HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH: BILASPUR

NOTIFICATION / ADVISORY

No. 343 /Confdl./2020 Bilaspur, Dated the 16 March, 2020 II-15-08/2004 (Pt.-B)

Concerted action to fight against the Corona virus (Covid-19), which has been declared by the World Health Organization as global pandemic is the need of the hour. In view of the nature of spreading of the disease, breaking the chain is of paramount importance. Considering the various instructions issued by the Central Government, State Government and also by the Apex Court issuing advisory as to the do's and don'ts, sensitization is essential and a proper code of conduct has to be evolved for functioning of the Courts avoiding any chance for mass gathering, besides taking such other precautionary measures for ensuring cleanliness and hygiene. In the said circumstances, Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Hon'ble Judges of this High Court have been pleased to issue the following advisory to the Subordinate Courts to be followed until further orders:-

- The Courts should not insist on the presence of the parties unless it is unavoidable. All the District & Sessions Judges and Principal Judges, Family Courts would take appropriate measures to regulate entry of the litigants and the general public in the Court Complex to avoid crowding. Thermal Scanner (nontouch) may be procured at the earliest, handlers be trained and they be put to use at the existing check points. The District & Sessions Judges shall forthwith request the concerned District Collector to arrange thermal scanners in the Court premises. As far as possible, single entry point may be ensured in all the court complexes.
- 2. The Lawyers may advise their clients not to visit the Court unless their presence is directed by the Court.
- 3. Till the present situation persists, no adverse/default orders be passed in matters where parties are found to be absent.
- 4. Parties/Advocates/witnesses seeking an adjournment be accommodated.
- 5. In criminal matters, the request for exemption from personal appearance of the accused be considered favourably.
- 6. Except first remand, production of the accused may not be insisted before the Magisterial Courts/Special Courts.

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- 7. The facility of video conferencing be put to optimum use for the purposes of recording of evidence.
- 8. Similarly, instead of physical production of under-trial prisoners (UTPs) from jails, facility of video conferencing be availed of.
- 9. Unnecessary crowding in the lock-up be curtailed and appropriate steps in this regard be taken by all the District and Sessions Judges in consultation with the prison authorities.
- 10. In final argument matters, as far as possible, written submissions be called upon to be submitted in court and the time for oral arguments be reduced to the extent possible.
- 11. It be ensured by all the District & Sessions Judges that sanitizers are available in their respective Court Buildings for the visitors as well as the staff, particularly those manning windows where there is constant public dealing. Housekeeping agency/staff be asked to ensure that highest level of hygiene is maintained in the court complex and disinfectants are sprayed on a regular basis.
- 12. A dedicated team (comprising of Senior Judicial Officers and Senior Ministerial Staff) be constituted in each District Court Complex for taking stock of the situation on a day-to-day basis and to take appropriate remedial steps.
- 13. The President and General Secretary of the respective District Court Bar Association may issue necessary directions in order to ensure that there is no crowding in the Court complex/Bar rooms. Bar would also ensure that interns are not permitted in the Court complex till the present situation persists.
- 14. No function or any other event be permitted to be held/conducted till further orders.
- 15. The Judge Incharge, Mediation Centre of all the District Court Complex would also ensure that mediation proceedings are held only in cases that are of urgent nature.
- 16. The District Court administration is to ensure that all the canteens which are being operated within the premises are kept in properly clean and sanitized condition.

16.03.2020

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17. For the benefit of the members of the Bar and litigants, the advisory be given wide publicity through print, electronic and social media.

18. The Registrar General is directed to publicize the advisory both in English and in Hindi language.

BY ORDER OF THE HIGH COURT

16.03.2020

(NEELAM CHAND SANKHLA) REGISTRAR GENERAL

Endt. No. 344 /Confdl./2020 II-15-08/2004 (Pt.-B)

Bilaspur, Dated the 16° March, 2020

- (1) Deputy Registrar-cum-P.P.S. to Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (2) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (3) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (4) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice Goutam Bhaduri, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (5) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice Sanjay K. Agrawal, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (6) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice P. Sam Koshy, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (7) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice Sanjay Agrawal, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (8) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice Rajendra Chandra Singh Samant, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (9) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice Sharad Kumar Gupta, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (10) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice Ram Prasanna Sharma, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (11) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice Arvind Singh Chandel, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (12) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice Parth Prateem Sahu, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (13) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Shri Justice Gautam Chourdiya, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of his Lordship.
- (14) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Vimla Singh Kapoor, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of her Ladyship.
- (15) Private Secretary to Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Rajani Dubey, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information of her Ladyship.
- (16) Private Secretary to Registrar General, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information.
- (17) Registrar (Vigilance/ I. & E./ Judicial/ S. & A. Cell), High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information and compliance.
- (18) Director, Chhattisgarh State Judicial Academy, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information and compliance.
- (19) Principal Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh, Law & Legislative Affairs Department, Mahanadi Bhawan (Capital Complex), Mantralaya, Atal Nagar, Nava Raipur for information and compliance.

- (20) Principal Secretary, Government of Chhattisgarh, Home and Jail Department, Mahanadi Bhawan (Capital Complex), Mantralaya, Atal Nagar, Nava Raipur for information and compliance. He is requested to issue appropriate instructions to all Jail Authorities of the State in this regard.
- (21) Additional Registrar (Admn./ D.E./ Judicial), High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information and compliance.
- (22) Officer on Special Duty-cum-Central Project Coordinator, E-Courts Mission Mode Project, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information and compliance.
- (23) Secretary, High Court Legal Services Committee, High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur for information and compliance.
- (24) District & Sessions Judge, Balod/ Baloda-Bazar/ Balrampur at Ramanujganj/ Bemetera/ Bastar at Jagdalpur/ Bilaspur/ Dakshin Bastar at Dantewara/ Dhamtari / Durg / Janjgir-Champa/ Jashpur at Jashpurnagar/ Kabirdham at Kawardha/ Kondagaon/ Koriya (Baikunthpur)/ Korba/ Mahasamund/ Mungeli/ Raigarh/ Raipur/ Rajnandgaon/ Surguja at Ambikapur / Surajpur/ Uttar Bastar (Kanker) with a request to circulate this circular amongst the judicial officers working under your control for their information and compliance.
- (25) Principal Judge/I Additional Principal Judge/ II Additional Principal Judge/ III Additional Principal Judge, Family Court, Bilaspur/Durg/Raipur for information and compliance.
- (26) Judge, Family Court, Baloda-Bazar/Dhamtari/ Jagdalpur/ Janjgir-Champa/ Kawardha/ Kanker/ Korba/ Manendragarh/ Mahasamund/ Raigarh/ Rajnandgaon/ Surajpur/ Surguja for information and compliance.
- (27) Special Judge under S.C. & S.T. (P.A.) Act, Jagdalpur/ Bilaspur/ Durg/ Jashpur/ Janjgir-Champa/ Korba/ Raigarh/ Raipur/ Rajnandgaon/ Surguja for information and compliance.
- (28) Joint Secretary, Chhattisgarh Human Rights Commission, Near Old Mantralaya Parisar, Raipur with a request to circulate this circular amongst the judicial officers working under your control for their information and compliance.
- (29) Member Secretary, Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority, Old High Court Building, Bilaspur with a request to circulate this circular amongst the judicial officers working under your control in the Authority for their information and compliance.
- (30) Registrar, Chhattisgarh Arbitration Tribunal, Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh Bhavan, Nagar Ghadi Chowk, Raipur for information and compliance.
- (31) Presiding Officer, State Transport Appellate Tribunal, Government Bhawan, Mahanadi Block, Room No. 12,13,21 & 22, Old Mantralaya Premises, Opposite Mazar, Raipur for information and compliance.
- (32) Registrar, C.G. State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Behind New Bus Stand (Old Bus Depot No. 1), Pandri, Raipur with a request to circulate this circular amongst the serving judicial officers working under your control for their information and compliance.
- (33) Legal Advisor to Governor, Governor's Secretariat, Rajbhawan, Raipur, for information and compliance.
- (34) Legal Advisor, Chhattisgarh Lok Aayog, Near Gandhi Chowk, (Old Malaria Office), Raipur with a request to circulate this circular amongst the judicial officer working under your control for his information and compliance.
- (35) Presiding Officer, Wakf Tribunal, House No. 252-253, First Floor, Sector-5, Devendra Nagar, Raipur for information and compliance.

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16.03.2020

(36) Chairman, Chhattisgarh State Cooperative Tribunal, Opposite Luthra Hospital, Mungeli Naka, Bilaspur for information and compliance.

(37) The President/Secretary, District Bar Association, Balod/ Baloda-Bazar/Balrampur at Ramanujganj/ Bemetera/ Bastar at Jagdalpur/ Bilaspur/ Dakshin Bastar at Dantewara/ Dhamtari / Durg / Janjgir-Champa/ Jashpur at Jashpurnagar/ Kabirdham at Kawardha/ Kondagaon/ Koriya (Baikunthpur)/ Korba/ Mahasamund/ Mungeli/ Raigarh/ Raipur/ Rajnandgaon/ Surguja at Ambikapur / Surajpur/ Uttar Bastar (Kanker) for their information and compliance.

16.03.2020

(NEELAM CHAND SANKHLA) REGISTRAR GENERAL