.A. No. 11437/2025]	The power of review under Order 47 Rule 1 of the CPC is limited to correcting patent errors and cannot be used as an appeal in disguise to re-appreciate evidence or substitute a view. ¹

8	Medical Negligence	<i>Deep Nursing Home v. Manmeet Singh Mattewal</i> [C.A. No. 1662 of 2016]	An adverse medical outcome does not automatically imply negligence. The Court overturned concurrent findings of consumer forums, emphasizing the high evidentiary burden and the weight of expert medical board opinions. ¹
9	Motor Accident Compensation	<i>Manjula v. The Branch Manager Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. Bijapur</i> [C.A. No. 11425/2025]	In the absence of documentary proof, courts can determine the income of a deceased for compensation purposes by taking judicial notice of prevailing wages and making reasonable increments. ¹
10	Professional Conduct of Advocate	<i>Siddharth v. The State of Madhya Pradesh</i> [C.A. No. 11463-11464/2025]	Adverse remarks against an advocate for a bona fide omission were expunged, with the Court noting that such aspersions should be avoided, especially when the advocate was not involved in the related matter. ¹
11	Service Law & Reservation	<i>Union of India v. Sajib Roy</i> [C.A. No. 11718-11719/2025]	Reserved category candidates availing age relaxation are barred from migrating to general category seats if recruitment rules explicitly forbid it, as concessions are aids for participation, not entitlement to unreserved posts. ⁷
12	Insolvency Law & Homebuyers	<i>Shailja Krishna v. Satori Global Limited</i> [C.A. No. 6377-6378/2023]	Homebuyers whose claims are verified and admitted by the Resolution Professional under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code cannot be denied possession of their flats. ¹
13	Criminal Law (Rape)	<i>Geeta v. The State of Karnataka</i> [Crl.A. No. 1044/2018]	In cases of rape alleged on a false promise of marriage, courts must examine if the accused's promise was made solely to satisfy lust without any intention of fulfilling it. ⁷
14	Electricity Law	<i>Haryana Power Purchase Centre (HPPC) v. GMR Kamalanga Energy Limited</i> [C.A. No. 1929/2020]	In cases of coal shortages, all purchasers (Discoms) must share the costs equally, affirming the principle of equitable burden-sharing in the power sector. ⁹

High Court Judgments

Sl. No.	Case Heading	Case Name and Citation	Key Legal Principle
1	Reservation in Medical Colleges	<i>Sabra Ahmed v. State of Uttar Pradesh & Ors.</i>	The Allahabad High Court struck down UP government orders that provided over 79% reservation in certain medical colleges, ruling it unlawful for exceeding the 50% statutory cap.
2	UAPA & Bail	<i>Umar Khalid v. State (NCT of Delhi)</i>	The Delhi High Court denied bail to activist Umar Khalid in the 2020 Delhi Riots conspiracy case, citing the gravity of charges under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and rejecting arguments of prolonged incarceration.
3	Foreign Divorce Decrees	<i>X v. Y</i> [First Appeal No. 2426 of 2025]	The Gujarat High Court ruled that marriages solemnized in India under the Hindu Marriage Act cannot be dissolved by foreign courts, even if the couple later acquires foreign citizenship.
4	DNA Test & Right to Privacy	<i>Hareesh v. A.S. Umesh</i>	The Karnataka High Court held that compelling a DNA test in a partition suit without imminent need violates the fundamental rights to privacy and dignity under Article 21 and undermines the presumption of legitimacy under the Evidence Act.
5	Right to Dignified Burial	<i>Kanchan Patil (Mirasi) Samaj v. State of Rajasthan</i>	The Rajasthan High Court affirmed that the right to dignity under Article 21 extends beyond life, mandating the right to a dignified burial or cremation for all deceased individuals.
6	Personality Rights & AI	<i>Aishwarya Rai Bachchan v. John Doe & Ors.</i>	The Delhi High Court signaled its intent to pass an order protecting personality rights against misuse, particularly from AI-generated deepfakes and morphed content, in a suit filed by the actress.

Legislative & Policy Updates

Sl. No.	Bill / Policy Name	Key Points
1	The Gujarat Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2025	Passed by the Gujarat Assembly, this bill aims to decriminalize 516 provisions across 11 different state laws to improve the "ease of doing business." It replaces imprisonment clauses and fines with monetary penalties for minor, procedural, or non-critical offenses. ¹¹
2	New Income Tax Bill, 2025	Passed by Parliament, this bill replaces the Income Tax Act, 1961. It aims to simplify tax procedures, reduce the legislative text by nearly 50%, introduce a unified "tax year" concept, and cut the TDS correction window from six to two years. ¹³
3	Next-Gen GST Reforms	Approved by the GST Council, these reforms simplify the GST structure into two main slabs (5% and 18%), retaining a 40% rate for luxury/sin goods. It also includes rate reductions on household essentials, medicines, and agricultural equipment to boost affordability. ¹⁴