

HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI

Roc.No.194/SO/2020

DATED:16.03.2020

NOTIFICATION

In view of the out-break of Corona Virus (COVID-19), Hon'ble the Chief Justice and the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh have been pleased to direct that from 17.03.2020 onwards, only fresh/new filing cases attached with an application for urgent hearing, bails and applications for suspension of sentence shall be listed before the respective Benches of the High Court for hearing. It is made clear that in any pending cases (except bail petitions and petitions seeking suspension of sentence), if there is some urgency, the parties may submit urgent hearing application informing the otherside. The cases in which the interim order is going to be expired on a particular date, the Advocate may make a mention to the Registrar (Judicial), who may take appropriate steps for extension of the stay to the Judge concerned as per the roster. The urgency as stated in the application shall be decided by the Court. The aforesaid hearing pattern may continue for a period of two weeks subject to further directions.

The High Court has also decided to take-up the following precautionary measures:-

1. Mass gathering, over crowding of Advocates and public in and around the High Court premises including the Court rooms and the High Court offices shall be avoided by all concerned.

2. The Cafeteria/Departmental canteen must continue to provide the items of need to carry out the limited functioning of the High Court.
3. In the entire Court premises, sanitization of hands by Advocates, Staff, security personnel is necessitated. We solicit to observe the said need henceforth.
4. The masks are available to the staff section-wise (including staff of Postal, Railway, Banking and Security etc.). If they are in need of the masks, they may be taken from the Section Officers for their use.
5. In emergency cases, if the Advocates are in need of masks, they may obtain from Protocol section of the High Court. If any other emergency issue arises, they may contact the Registrar (Management) or Registrar (Administration).
6. The house-keeping staff are directed to sanitize all common areas like Chambers, Court halls, rest rooms, corridors, Bar Association hall, Lunch room, tables, chairs and other articles, which are exposed daily by use of **Hypo chloride** solution.
7. The Registry is directed to request the Government of Andhra Pradesh to depute Medical Officers and Paramedical Staff to the High Court along with thermal screening guns to check the symptoms of fever, sore throat, cough, running nose or difficulty in breathing etc., at the entry points. Necessary instructions shall be given to the Medical and Health Department to provide the number of Medical Officers and

Paramedical staff in the High Court of Andhra Pradesh to meet the exigencies.

8. It is requested that initially for three days, Two (2) Doctors with their Paramedical staff may be deputed to the High Court with all equipment for screening the Advocates, Staff and Citizens attending the Court.
9. The persons detected with high body temperature will be denied entry into the High Court, and will be subjected to SOP prescribed by the Government of India, Ministry of Health from time to time and they shall be provided with all medical facilities as required to them.
10. The President and Secretary of A.P. High Court Advocates' Association may be requested to inform all the learned Advocates and litigant public not to visit the High Court, unless it is very much essential and unavoidable.
11. The general public/litigants shall ordinarily be not permitted to enter into High Court premises except under a valid pass issued to them under the circumstances in which their Advocate is not appearing in the Court or as the Registrar (Protocol) is satisfied.
12. The Registry shall direct the Medical and Health Department to provide sufficient masks and sanitizers to the Hon'ble Judges, Registrars, Advocates, Officers, Staff and Security Personnel in the High Court and also to the employees working in the official residences of Hon'ble Judges and Registrars.

13. The Registrar General shall request the Medical and Health Department to display sign boards indicating precautionary measures in order to prevent the epidemic.
14. The Registry shall not insist the biometric attendance of the Officers and Staff working in the High Court and any absence of Officer/staff of the High Court because of advisory has to be treated as **“On Duty”** .
15. The Registry shall request the Advocates and staff of the High Court not to conduct any meetings or functions in the High Court premises until further orders.


REGISTRAR GENERAL