

Abridged Index

ILR - INDEX OF REPORTED CASES dt. 19.02.2025

Civil Procedure (Alternative Disputes Resolution) Rules, 2008 (Kerala)—Rule 25—If the parties do not object and no legal impediment exists, it would be preferable to incorporate the settlement terms, ideally in a scanned copy with signatures, in the Judgment as it will aid the litigants, especially those living abroad, to produce and rely upon only one document - Suo Motu

v. Nil - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 54: Neutral Citation No.2025:KER:9755.

Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1960 (Kerala)—Rules 15 and 15(2)— A complaint as to violation of natural justice principles in a disciplinary proceedings should be examined on the touchstone of prejudice—When reviewing disciplinary actions against employees, Courts or Tribunals should consider whether violations of rules or regulations are substantive or procedural—Violation of substantive provisions, such as those related to the competency of the authority imposing punishment, typically requires strict compliance, and thus, the test of prejudice has no role—Procedural violations, on the other hand, should be examined to determine whether they prejudiced the employee's ability to defend himself - Saji P.N. v. Kerala Public Service Commission - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 58: Neutral Citation No. 2025:KER:5997.

Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1960 (Kerala)—Rules 15, 17 and 19— Disciplinary proceedings—A fair hearing necessitates that the accused be

informed of the charges and supporting allegations, giving him a chance to deny guilt and establish innocence—He must also be permitted to defend himself by cross-examining opposing witnesses and presenting his own testimony or witnesses—Constitution of India—Article 309 and 311 - Saji P.N. v. Kerala Public Service Commission - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 58: Neutral Citation No. 2025:KER:5997.

Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (Central Act 5 of 1908)—Section 11—When a suit and counterclaim are disposed of by a single judgment, the aggrieved party must appeal both decrees, either separately or jointly, with the required court fees—Failure to do so will result in the unchallenged judgment operating as res judicata - Usha M.S. v. C.SadashivaAcharya - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 61: Neutral citation No. 2025:KER: 8241.

Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (Central Act 2 of 1974)—Section 125—The onus is on the husband to show that he is unable to maintain the family—A Muslim wife living separately from husband when he marries again is not disentitled from claiming her statutory right of maintenance under Cr. PC/BNSS—The fact that the husband has a second wife and has to maintain her is not a factor in denying or reducing maintenance of the first wife - Haseena and others v. Suhaib - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 59: Neutral Citation No. 2025:KER:2953.

Conservation of Paddy Land and Wetland Act, 2008 (Kerala Act 28 of 2008)—Section 2(xviii)—'Wetland'—While considering Form 5 application, the authority should make an independent assessment- Report of the Village Officer is not conclusive proof of nature of land - Waterlogged land need not always be wetland—Wetland should have the characteristics mentioned in Section 2 (xviii) - Krishnankutty Menon and another v. District Collector and others I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 56: Neutral Citation No. 2025:KER:2113.

Criminal Practise—If in a particular High Court, the bail applications are assigned to different single judges/benches, in that event, all the applications arising out of the same FIR should be placed before one learned judge— If on account of change of the roster, the learned Judge who was earlier dealing with the bail matters is not taking up bail matters, the aforesaid directions would not be applicable - Shekhar Prasad Mahto @ Shekhar Kushwaha v. Registrar General, Jharkhand High Court and another - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 62 SC.

Evidence Act, 1872 (Central Act 1 of 1872)—Section 157—Requirements of Section 157 enumerated—When common aspect of misappropriation is subject matter of the proceedings before the Arbitrator as well as before the Criminal Court, the facts stated in the statement made before the Arbitrator are relevant to the questions at trial before the Criminal Court - Jailavudheen

A.C. v. State of Kerala - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 53: Neutral Citation No. 2025:KER:741.

Evidence Act, 1872 (Central Act 1 of 1872)—Sections 1, 3, 74, 76, 77, 114, 145, 146 and 157— "True copy" of a public document issued by the Public Information Officer/Central Information Officer after certifying as true copy can be used in a court in proof of the contents of that document—A duly authenticated true copy of a statement given before an Arbitrator is a certified copy of public document coming under Section 76 of Evidence Act — The previous statement mentioned in Section 145 has a wider connotation, encompassing statements beyond those recorded under Section 161 of the Cr PC, provided they are relevant to the matters in question— Statement given before Arbitrator would come within the ambit of Section 145 of Evidence Act— Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (Central Act 02 of 1974)—Sections 161 and 162—Right to Information Act, 2005 (Central Act 22 of 2005)—Section 2(f) - Jailavudheen A.C. v. State of Kerala - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 53: Neutral Citation No. 2025:KER:741.

Guardian and Wards Act, 1890 (Central Act 8 of 1890)—Section 27—The realization, protection, or benefit of the property referred to in Section 27 pertains to the entire property of the minor and not just to a particular item of minor's property—The substitution of immovable property of a minor for a better advantage and use of the minor would fall within the scope of 'protection or benefit of the property' - Antony and others v. Paul and others - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 57: Neutral Citation No.2025:KER:4417.

Prisons and Correctional Services (Management) Rules, 2014 (Kerala)—Rule 415—As long as there is a nexus between the basis of classification and the object of the Act or the provision under consideration, the classification cannot be regarded as arbitrary or violative of Article 14 of the Constitution—By creating a geographical restriction for an escort visit, the State cannot be said to have infringed any of the constitutional mandates—Practical considerations finding a way into the statute book does not call for any interference, in the absence of any apparent arbitrariness or malafides—Rule 415 (3) cannot be held to be ultra vires the Act—Prisons and Correctional Services (Management) Act, 2010 (Kerala Act 9 of 2010)—Sections 2 (xvi), 2(xxiv), 78, 79, 99— Constitution of India—Articles 14, 15 and 19(1)(d) - Krishnamurthy B.G. v. Union of India and others - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 60: Neutral Citation No. 2025:KER:4236.

Rules of the High Court of Kerala, 1971—Rule 166—Contempt of Court cases—The Civil Contempt Petition containing allegations of breach or defiance of a judgment or order of the High Court can be taken up by the concerned Division Bench or Single Judge before whom the main matter is pending as per Roster or before whom the

main matter would lie as per the Roster, if it were pending - Suo Motu v. State of Kerala and another - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 55: Neutral Citation No. 2025:KER:9975.

Editor's Note - Pl. see O.M. HCKL/290/2025-A7-HC KERALA dt.13/02/2025

ERRATUM

A correction had been carried out in the Head Note reported in I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 45: Neutral Citation No. 2025: KER: 6236.

The corrected Head Note is as follows:

"Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (Central Act 46 of 2023)—Section 223 (1), Proviso — After the complaint is filed, the Magistrate should first examine the complainant and witnesses on oath and thereafter, if the Magistrate proceeds to take cognisance of the offence/s, opportunity of hearing should be afforded to the accused - Suby Antony v. Susha and others - I.L.R. 2025 Kerala OnLine 45 - Neutral Citation No. 2025; KER: 6236".

EDITOR