HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT

111 MATTERS HEARD AND 59 MATTERS DISPOSED OF TODAY THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING FROM THE RESIDENCES OF HONOURABLE JUDGES

One Division Bench and five Single Judges Benches were constituted by Honourable the Chief Justice of the High Court of Gujarat to hear urgent matters through video conferencing from the residence of the Honourable Judges. Accordingly, 111 matters were listed. All the Honourable Judges conducted the matters sitting from their respective residences and disposed of 59 (including 10 interim applications) matters thereof. All the learned Advocates appearing for the State as well as the litigants took part in the hearings through video conferencing from their offices/residences. As a result of successful and smooth working of the mode of video conferencing, none of the Honourable Judges, learned advocates or the litigants had to come to Court for conducting / taking part in the hearing of the matters.

As the Honourable Judges had heard the matters from residences and did not come to Court for the same, the required number of personnel coming to High Court premises could be maintained to the minimal. For the said minimal required number of Officers and Staff who have to come to the High Court premises for taking out the case files and preparation of the cause-list, special protective arrangements have been made for their sanitization. For them, the Sanitization Tunnel has already been installed from which all the personnel entering the premises have to compulsorily pass through. The files being taken out and the vehicles carrying those files are also being sanitized with the help of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation. Sufficient number of masks and hand gloves have also been provided to the officers and the staff coming to High Court premises for work relating to listing of these urgent matters.

A new functionality developed in-house by the I. T. Cell of the High Court was deployed today, whereby the SMS of the Video Conferencing Meeting Invite web-link could be sent, in integration with the causelist of the day, right from the residence of the Honourable Judges. This functionality has the feature of sending SMS of VC Meeting link, simultaneously to the learned Advocate of the matters and the APP/AGP appearing for the State in the particular Court. As a result of the same, despite of a total of six Benches simultaneously working through video conferencing, all the matters could be conducted smoothly with participation and cooperation of the appearing advocates. In addition to the above, for matters listed tomorrow onwards, the online of the High Court website display board at http://gujarathighcourt.nic.in/boarddisplay has been reprogrammed to automatically display the current matter i.e. the matter in which the SMS of VC link has last been sent for the particular Court.

None of the advocates or advocate-clerks or litigants had to come to the High Court premises for conducting these matters. As such, the entry of learned advocates, advocate-clerks and litigants is not allowed in the High Court since the imposition of lockdown by the Government.

As directed by Honourable the Chief Justice, during the present crisis period, the Benches would continue to function through video conferencing hearing matters from the residence of the Honourable Judges.

sd/-

(R. K. DESAI) REGISTRAR GENERAL