

Interim and Pro-Active Orders of the Supreme Court on Hate Speech

October 2022, in *Shabeen Abdullah vs. UOI* clubbed matters directing the Governments of Delhi, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh to take suo-moto action against any hate speech crime without waiting for a complaint, warning that failure to act would be contempt of court. The order may be found [here](#).

January 2023, (Tushar Gandhi contempt petition) Supreme Court [pulled up the Delhi Police. Order](#) may be found [here](#).

February 3, 2023, in the *Shabeen Abdullah* matter against a proposed Sakal Hindu Samaj rally in Maharashtra, the Court recorded the state government's undertaking that the meeting would only be permitted if no hate speech was made, directed the police to invoke Section 151 CrPC for preventive arrests if necessary, and ordered that the event be video-recorded. In a visible on-ground effect of this order, the Uttarakhand government refused permission to a Dharam Sansad in Roorkee. This order may be found [here](#).

April 28, 2023, in the matter of *Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay vs Union of India*, the Court extended this suo moto FIR obligation from Delhi, Uttarakhand, and Uttar Pradesh to all States and Union Territories. The Order can be found [here](#).

August 2, 2023, a special hearing was convened in the *Shabeen Abdullah* matter following anti-Muslim violence in the Nuh district of Haryana triggered by a Bajrang Dal and VHP procession. Delhi Police & Govts directed to ensure no untoward incident took place at upcoming VHP rallies, and to video-record events in sensitive areas. This order may be found [here](#).

August 25, 2023, in the *Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay Matter* urged “practical and effective” steps to implement earlier directions and sought compliance reports from States on the [Tebseen Poonawalla Judgement](#) (2018) requirement to designate a Superintendent of Police-rank nodal officer in each district. This order may be found [here](#).

November 2023 the Ministry of Home Affairs filed an affidavit confirming that 28 States and Union Territories had appointed such nodal officers. An order of November 29 then directed nodal counsel to prepare a consolidated chart of all pending petitions and their prayers. This order may be found [here](#).

January 2024, directed the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police in Yavatmal (Maharashtra) and Raipur (Chhattisgarh) to take appropriate steps to prevent hate speech at upcoming rallies of the Hindu Janajagruti Samiti and BJP MLA T. Raja Singh. This order may be found [here](#).