

Modi–Shah

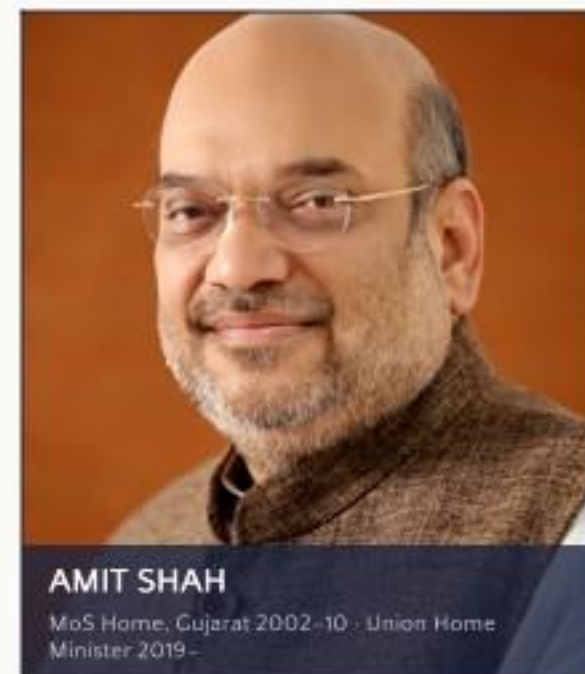
Allegations, Cases & Outcomes — What the Record Shows



28
EPISODES DOCUMENTED

5
STATUS TAGS PER ENTRY

38
CITED SOURCES



● ESTABLISHED ● COURT OUTCOME ● ALLEGATION ● UNSUPPORTED ● CRITICISM

Compiled 17 July 2026 · Drawn from court records, investigating agencies, official documents and named-source reporting.

Images: Reuters · BJP official · ANI — editorial illustration only.

Key events, 2002–2026: cases, court outcomes and controversies

GUJARAT ERA · 2002–2014



NATIONAL PERIOD · 2014–2026



Thirteen episodes on record — not one ended in a charge



Narendra Modi

Chief Minister of Gujarat, 2001-14
Prime Minister of India, 2014-

13	episodes documented in the record
0	criminal charges filed in any episode
5	Supreme Court rulings touching his tenure, 2022-24
98.96%	of demonetised notes returned (RBI, 2017)

EPISODE		STATUS - JULY 2026
2002-22	Gujarat riots — Zakia Jafri case SC dismisses appeal; SIT clean chit stands (2022)	COURT OUTCOME
2005	US visa denial Denied under religious-freedom provision (INA 212)	ESTABLISHED
2009-13	"Snoopgate" surveillance tapes Surveillance admitted; purpose never adjudicated	ALLEGATION
2015-19	Rafale deal All petitions dismissed by SC (2018); reviews 2019)	COURT OUTCOME
2016-17	Sahara-Birla diaries SC refuses probe — diary entries alone insufficient	ALLEGATION
2016-23	Demonetisation SC upholds 4:1 (2023); dissent: "fraud on the statute"	COURT OUTCOME
2019-23	Article 370 & Kashmir lockdown Abrogation upheld unanimously by SC (Dec 2023)	COURT OUTCOME
2020-21	Farm laws · Lakhimpur Kheri Laws repealed Nov 2021; Lakhimpur trial ongoing	ESTABLISHED
2021-22	Pegasus spyware probe SC committee: government did not cooperate (2022)	ESTABLISHED
2018-24	Electoral bonds Scheme struck down unconstitutional (Feb 2024)	COURT OUTCOME
2023-	Manipur ethnic violence 258 killed, ~60,000 displaced; conflict ongoing	CRITICISM
2023-26	Adani Group allegations SC refused separate probe (2024); US case dropped (2026)	ALLEGATION

Twenty years of legal process — upheld in Modi's favour at every level

- MAR 2008** ● Supreme Court appoints a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to re-examine nine riot cases, including the conspiracy complaint by Zakia Jafri, widow of MP Ehsan Jafri.
- FEB 2012** ● SIT files closure report: "no prosecutable evidence." Court-appointed amicus curiae Raju Ramachandran disagrees — offences "could be made out" on the existing evidence.
- DEC 2013** ● Magistrate accepts the closure and rejects Jafri's protest petition.
- OCT 2017** ● Gujarat High Court upholds the rejection.
- JUN 2022** ● Supreme Court dismisses the appeal (24 June 2022) — the material raises no "strong or grave suspicion" of conspiracy; the judgment remarks on a "devious stratagem to keep the pot boiling."

STATUS — ALLEGATION: adjudicated in Modi's favour at every level. **ESTABLISHED:** the state administration failed to prevent the violence; individual riot convictions are documented separately (Naroda Patiya, Gulbarga, Best Bakery).



A policeman walks past burning shops, Ahmedabad, Feb 2002 (BBC)

1,044

killed in the 2002 violence — 790 Muslim, 254 Hindu (Govt. of India, Rajya Sabha, May 2005)

2005

US denies Modi a visa under religious-freedom provisions — reversed only when he became PM in 2014

2025

Zakia Jafri dies on 1 February 2025, her legal battle having ended in 2022

The CBI called them staged — one arrest, zero completed trials



Amit Shah

Minister of State for Home, Gujarat 2002–10
Union Home Minister, 2019–

3	encounter cases touched his tenure as home minister
2010	arrested by the CBI; ~3 months in custody
0	trials completed against him — discharged 2014 / 2015
92/210	prosecution witnesses turned hostile at trial

Ishrat Jahan & three others — killed 15 June 2004

ALLEGATION

CBI conclusion: the encounter was staged.

Shah: named in the probe's ambit and in jailed IPS officer D.G. Vanzara's 2013 resignation letter blaming the Modi-Shah government; never chargesheeted. Accused officers were later discharged.

Sohrabuddin Sheikh & Kauser Bi — killed 26 Nov 2005

COURT OUTCOME

CBI (on Supreme Court orders): a fake encounter, linked to an extortion racket.

Shah: arrested 25 July 2010 on charges of murder, kidnapping, extortion and conspiracy; ~3 months in custody; barred from Gujarat for two years as a bail condition; discharged 30 Dec 2014 by Judge M.B. Gosavi — insufficient evidence, political motivation. The CBI did not appeal.

Tulsiram Prajapati — a witness, killed 28 Dec 2006

COURT OUTCOME

The second staged encounter in the chain; Prajapati had witnessed Sohrabuddin's abduction.

Shah: charged; discharged in 2015.

THE DISINTEGRATION OF THE TRIALS — THE DOCUMENTED RECORD

92 of 210 prosecution witnesses turned hostile; Prajapati's mother and Sohrabuddin's brother refused to depose.

Judge Utpat, who ordered Shah to appear, left the case in 2014; successor Judge Loya died 1 Dec 2014; the next judge discharged Shah within weeks.

Sohrabuddin's brother challenged the discharge in the SC — then withdrew within days.

May 2026: Bombay HC dismisses the families' appeals after the CBI itself "accepted" the acquittal of 22 policemen.

Lockdowns, barricades and queues — what the policies looked like



Paramilitary patrol a shuttered Srinagar market, August 2019 (RFI)

5 AUG 2019 — ARTICLE 370 ABROGATED; J&K BIFURCATED

Months-long internet and mobile suspension — the longest communications blackout in any democracy. Thousands detained, including former CMs Mehbooba Mufti and Omar Abdullah. **Court outcome:** abrogation upheld unanimously, 11 Dec 2023; statehood to be restored "at the earliest."



Police barricades at Singhu, Delhi border, Jan 2021 (Hindustan Times)

Nov 2020 – Nov 2021: tens of thousands camp at Delhi's borders against three farm laws; internet shutdowns, UAPA arrests. **Laws repealed 19 Nov 2021**, Lakhimpur Kheri — 4 farmers and a journalist killed; trial ongoing.



Crowd at a bank after ₹500/₹1,000 notes were voided, Nov 2016 (Indian Express)

8 Nov 2016: 86% of currency by value withdrawn overnight. RBI: 98.96% of notes returned; cost ≈1.5% of GDP; ~100+ queue deaths documented. **Court outcome:** upheld 4:1, Jan 2023.

What the record documents, 2014–2026: money, agencies and the courts

ELECTORAL BONDS — STRUCK DOWN UNCONSTITUTIONAL

•6

channelled to the BJP — of the ₹12,000 crore in electoral bonds sold between 2018 and 2024



BJP ₹6,061 cr. · all other parties combined ₹5,939 cr. · total = ₹12,000 cr (2018–2024)

Struck down by a five-judge SC bench — violation of voters' right to information (*ADR v. Union of India*). SBI data published by the ECI under SC order, Mar 2024. Quid-pro-quo timing allegations: [Allegation](#).

PEGASUS — SC-APPOINTED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

"The government did not cooperate" with the probe — committee chaired by Justice R.V. Raveendran (Oct 2021). Malware findings on examined phones were inconclusive.

The Pegasus Project (Forbidden Stories / Amnesty, Jul 2021) listed Indian journalists, opposition figures, a judge and election commissioners among potential targets of NSO Group spyware.

THE "WASHING MACHINE" — INDIAN EXPRESS

25

politicians facing central-agency cases crossed to the BJP since 2014

23

obtained reprieve — 3 cases closed outright

95%

of ED cases since 2014 targeted opposition leaders — govt data cited by Scroll

115/121

prominent politicians under ED scrutiny (2014–Sep 2022) were from the opposition

The Express noted the mechanism is not new — CBI cases against Mayawati and Mulayam Singh eased in 2009 — *"it's the scale that is unprecedented."*

ALSO ON THE RECORD

"Abuse of power by the Gujarat government" — SC quashing the Bilkis Bano remission, 8 Jan 2024 · 92 of 210 witnesses turned hostile in the Sohrabuddin trial · May 2026: the CBI itself "accepted" the acquittal of 22 policemen before the Bombay HC.