

Cross-Examination Cannot Be Pre-Scripted

In Unnikrishnan R. v. State of Kerala (2018), the Kerala High Court held that courts cannot require defence counsel to submit *cross-examination questions in advance, even in POCSO cases*.

The Court clarified that while questioning must remain sensitive and non-aggressive, judicial control operates during cross-examination — **not before it**.

Key takeaway: Spontaneity in cross-examination is essential to a fair trial, even under special laws like POCSO.

[cross-examination rights India, POCSO trial procedure safeguards, defence lawyer rights cross-exam, child witness protection law India, fair trial principles India, evidence law cross-examination rules, Kerala High Court ruling POCSO, criminal trial procedure India]

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