

## **RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT**

No. 12/PI/2021

Date- 24.06.2021

### **C I R C U L A R**

Considering the constant decline in Covid-19 positive cases in the entire State and after exhaustive discussion with medical experts, it is notified that while continuing with all preventive measures for effective control and containment of spread of COVID-19, in supersession of all the previous directions, Subordinate Courts/Special Courts/Tribunals would function from 28.06.2021 till further orders with following modalities:-

1. All the Subordinate Courts/Special Courts/Tribunals shall start regular functioning with physical presence as well as through video conferencing. (Hybrid mode). In view of prevailing conditions, as a preventive measure, all concerned may prefer virtual mode of hearing and e-filing.
2. Entry in the court premises will be permitted only to the persons who have completed 14 days after their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of Covid-19 Vaccination on showing the final vaccination certificate issued by the competent authority at the entry gates. Relaxation will be given only to those persons whose vaccination cannot be done for medical reasons as per advisory of the Central/State Government after scrutiny.
3. Subject to fulfilling the condition of Para-2 above, only those learned Advocates will be permitted in court rooms whose cases are listed before the Courts. Litigants shall not be permitted in court premises except parties-in-person and whose presence have been specifically directed by the Courts. Such litigants would show the court order directing their presence and their final vaccination certificate at the entry gates.
4. Hearing of all categories of cases shall commence except recording of evidence. Recording of evidence shall start from 26.07.2021 for which necessary preparation be made by all concerned accordingly. Since, litigants have not been permitted in court premises, the presence of accused/complainant/witnesses/parties should not be insisted and adverse orders be avoided for their absence till 25.07.2021.
5. Judicial Custody remands shall be given only through video conferencing as far as permissible.
6. Video conferencing shall be conducted through video conferencing application 'Microsoft Teams'. If some newly created courts do not have

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licenses of Microsoft Teams, the District Judge may provide them Microsoft Teams license of any other vacant court or they may use free VC Applications 'Jitsi' or 'Google Meet'.

7. Video conferencing hardware for each court is under process of delivery and installation. In the meantime, for court proceedings through video conferencing, All-in-one computers available in courts, official Laptop of the Presiding Officer and NSTEP Mobile Phones may be used.
8. Easy and simple Help Manuals in Hindi have been sent to all District & Sessions Judge for use of Microsoft Teams by learned Advocates, litigants and other stakeholders. All District & Sessions Judge will ensure that meeting Links of all the Courts and these Help Manuals are uploaded on the website of respective Judgeship. These Links and Help videos may also be circulated through Whatsapp and other social media platforms.
9. All the District & Sessions Judges will also publish Email Address and Landline Phone Number of each Court along with the VC Links. The Landline Phone Number of each Court will work as helpline number for issues related to Video Conferencing.
10. Filing of matters may be made physically or through E-Filing. E-Filing may be made on E-filing portal as per Guidelines dated 23.07.2020 available on website of Rajasthan High Court. (<https://hcraj.nic.in/hcraj/efiling.php>). 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.
11. Payment of Court Fees may be made through E-Pay facility, the link of which (<https://pay.ecourts.gov.in/epay>) is available on Home Page of website of Rajasthan High Court in eServices Menu. All concerned may prefer e-pay facility as a preventive measure.
12. As per directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court issued vide order dated 27.04.2021 passed in Miscellaneous Application No.665/2021 in SMW (C) No.3/2020 In RE COGNIZANCE FOR EXTENSION OF LIMITATION, the period of limitation for all judicial and quasi judicial proceedings shall stand extended till further orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court. Order of Hon'ble Supreme Court may be downloaded at link-  
[https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2021/10651/10651\\_2021\\_31\\_1\\_27776\\_Order\\_27-Apr-2021.pdf](https://main.sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2021/10651/10651_2021_31_1_27776_Order_27-Apr-2021.pdf)

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13. Wearing of Coat for learned Advocates shall remain exempted till further orders. During virtual hearing, learned Advocates are requested to observe same dress code and decorum as is required and applicable in court room hearing.
14. If any staff member is having flu like symptoms, would immediately inform the concerned Presiding Officer and would take leave as per medical advise.
15. District & Sessions Judges at District Headquarters and senior most judicial officer at Taluka Headquarters would make necessary arrangements for limiting the entry points in the court premises as per local conditions with the assistance of the committee of one Judicial Officer, Bar President and one senior court staff, already constituted.
16. 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.
17. Learned Advocates, parties-in-person and whose presence have been specifically directed by the court, while appearing in the courts shall be required to wear face mask and face shield. Wearing of hand gloves should be preferred.
18. Entry of law interns in the court premises would be strictly prohibited.
19. Entry gate(s) of court premises shall be equipped with requisite thermal scanners. The medical staff shall properly screen all the persons 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 shall 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

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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. The District & Sessions Judges shall ensure vaccination of all concerned stakeholders at the earliest. Covid-19 Testing of learned Advocates and Court Staff would also be continued.
25. All the directions and guidelines issued by the Central/State Government from time to time, as applicable, would be strictly followed.
26. The Committee of one Judicial Officer, Bar President and one senior court staff already constituted shall continue to supervise and monitor the situation on daily basis to ensure strict compliance of the directions for prevention and containment of spread of Covid-19 and to take appropriate remedial steps.
27. The directions issued by this Circular shall be applicable to all the Courts and Tribunals which are under superintendence of Rajasthan High Court under Article 227 of the Constitution of India.

By Order

  
24.6.2021  
REGISTRAR GENERAL

No. Gen./XV/42/2020/1815(I)

Date – 24.06.2021

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

1. The Registrar Cum Principle Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice, Rajasthan High Court.
2. The Private Secretaries to all Hon'ble Judges, Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur/ Jaipur Bench.
3. All the District & Sessions Judges with the request to circulate the same amongst all the Presiding Officers of their judgship.
4. Presiding Officers of all the Special Courts and Tribunals.
5. All the Bar Associations through the concerned District & Sessions Judges.
6. Registrar Classification, Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur to upload the same on the official website of this office.

  
24.6.2021  
REGISTRAR GENERAL