

## THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA

No: R-10/2020(SS)

Kochi - 682 031  
Date – 11.03.2020

### OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

Sub:- Threat of Corona virus – clarifications regarding functioning of courts  
– Reg.  
Ref:- Nil.

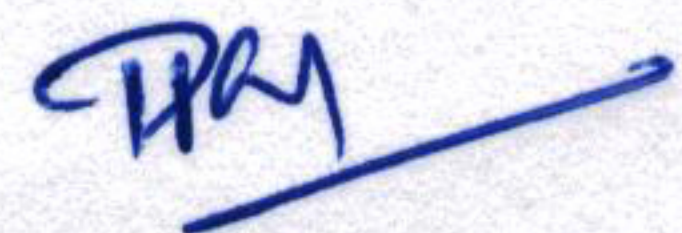
In the light of the threat of Corona virus, there are news spreading that courts are being closed or summer vacation is being advanced. It is made clear that there is no such proposal in the offing. However, all Principal District Judges are directed to instruct the officers under them that wherever litigants are likely to throng, it is not necessary to follow the regular court procedures; instead, cases which will not be taken up for trial can be adjourned by notification. In other words, regular functioning of the courts should be continued. Presence of the parties shall not be insisted unless essential for the enforcement of orders of the High Court or other superior courts.

It is also informed that, Mediation and Lok Adalats proceedings need not be taken during the period of alert, except for compliance of judicial directions.

District Judges shall also ensure that the Guidelines issued by the Health Department of the Government of Kerala shall be adhered to in letter and spirit.

These instructions shall be conveyed to the Bar Associations.

(by order)

  
K. Haripal,  
Registrar General

To: All Principal District and Sessions Judges.