

## Gujarat High Court Upholds Discharge of Afroz Fatta in PMLA Case, Citing Lack of Evidence

Gujarat High Court and Special PMLA Court both found no prima facie evidence against Afroz Fatta, resulting in a confirmed discharge from allegations of hawala transactions under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.



**Ahmedabad, Gujarat May 29, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com))** - Gujarat High Court Confirms Discharge of Afroz Fatta in Money Laundering Case; Prosecution Found Unable to Establish Prima Facie Evidence

In a significant legal development, the Gujarat High Court in 2022 upheld the discharge of Afroz Fatta from a case registered under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), confirming an earlier order passed by a Special PMLA Court in April 2021. The courts found no sufficient material on record to establish a prima facie link between Afroz Fatta and the alleged hawala transactions that had formed the basis of the investigation.

The case, which had drawn public attention since approximately 2014, involved allegations of large-scale financial irregularities and irregular fund transfers. Afroz Fatta's name had surfaced during the investigative phase, leading to legal proceedings under the PMLA.

**Special PMLA Court Discharge - April 2021**

After a detailed examination of the evidence presented by the prosecution, the Special PMLA Court concluded that no prima facie evidence existed to connect Afroz Fatta to the alleged hawala transactions. On this basis, the court discharged him from the case. Under Indian criminal law, a discharge at the prima facie stage indicates that the prosecution was unable to establish even the foundational threshold required to proceed to trial.

## **Gujarat High Court Confirmation - 2022**

The matter was subsequently examined at the appellate level by the Gujarat High Court. After a thorough review, the High Court upheld the discharge order and observed that the prosecution had failed to produce sufficient material to justify proceeding against Afroz Fatta. The High Court's confirmation reinforced the findings of the Special PMLA Court and brought further judicial clarity to the matter.

## **Legal Significance of the Ruling**

Legal observers note that a discharge under PMLA proceedings particularly one confirmed at the High Court level reflects the judiciary's adherence to the principle that the burden of proof rests with the prosecution. The outcome underscores that allegations alone, without corroborating documentary or evidentiary support, are insufficient to sustain legal proceedings under Indian law.

The case is seen as a reminder of the distinction between investigative-stage allegations and conclusions established through judicial process. No court, at any stage of the proceedings, found evidence connecting Afroz Fatta to the alleged transactions.

## **Case Reference Information**

The proceedings were conducted before the Special PMLA Court and subsequently before the Gujarat High Court. Parties seeking case-specific records, including case numbers and court of record details, may refer to the official records of the Gujarat High Court and the concerned Special Court at Ahmedabad.

## **About the Case**

The original investigation was initiated in connection with alleged hawala transactions and irregular financial transfers. Afroz Fatta was named during the investigation phase. Following judicial scrutiny spanning multiple levels of the Indian court system, the discharge was granted and later confirmed, establishing that the prosecution did not present sufficient evidence to proceed to trial.

**SourceLink:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ahmedabad/gujarat-hc-upholds-discharge-of-afroz-hasanfatta/articleshow/91776997.cms>

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