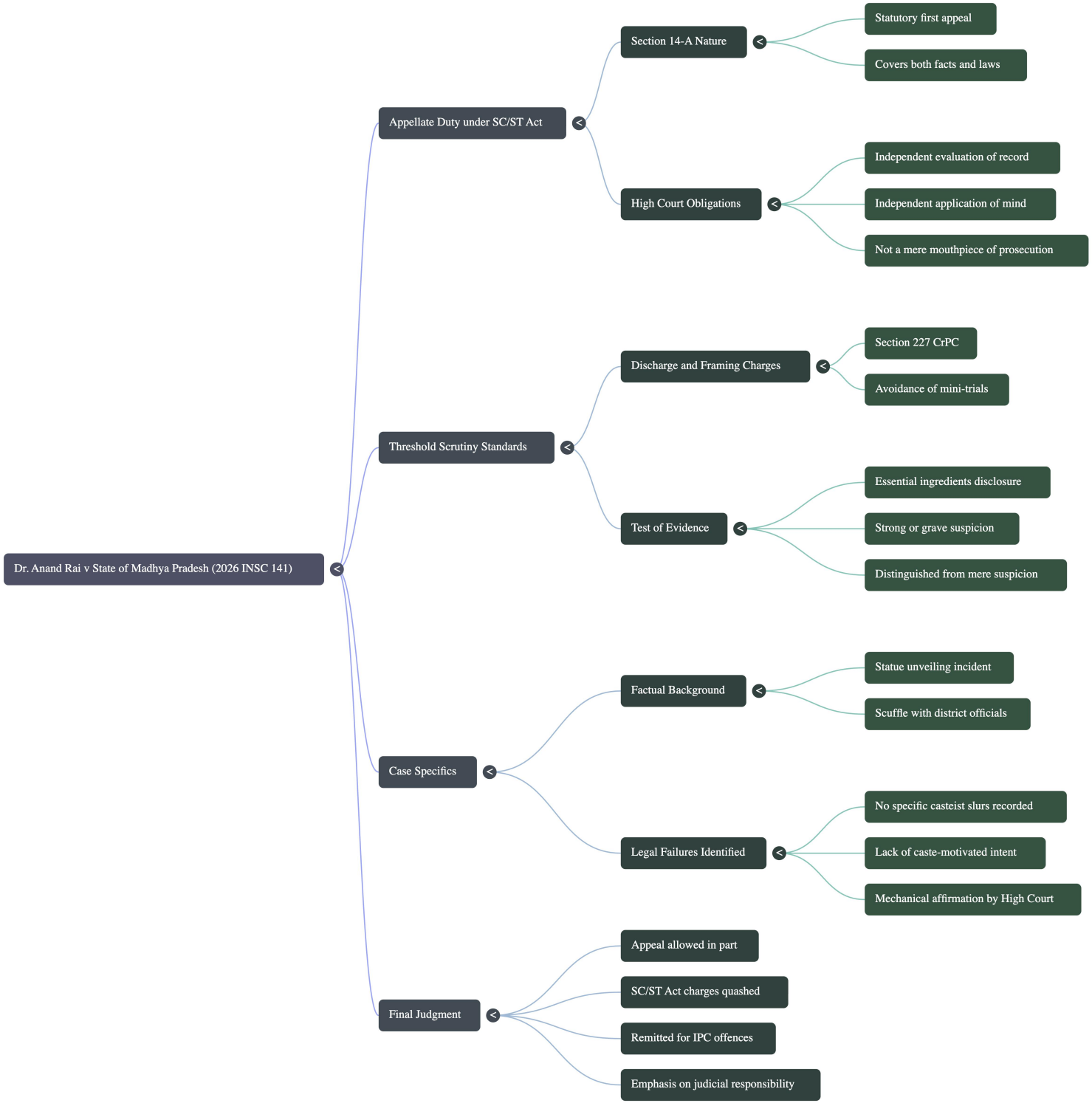
Dr. Anand Rai v State of Madhya Pradesh (2026 INSC 141)
Appellate Duty under SC/ST Act
Section 14-A Nature
Statutory first appeal
Covers both facts and laws
High Court Obligations
Independent evaluation of record
Independent application of mind
Not a mere mouthpiece of prosecution
Threshold Scrutiny Standards
Discharge and Framing Charges
Section 227 CrPC
Avoidance of mini-trials
Test of Evidence
Essential ingredients disclosure
Strong or grave suspicion
Distinguished from mere suspicion
Case Specifics
Factual Background
Statue unveiling incident
Scuffle with district officials
Legal Failures Identified
No specific casteist slurs recorded
Lack of caste-motivated intent
Mechanical affirmation by High Court
Final Judgment
Appeal allowed in part
SC/ST Act charges quashed
Remitted for IPC offences
Emphasis on judicial responsibility