RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT, JODHPUR

:: STANDING ORDER ::

No.25/S.O./2026 **Date : 06/11/2026**

[See Section 72, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023; Section 23(4), 33(7), 37 and 42-A Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012; Section 16, 17 and 28 of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013; and Judgment rendered in Nipun Saxena v. Union of India, W.P. (C) No. 565 of 2012 & order dated 21.05.2026 passed in S.B. Criminal Misc. Petition No. 7480/2024 titled Naveen Vs. State of Rajasthan & Anr.]

It has been noticed that private and personal photographs of the parties are invariably appended and annexed with the memo of the petitions, applications and appeals etc. filed before the Court, which invades the privacy of person and may also disclose the identity of the victim/women. In order to obviate any such aberration, instant Standing order is being issued.

1. Scope of Application.-These instructions/directions are for ensuring confidentiality in matters relating to Sexual Offences. These shall apply to filings before the Court in matters relating to sexual offences, subject to any contrary provision contained in any law for the time being in force or any order of a competent court. In applying these instructions, due regard shall be had to the special statutory safeguards applicable to children, victims of sexual offences, and complainants or witnesses in workplace sexual harassment proceedings, as the case may be.

2. Prohibition of disclosure of identity.-No filing before the Court, including a memo of parties, shall disclose the name, parentage, address, social media credential, photograph or any other particular which is capable of disclosing the identity of the prosecutrix/victim/survivor, except where such disclosure is expressly permitted by law or by an order of a competent court.

3. Scrutiny and return of defective filing.-Where, at the stage of scrutiny, any filing is found to disclose any particular referred to in clause 2 above, whether in the memo of parties or otherwise, such filing shall be returned to the counsel concerned for necessary redaction before it is taken on record, unless the disclosure is covered by a statutory exception or permitted by a competent court.

4. Cause list.-No particular referred to in clause 2 shall be reflected in the cause list of the Court in any manner, unless such reflection is required by law or directed by a competent court.

5. Non-disclosure of particulars of family members and connected persons.-

(1) The name, parentage and address of any family member, relative, school, neighbourhood or other connected person or place shall not be disclosed in any filing, including a memo of parties, where such disclosure is likely to reveal, or enable an inference as to, the identity of the prosecutrix/victim/survivor.

(2) The restriction contained in sub-clause (1) shall apply notwithstanding that such family member or connected person may himself or herself be arrayed as an accused person, if disclosure of such particulars may indirectly lead to identification of the prosecutrix/victim/survivor.

(3) Nothing in this clause shall prevent disclosure where such disclosure is expressly permitted by law or by an order of a competent court.

6. Redaction of records.-The redaction of particulars referred to in clause 2 from the FIR, chargesheet, trial court proceedings and other such records shall, in the first

instance, remain the duty and obligation of the authority or court preparing such document; and where such particulars appear in any filing before the Court, the party filing the same shall ensure appropriate masking, redaction or sealed-cover filing, as the case may require.

7. Restricted access to files and records.-Where complete redaction of every court record is not feasible, no file, paper-book or e-portfolio pertaining to a matter relating to a sexual offence filed before this Court shall be furnished to any person other than-

(a) the parties to the proceedings;
(b) the prosecutrix/victim/survivor; or
(c) their respective counsel,

upon due verification of identity credentials and subject to such restrictions as the Court may impose for protecting confidentiality.

8. Production of identifying material.-Where any party seeks to rely upon any particular capable of disclosing the identity of the prosecutrix/victim/survivor, including any photograph, video or social media communication, such material shall not be openly filed and may be produced before the Court in a sealed cover, unless the Court directs otherwise.

9. Filing of sealed or protected material.- Material referred to in clause 8 may be filed in a sealed cover or in a pass-code protected electronic folder, and the pass-code shall be disclosed only to the concerned Court Master/Reader or to such other officer as the Court may direct.

10. Filing of photographs and videos.- Where any photograph or video capable of disclosing the identity of the prosecutrix/victim/survivor is sought to be placed on record, the same shall be filed separately and only in a sealed envelope or in such other secure manner as the Court may direct.

11. Savings.- Nothing contained in these instructions/ standing order shall be construed as limiting any greater protection, restriction, procedure or consequence provided under any law for the time being in force or by any direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court or of a competent court. At the stage of scrutiny, the concerned authority shall have regard to the facts and circumstances of each case and shall ensure strict compliance with the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Nipun Saxena v. Union of India* (W.P. (C) No. 565 of 2012).

12. Compliance.- All persons concerned shall comply with these instructions, so that no identifying particular, photograph, video, social media communication or similar material capable of revealing the identity of the prosecutrix/victim/survivor is openly filed or made part of the Court record in a manner contrary to law.

All concerned are hereby directed to henceforth strictly comply with the above instructions/standing order to prevent the parties from openly filing such objectionable photographs /videos in the Court record.

BY ORDER

Encl.: As above

REGISTRAR GENERAL

No. Gen/XV/110/2026/2649 **Date:** 06/11/2026

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

1. The Registrar-cum-Principal Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice, Rajasthan High Court.
2. Private Secretary to all the Hon'ble Judges to place the same before His Lordship for kind perusal.
3. The Registrar (Admn.), Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur/ Jaipur Bench, Jaipur.
4. All the Registrars /O.S.D., Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur/Jaipur
5. Registrar-cum-CPC, Rajasthan High Court Bench Jaipur with the request to upload the same on the official website of Rajasthan High Court.
6. Registrar (judicial) RHC, Jodhpur/Bench Jaipur with the directions to circulate the same amongst all the concerned in the Judicial side and ensure compliance of the same.
7. All the District & Sessions Judges with the request to circulate the same amongst all the courts in your judgeship with the directions to strictly comply with the above directions in its letter and spirit.
8. All Joint Registrars/ Dy. Registrars, Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur/ Jaipur Bench, Jaipur
9. All Assistant Registrars/ A.O.J., Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur/Jaipur Bench, Jaipur.
10. All A.O.J./ Court Master/ Stamp Reporter, Rajasthan High Court.

REGISTRAR GENERAL