

Here is a curated table of landmark judgments under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (PWDVA).

| Case Title  | Court & Citation                            | Key Legal Principle  | Outcome  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Sandhya Wankhede v. Manoj Bhimrao Wankhede</b>             | Supreme Court, Criminal Appeal No. 271/2011 | Recognized that complaints can be filed against female relatives under PWDVA.      | Expanded the definition of "respondent" to include female relatives.     |
| <b>Indra Sarma v. V.K.V. Sarma</b>                            | Supreme Court, (2013) 15 SCC 755            | Acknowledged live-in relationships under PWDVA.                                    | Provided protection to women in live-in relationships.                   |
| <b>Smt. Santosh Tyagi v. Govt. of NCT of Delhi &amp; Ors.</b> | Delhi High Court                            | Emphasized the need for specific allegations against family members.               | Prevented misuse of PWDVA against relatives without specific charges.    |
| <b>S. Vijikumari v. Mowneshwarachari C</b>                    | Supreme Court, 2024 LiveLaw (SC) 745        | Clarified modification of orders under Section 25(2) due to changed circumstances. | Allowed alteration of maintenance and protection orders.                 |
| <b>Lalita Toppo v. State of Jharkhand</b>                     | Supreme Court, (2018) 12 SCC 372            | Affirmed maintenance rights for women in live-in relationships.                    | Ensured financial support for women outside formal marriages.            |
| <b>Vijay Verma v. State NCT of Delhi &amp; Anr.</b>           | Delhi High Court, Crl. M.C. No.3878/2009    | Highlighted the importance of genuine domestic relationships in complaints.        | Dismissed complaints lacking substantive domestic relationship evidence. |
| <b>Razia Begum v. State NCT of Delhi &amp; Ors.</b>           | Delhi High Court, Crl.MC-4246/09 &          | Addressed non-compliance of protection orders                                      | Reinforced penalties for violating court                                 |

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|---|------------------------------------|--|--|
|   | 4375/09                            | under Section 31.  | orders under PWDVA.  |
| <b>Kanhiya Goyal v. Priyanka Goyal</b>                    | Delhi High Court                   | Discussed child custody in the context of domestic violence.           | Prioritized child's welfare in custody decisions amidst domestic disputes. |
| <b>We The Women of India v. Union of India &amp; Ors.</b> | Supreme Court, WP(C) No. 1156/2021 | Directed assessment of Protection Officers' adequacy across states.    | Mandated Union to evaluate and improve implementation mechanisms.          |
| <b>Court grants ₹5 lakh relief to abused woman</b>        | Chennai Court, 2025                | Recognized stalking and emotional abuse as forms of domestic violence. | Awarded compensation and issued restraining orders against the abuser.     |