

HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA: HYDERABAD

Roc No.394/SO/2020

Dated: 27.03.2020

NOTIFICATION

Sub: Complete lockdown declared by the Government of India throughout the country with effect from the midnight of 24.3.2020 for 21 days – Suspension of work in subordinate Courts, tribunals, etc., in the State of Telangana until further orders – Instructions – Issued.

Ref: High Court's Circular ROC No.394/SO/2020 dated 16.03.2020

In view of complete lockdown throughout the country for 21 days with effect from the midnight of 24.3.2020 as declared by the Government of India on account of outbreak of Coronavirus (Covid-19), and in continuation of earlier Circular referred to above, the High Court is pleased to issue the following directions to all the Subordinate Courts, Tribunals, Telangana State Legal Services Authority, Mediation and Arbitration Centre, High Court Legal Services Committee and Telangana State Judicial Academy:

1. The Subordinate Courts and Tribunals working under the control of the High Court, Telangana State Legal Services Authority, Mediation and Arbitration Centre, High Court Legal Services Committee and Telangana State Judicial Academy shall remain closed, with immediate effect till 14.04.2020 or until further orders.
2. The cases which are listed up to 14.04.2020 shall be adjourned automatically en-bloc to a working day after one month, which shall be uploaded in the District Court web site as well as CIS.

3. All the staff members, except those who are drawn for urgent judicial work, need not attend the office. They shall be available on phone, attend whenever their services are required and they shall not leave the headquarters. Their absence will be treated as on duty.
4. The respective Principal District Judges/Unit Heads shall make necessary in charge arrangements of the District Judges, Senior Civil Judges/Chief Metropolitan Magistrates, and Junior Civil Judges/Judicial First Class Magistrates, on rotation basis, to take up the extremely urgent Criminal and Civil matters such as Remand, Bail application, Extension of remand, interim injunctions, etc., through video conference or skype. Rest of the Judicial Officers shall remain in the headquarters, and attend urgent judicial work, if any, including receiving F.I.Rs., attending to pending work, recording of dying declarations, etc. In places, where there is only one Court, concerned Judicial Officer shall attend to the urgent work as aforementioned. The Principal District Judges/Unit Heads shall submit day-to-day report to the High Court.
5. The Principal District Judges/Unit Heads shall nominate one of the Administrative Officer(s), who can be contacted telephonically, by the Advocates concerned to intimate extremely urgent matters to be taken up. If any urgent matter required to be filed, the advocates shall submit the soft copy of the same through email of the District Court. The e-mail of the District Court shall be uploaded in the website of the District Court. After scrutiny, if the Principal District Judge/Unit Head considers it as extremely urgent matter, the same can be heard through video conference/skype.
6. The Members of the Bar, Litigants and all concerned are requested to note the order dated March, 23, 2020 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India (**IN Suo Motu Writ Petition (Civil) Nos. 3/2020 IN Re:**

Cognizance For Extension of Limitation) wherein it is held “To obviate such difficulties and to ensure that lawyers/litigant do not have to come physically to file such proceedings in respective Courts/Tribunals across the country including this Court, it is ordered that a period of limitation in all such proceedings, irrespective of the limitation prescribed under the general law or Special Laws whether condonable or not shall stand extended w.e.f. 15th March, 2020 till further order/s to be passed by the Supreme Court in the said proceedings”.

7. The Members of the Bar, litigant public and all concerned are requested to note that the Hon’ble High Court in *suo motu* in Writ Petition No.Urgent 1/2020, is pleased to pass the following order on 27.03.2020:

“.. in all matters pending before this court, and courts subordinate to this court, wherein such interim orders issued were subsisting as on 20.03.2020 and expired, or will expire thereafter, the same shall stand automatically extended till 07.06.2020 or until further orders, except where any orders to the contrary have been passed by the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India in any particular matter, during the intervening period. Needless to clarify that in case, the aforesaid extension of interim orders causes any hardship of an extreme nature to a party to such proceeding, they would be at liberty to seek appropriate relief, as may be advised. Any orders of the Executing Court passed after 15-02-2020 for executing the decrees and dispossessing the Judgment Debtors shall be kept in abeyance and shall not be executed till further orders.”

//BY ORDER//


REGISTRAR GENERAL
27.03.2020