

ORDER**Re: Situation arising due to outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Keeping in view the relaxations in the Government Advisories, on the basis of opinion of medical and administrative experts, decline in the number of cases of novel coronavirus (Covid-19) cases in the States of Punjab, Haryana and UT Chandigarh and with a view to ensure the safety of the Hon'ble Judges, Advocates, Staff and litigants, Hon'ble the Chief Justice has been pleased to order for the time being, subject to further medical opinion and change of circumstances due to novel coronavirus (Covid-19), that :-

1. All Hon'ble Benches will hold the court through Video Conferencing w.e.f. 28.06.2021.
2. Mentioning for listing of all categories of cases will be done away w.e.f. 28.06.2021. All the cases including the Writ Petitions and FAO (Matrimonial) accompanied with an 'Urgent Form' describing the urgency for listing of the matters will be entertained by the DRR Section (Filing Section) for listing of matters in urgent motion.
3. In case, there is request for fixing the case 'on the same day (i.e today)' or 'on next court working day', it can be made only through 'Online Mentioning Portal' available on the website of the Hon'ble High Court from 9.00 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. only on court working days.
 - (i) In case request is made for the same day (i.e. for today), through the Mentioning portal, the Counsel will be required to file the case complete in all respects after removing the objections, if any, by 11.00 a.m. positively without waiting for the status update of the request for listing of the case on the same day.

The cases in which request for the same day is made will be handed over to Superintendent DRR for filing instead of filing it in routine at the counter.

In case, the request is accepted for the same day and the case is complete without any objection, it will be listed on the same day.

However, if the case is under objection, the said objection, if rectified completely and re-filed upto 02.00 p.m., the case will be listed on the next court working day.

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- (ii) If the request is accepted for next court working day, the Counsel will be required to file the case complete in all respects after removing the objections, if any, by 2.00 p.m.

The cases in which request for next court working day is made will be handed over to Superintendent DRR for filing instead of filing it in routine at the counter.

If, the case is not filed complete or objections are not removed upto 2.00 p.m. on that day, the case will be listed for the second next court working day subject to filing of the same, complete in all respects after removing the objections till 12.00 noon on next court working day i.e. the day for which the case was originally accepted for listing, otherwise, the case will be listed as per routine procedure.

4. Ordinary cases can be filed directly at the 'Ordinary Filing Counters' which are situated near 'Pass Counter'.

In case, there is urgency in the cases which have been already filed as 'Ordinary', the same will be treated as 'Urgent' on filing 'Urgent Form' describing the urgency for listing of the matter as 'Urgent'.

5. All the 'freshly registered cases' lying pending in the registry for listing in 'Urgent Motion Cause List' will be listed serial wise before Hon'ble Benches subject to maximum number of cases that can be taken up on a particular day.
6. (i) All the cases already fixed/listed from 26.06.2021 to 30.07.2021 shall be adjourned by NIC for the future dates mentioned herein as under:-

| <u>Date Fixed</u> | <u>Next Date of Hearing</u> |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 26.06.2021 to 28.06.2021 | 17.09.2021 |
| 29.06.2021 | 20.09.2021 |
| 30.06.2021 | 21.09.2021 |
| 01.07.2021 | 22.09.2021 |
| 02.07.2021 | 23.09.2021 |
| 03.07.2021 to 05.07.2021 | 24.09.2021 |
| 06.07.2021 | 27.09.2021 |
| 07.07.2021 | 28.09.2021 |
| 08.07.2021 | 29.09.2021 |
| 09.07.2021 | 30.09.2021 |

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|--------------------------|------------|
| 10.07.2021 to 12.07.2021 | 01.10.2021 |
| 13.07.2021 | 04.10.2021 |
| 14.07.2021 | 05.10.2021 |
| 15.07.2021 | 06.10.2021 |
| 16.07.2021 | 07.10.2021 |
| 17.07.2021 to 19.07.2021 | 08.10.2021 |
| 20.07.2021 | 11.10.2021 |
| 21.07.2021 & 22.07.2021 | 12.10.2021 |
| 23.07.2021 | 13.10.2021 |
| 24.07.2021 to 26.07.2021 | 14.10.2021 |
| 27.07.2021 | 25.10.2021 |
| 28.07.2021 | 26.10.2021 |
| 29.07.2021 | 27.10.2021 |
| 30.07.2021 | 28.10.2021 |

- (ii) However, the Urgent Motion Cause List Cases registered in the year 2021, Anticipatory Bails, Regular Bails, Criminal Revision (Bail) filed U/s 102 of Juvenile Justice (care & Protection) Act, 2105, Habeas Corpus Petitions, Criminal Writ Petitions pertaining to Protection/Life and Liberty/Parole/ Furlough /Premature Release and Application for Suspension of Sentence, irrespective of the year of its registration, will not be adjourned by the NIC and will be taken up on the dates already fixed during 26.06.2021 to 30.07.2021.
- (iii) The cases in which application for pre-ponement has been allowed on or after 01.05.2021 and are fixed during 26.06.2021 to 30.07.2021 will also not be adjourned by the NIC and will be taken up on the dates already fixed during 26.06.2021 to 30.07.2021.
- (iv) Interim orders passed in the cases, which will be adjourned by the NIC as per above table, will continue till further orders.
- (v) In case of urgency in the cases which are fixed from 26.06.2021 to 30.07.2021 and will be adjourned as above through NIC, the learned counsel may move an application for pre-ponement of the said cases.
7. (i) The hearing of the cases shall be conducted through video conferencing only for the time being, through the approved software or the platform. However, in case of technical failure of any of the

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platforms, the hearing may be conducted through 'whatsapp' or 'google duo' video calling as per the convenience of the Hon'ble Bench hearing the matter. The joining and disconnection of the Video-conference/video-calling shall be at the end of Hon'ble High Court only.

(ii) The concerned Advocate/Litigant shall ensure that the Room from where he/she intends to appear before the Court through Video conferencing or Video call is free from all sources of disturbances like external noises, poor lighting and improper acoustics. It shall be ensured that judicial proceeding are conducted with all taken courtesies and protocol as are being observed during judicial proceedings in the Court. No other person except the advocate/litigant shall be allowed in the Room from where litigant/advocate is appearing through video-conferencing/video-call facility.

(iii) The Hon'ble Judges shall conduct the video-conference from their court room/Chamber/residence and the Id. Counsel/ party/ Advocate General etc. shall be joined for the video-conference/video-calling from his place.

8. The advocates/ advocates-clerks/law interns/general public shall not be permitted inside the High Court building.
9. All the Officers/Officials attending the office shall ensure proper implementation of Government Advisories. They shall compulsorily use the masks and hand sanitizer. The High Court Building will be sanitized regularly. Any Officers/Officials showing the symptoms of high fever/cold/cough/sneezing etc. should not be asked to attend the office.

BY ORDER OF HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE.


(Sanjiv Berry)
Registrar General
22.06.2021