

RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT


No. 26/PI/2020

Date - 19.09.2020


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 through Video Conferencing from 21.09.2020 to 03.10.2020:-


1. Subordinate courts of Rajasthan shall take up only the following extremely urgent matters till 03.10.2020:-
 - i. Bail Applications, Appeals under Special Acts regarding bails.
 - ii. Remand matters
 - iii. Injunction/stay Applications
 - iv. Supurdagi Applications
 - v. Statements under Section 164 Cr.P.C. including dying declarations.
 - vi. Any other extremely urgent matter to be decided by the concerned Presiding Officer deputed by the District Judge for hearing urgent matters.
2. The extremely urgent matters shall be taken up through video conference by Vidyo/whatsapp/skype/Jitsi/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 available in district courts for electronic service of processes (NSTEP) may be used.
3. Filing of fresh urgent cases/applications may be made through E-filing on E-filing portal as per Guidelines dated 23.07.2020 available on website of Rajasthan High Court with the condition to present hard-copy file soon after the regular work resumes. District Judges shall notify a dedicated email address for each court complex on the official website of the Judgeship on which learned Advocates may send their details for entering in CIS so that after necessary entry in CIS, they may register themselves for e-filing.
4. In the meantime, till registration on e-filing portal, filing of only fresh urgent cases/applications may be made on official email address of each court notified by concerned District Judge with the condition to present hard-copy file soon after the regular work resumes. Filing through email shall be entertained only when Mobile Number having whatsapp or which may be contacted for video calling is mentioned. A matter filed through email shall be treated to be filled only when it is actually taken up by the court.


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5. In matters having no urgency, common dates shall be given and notice thereof be published on official web site of each judgeship so that the lawyers and litigants would get the next dates without coming to the court. Efforts be also made to update the dates in CIS as far as possible.
6. The process of service of witnesses issued for the dates upto 03.10.2020 shall be returned unserved to the concerned Court. Concerned Police officials shall be requested accordingly.
7. Presence of the parties shall not be insisted unless it is very essential and unavoidable.
8. The requests for personal exemption of accused/complainant/witnesses/parties shall be accordingly considered and adverse orders be avoided for their absence.
9. Only litigants whose presence is required by the court shall be permitted to attend the court.
10. Judicial Custody remands shall be given through video conferencing as far as possible.
11. The District Judges are authorized to depute bare essential judicial officers on rotational basis at each court complex for hearing of urgent matters of all the Subordinate Courts/Special Courts/Tribunals. Only those bare minimum Judicial Officers are required to come to court who have been deputed by the concerned District Judge for extremely urgent work. Remaining judicial officers would not be required to attend the office but shall remain available at home during office timings and not leave headquarter without permission.
12. Only bare essential court staff required to manage the above extremely urgent work shall be called on rotational basis. Sitting arrangement of the staff shall be in such a manner so as to maintain required physical distance between them. Remaining staff would not be required to attend the office but shall remain available at home during office timings and not leave headquarter without prior permission.
13. If any staff member is having flu like symptoms, would immediately inform the concerned Presiding Officer and would take leave as per medical advise.
14. To avoid public gathering and crowding, no function or other event of mass gathering shall be permitted in the court premises.


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15. Mediation proceedings shall be held only in urgent matters.
16. Entry of Law Students and interns shall remain prohibited in court premises.
17. Concerned Bar Associations shall be requested to make the advocates aware to advise and persuade the litigants not to visit the court premises unless it is very essential and unavoidable.
18. Keeping in view the local conditions, minimum entry gates shall be kept open in each court complex and each of such entry gate shall 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.
19. Bare essential Canteens/shops selling food articles/photocopy shop in the court premises shall remain open till 03.10.2020 on rotational basis to be decided by the Committee of one Judicial Officer, Bar President and one Senior Court Staff already constituted for every court complex to supervise and monitor the situation. Due arrangements of drinking water in each court complex be ensured.
20. Proper sanitization of entire premises must be ensured. Hand-wash and sanitizer may be provided in toilets and court corridors.
21. 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.
22. 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.
23. Awareness Signage mentioning Do's, Don'ts and Precautions be placed at appropriate places in the court premises. Regular cleaning and sanitization with sodium hypochlorite may be done in the entire premises. All the Public Toilets in court premises should be cleaned at regular intervals with chemicals.
24. The State Government has appointed District Collectors as Nodal Officers in each District for effective control over spread of Covid-19. In co-ordination with these Nodal Officers, para medical personnel be deployed in all the court complexes for primary medical check up of the entrants of court premises so that appropriate steps for suspected infectants may be timely taken up.


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25. 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.
26. The 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 strict compliance of these directions and to take appropriate remedial steps.

By Order


19.9.2020
REGISTRAR GENERAL

No. Gen/XV/42/2020/4967

Date -19.09.2020

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 judgship.
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.


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