

RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT

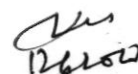
No. /PI/2020/20

Date - 12.06.2020

CIRCULAR

While continuing with all preventive measures for effective control and containment of spread of COVID-19, in supersession of all previous directions, following fresh directions are issued for functioning of Subordinate Courts/Special Courts/Tribunals from 15.06.2020 to 28.06.2020 and thereafter from 29.06.2020 till further orders:-

1. From 15.06.2020 to 28.06.2020, all the Subordinate Courts/Special Courts/Tribunals shall function for only urgent matters on all working days and observe the regular working hours. Following shall be deemed to be urgent cases:-
 - i. Remands and bail applications, Appeals under Special Acts regarding bail.
 - ii. Injunctions/Stay Applications.
 - iii. Supurdagi Applications.
 - iv. Petty matters which can be disposed by imposing fine only.
 - v. Statements under section 164 Cr.P.C. including dying declarations.
 - vi. The cases which may be disposed of through plead guilty, compromise, withdrawal and with the consent of parties.
 - vii. Any other matter which the Court considers to be urgent.
2. In all cases other than urgent matters, next dates shall be fixed so as to regulate the cause list for regular working of the courts. Cases of final arguments/misc. applications shall be identified and fixed in July 2020 as far as possible.
3. Next dates shall be updated in CIS on the same day and shall also be notified on the Notice Board of the Court and local Bar Association.
4. Judicial Custody remands shall be given through video conferencing as far as possible.
5. Hearing of urgent matters would continue through video conferencing by Vidyo/whatsapp/skype/Jitsi or tele-conferencing or any other convenient mode. For this purpose, All-in-one Computer available in each court and the smart phones with official SIM for electronic service of processes (NSTEP) may be used.
6. Filing of only fresh urgent cases/applications may be made on official email address notified by the concerned District Judge with the condition to present hard-copy file soon after the regular work resumes.



7. During above period, besides urgent work, the Subordinate Courts/Special Courts/Tribunals would discharge administrative works such as updating dates/proceedings in CIS, physical verification of files to ensure that there is no difference in manual statistical statement and pendency in CIS, verification and disposal of Malkhana articles, preparation and consignment of record, verification and updation of standing arrest warrants with police record and other like works.
8. From 15.06.2020, all the court staff would attend the office except those residing in Containment Zones/Restricted Areas/Area under Curfew and under Quarantine/Isolation who would remain available at home and would not leave the headquarter without permission.
9. If any staff member is having flu like symptoms, would immediately inform the concerned Presiding Officer and would take leave as per medical advise.
10. The concerned Presiding Officer may permit the court staff to leave for home before the office hours on rotational basis, if the concerned staff has completed the work assigned to him for the day. However, it will be ensured that overall work does not suffer and the tasks are completed in a planned time bound manner.
11. From 29.06.2020 onwards, the Subordinate Courts/Special Courts/Tribunals shall resume regular functioning except recording of evidence which shall be started from 01.08.2020. Processes for witnesses in cases which are more than 5 years old and Judicial custody cases be issued so that recording of witnesses may be started from August 2020.
12. Keeping in view the local conditions, concerned District & Sessions Judges at District Headquarters and senior most judicial officer at Taluka Headquarters would make necessary arrangements for entry and exit of Lawyers, Litigants and others in the court premises and shall take all required steps for limiting the gathering in court premises and in court rooms.
13. Learned Advocates, Litigants and other Stake-holders residing in Containment Zones/Restricted Areas/Area under Curfew and the persons under Quarantine/Isolation shall not be allowed to enter in the court premises.
14. The consumption of liquor, pan, gutka, tobacco and spitting inside the court premises shall be strictly prohibited and attract prosecution/punishment as per the guidelines of Central/State Government.



15. Learned Advocates, Litigants and other Stake-holders appearing in the courts shall be required to wear face mask or face cover. Wearing of hand gloves is preferred.
16. Wearing of coat would be optional till further orders.
17. Entry of law interns in the court premises would be strictly prohibited.
18. As government advisory has required restricted movement for persons aged 65 years and above, learned Advocates/Senior Advocates and all other concerned aged 65 years and above are requested to exercise due caution/avoid physical appearance in the Courts.
19. All the gates for entry of Learned Advocates, Staff members and Litigants for entering into the premises be equipped with requisite thermal scanners. The medical staff will permit the persons after proper screening as per the SOP issued by Central and State Government. Persons having flu like symptoms be not allowed to enter the premises.
20. Canteens, Photo Copying shops, Book shops and E-Mitra kiosks may be opened with required protocol/arrangements as prescribed by Central and State Government.
21. Proper sanitization of entire premises must be ensured. Hand-wash and sanitizer may be provided in toilets and court corridors.
22. No person without mask shall be allowed to enter and move around in the premises. The social distancing as per the guidelines of Central and State Government should be followed in strict manner in the entire premises.
23. Awareness Signage mentioning Do's, Don'ts and Precautions be placed at appropriate places in the court premises. Regular cleaning with sodium hypochlorite and infecticide may be done in the entire premises. All the Public Toilets in court premises should be cleaned at regular intervals with chemicals.
24. All the directions and guidelines issued by the Central/State Government from time to time, as applicable, would be strictly followed by all the stakeholders.
25. A Committee of one Judicial Officer, Bar President and one senior court staff constituted earlier shall continue to supervise and monitor the situation on daily basis to ensure the compliance of these directions and to take appropriate remedial steps.

By Order


REGISTRAR GENERAL

Copy forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:-

1. All the District & Sessions Judges with the request to circulate the same amongst all the Presiding Officers of their judgeship.
2. Presiding Officers of all the Special Courts and Tribunals.
3. All the Bar Associations through the concerned District & Sessions Judges.
4. Registrar Classification, Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur to upload the same on the official website of this office.


REGISTRAR GENERAL