HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT, AHMEDABAD

<u>CIRCULAR</u>

In continuation of the earlier modified SOP dated 06.11.2021, issued by the High Court, it is hereby informed to all the concerned that in view of the present pandemic situation, following directions have been issued by Hon'ble the Chief Justice on the recommendation of the Standard Operating Procedure Committee constituted to be effective from 5th January 2022 for the said purpose:

- 1. There shall be no entry for the litigant public to the High Court premises.
- 2. The entry to the High Court shall be from Gate No.5 only.
- 3. The party-in-person shall be allowed entry to the Court premises only on production of a certificate issued 48 hours prior to the date of hearing, certifying that such person has tested negative for Covid-19. The Party-in-person is also permitted to drop the application or pleadings in the Drop Box at the entrance **Gate No.2** for being placed before the appropriate Bench.
- 4. The canteens located in the High Court premises shall remain closed with effect from 5th January 2022.
- 5. In the matter of Habeas Corpus petitions, the corpus shall be produced by the jurisdictional police authorities before the jurisdictional District Court to enable the Hon'ble Judges presiding the Bench to interact in virtual mode with the persons so produced.
- 6. Screening of all persons entering the Court premises shall be mandatory and only such of those persons found to be asymptomatic will be permitted entry

into the Court premises. Persons entering the Court premises shall strictly follow social distancing and cooperate with the medical screening team.

- 7. President, GHAA, to ensure that Bar Library, Reference Library and all Bar Rooms are closed by 1 pm every day.
- 8. Members of the Bar are requested not to sit in large numbers in any of the Court premises mentioned at Serial No.7.
- 9. All precautionary measures as advised by the Government from time to time may be taken.
- Downloading and installation of 'Aarogya Setu App' (<u>https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=nic.goi.aarogyaset</u> <u>u&hl=en</u> IN) can be ensured by all those who enter the Court premises. Location and Bluetooth can be turned on all the time.
- 11. Handshake greetings may be avoided and greetings may be with folded hands only.

Date: 03/01/2022

By order of Hon'ble Chief Justice

(Registrar General)