

RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT

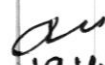
No. 05/PI/2021

Date- 19.04.2021

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
For effective containment of rapid spread of Covid-19, the State Government has issued order dated 18.04.2021 and prohibited various activities from 19.04.2021 to 03.05.2021 including closure of work places, commercial establishments and markets. In view of this order and considering the extreme grave situation, in supersession of all previous directions, following directions are issued for functioning of the Subordinate Courts/Special Courts/Tribunals from 20.04.2021 to 03.05.2021:-

1. Limited number of Subordinate Courts shall function only through video conferencing for matters of urgent nature. One Special Court/Tribunal of each category in every Judgeship shall be kept functional on rotational basis as managed by the Principal District Judge for matters of urgent nature.
2. The District Judges are authorized to depute bare essential judicial officers on rotational basis at each court complex for hearing of urgent matters. Only those bare minimum Judicial Officers would be required to come to court who have been deputed by the concerned District Judge for urgent work. Remaining judicial officers would not be required to attend the office but they shall not leave headquarter without permission.
3. During above limited functioning, morning court working hours as per this office Notification No. 02/E.V./2021 dated 01.03.2021 shall be observed.
4. Following shall be deemed to be matters of urgent nature:-
 - i. Remands and bail applications, Appeals under Special Acts regarding bail.
 - ii. Suspension of sentence applications
 - iii. Injunctions/Stay Applications.
 - iv. Supurdagi Applications.
 - v. Statements under section 164 Cr.P.C. including dying declarations.
 - vi. Any other matter which the Court considers to be urgent.
5. Judicial custody remands shall be given through video conferencing as far as permissible.


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6. Only bare essential court staff required to manage the above 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 headquarter and work from home.
7. In matters having no urgency, en block 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. For giving common dates, Covid-19 Management Module of CIS be used so that not only the dates are updated in CIS, the same are automatically intimated to concerned Lawyers and Litigants through SMS.
8. All interim orders expiring between 20.04.2021 to 03.05.2021 shall remain extended till next date.
9. Prescribed limitation for filing petitions/application/suits/appeals shall stand extended w.e.f. 20.04.2021 till 03.05.2021.
10. Video conferencing shall be conducted through video conferencing application 'Microsoft Teams'. If some newly created courts do not have 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'.
11. 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.
12. Easy and simple Help Manuals in Hindi have been sent to all District & Sessions Judge about 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.
13. 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.
14. Learned Advocates are exempted from wearing Coat during hearing of cases during virtual hearing.

15. 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 submit hard-copy file within 7 days of resuming regular functioning. 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.
16. 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 within 7 days of resuming regular functioning.
17. 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.
18. The bail bonds and supurdiganama will also be submitted through e-filing or email and the proceedings of verification thereof may be conducted through video conferencing. Original Bail Bonds / Supurdiganama shall be submitted within 7 days of resuming regular functioning.
19. Orders of bail/stay application will be sent to concerned Trial/Lower Court through official email.
20. The process for service of witnesses issued for the dates upto 03.05.2021 be called unserved by the concerned court.
21. The State Government has permitted the movement of employees of departments related to essential services on showing their identity card. Therefore, all the judicial officers and court staff are directed to carry their official Identity Card with them while on official duties.
22. If any staff member is having flu like symptoms, would immediately inform the concerned Presiding Officer and would take leave as per medical advise.
23. 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 Court Staff in the court premises in accordance with Covid Guidelines.


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24. 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.
25. Entry of law interns in the court premises would be strictly prohibited.
26. All the gates for entry in Court Premises be equipped with requisite thermal scanners. The medical staff will permit the judicial officers and court staff 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.
27. The Advocates having chambers in Subordinate courts are advised against attending their chambers as they would require to be closed due to lack of cleaning and conservancy services.
28. All canteens and shops selling food articles in the court premises shall remain closed till 03.05.2021. However, drinking water arrangements shall be duly ensured. One or more photocopy shop, as per requirement, in each court complex shall be kept open on every working day on rotational basis to be decided by concerned District Judge at District Hq. and Senior most judicial officer on outlying Hqs. All preventive measures shall be strictly observed while maintaining social distancing on these shops.
29. Proper sanitization of entire premises must be ensured. Hand-wash and sanitizer shall be provided in toilets and court corridors.
30. 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.
31. 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.
32. Covid-19 Testing of Judicial Officers, learned Advocates and Court Staff would be increased for early detection of infected persons and to contain the spread of Covid-19.
33. All eligible stakeholders are requested for their Covid-19 vaccination for safety of themselves and others.

34. All the directions and guidelines issued by the Central/State Government from time to time, as applicable, would be strictly followed. The District & Sessions Judge shall ensure effective compliance of these directions and guidelines.

35. The Committee of one Judicial Officer, Bar President and one senior court staff be constituted and if 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.

By Order


19.4.2021
REGISTRAR GENERAL

No. Gen/XV/42/2020/1354(I)

Date- 19.04.2021

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 judgeship.
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.


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