HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH :: HYDERABAD

R.O.C. NO:5188/2013-B.Spl.

DT:13-08-2013

CIRCULAR

Sub: Judicial Officers - Judicial Officers visiting High Court on official purposes and seeking prior permission/ appointment to meet the Hon'ble the Chief Justice or Hon'ble Portfolio Judges to discuss official matters - Certain instructions - Issued.

Ref: 1. High Court's Circular Roc. No. 3240/84-B.Spl. (5), Dt.6-7-1984

- 2. High Court's Circular Roc. No. 3978/93-B.Spl., Dt.12-3-1993
- 3. High Court's Circular Roc. No. 4052/95-B.Spl., Dt.18-8-1995
- 4. High Court's Circular Roc. No. 4053/95-B.Spl., Dt.18-8-1995
- 5. High Court's Circular Roc. No. 4399/2001-B.Spl., Dt.22-5-2001
- 6. High Court's Circular Roc. No. 5108/2004-B.Spl., Dt.6-8-2004
- 7. High Court's Circular Roc. No. 5108/2004-B.Spl., Dt.5-10-2004

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Attention of all the Judicial Officers in the State of Andhra Pradesh, is invited to the High Court's Circular instructions referred to above.

In the reference 1st cited, all the Judicial Officers in the State were instructed that whenever they desire to seek an interview with the Hon'ble the Chief Justice for making any representation, they should write to the Registrar or Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice stating the purpose and to fix an appointment with the Hon'ble the Chief Justice.

Later on, when some instances have come to the notice of the High Court that some of the District and Sessions Judges are coming to Hyderabad without prior permission on the pretext of discussion on official matter with the Hon'ble Portfolio Judges, in the reference 2nd cited, Judicial Officers were informed that whenever they intend to come to Hyderabad for official purposes, to intimate the fact to the Registrar (Administration) in advance.

Further, the High Court having observed that inspite of the above instructions, some of the Judicial Officers without prior appointment were meeting the Hon'ble Judges during the lunch recess on working days and causing disturbance and inconvenience to the Hon'ble Judges, had specifically issued certain instructions vide reference 3rd cited, on various aspects to all the Judicial Officers in the State to seek prior appointment who intend to meet the Hon'ble the Chief Justice or Hon'ble Portfolio Judges.

Vide reference 4th cited, all the District and Sessions Judges were informed that whenever they intend to meet the Hon'ble the Chief Justice or the Hon'ble Portfolio Judges to discuss official matters, they have to inform the Registrar (Management), the purpose of their trip well in advance in order to keep the files ready for discussion and also they were directed to meet the Registrars to appraise them of any important matter to be attended by the Registry.

Subsequently, the High Court issued strict instructions vide reference 5th cited, directing the Judicial Officers, who are approaching the Hon'ble Judges seeking transfers to particular places and viewed that the Judicial Officers are not expected to approach the Hon'ble Judges seeking support for their request for transfer or other favours and directed them to represent their genuine problems, if any and they shall do so only after taking prior appointment.

Even after issuance of the above instructions, the High Court observed that some Judicial Officers are visiting the residences of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Hon'ble Judges and also meeting the Hon'ble Judges in the chambers during the lunch recess on working days without prior appointment and issued circular instructions vide reference 6th cited, for strict observance to maintain discipline and decorum amongst the Judicial Officers.

One of the instructions in the reference 6th cited was that whenever the District Judges intend to come to Hyderabad, for official purposes, they were requested to intimate the fact to the Registrar (Vigilance) in advance.

Further, the Officers were instructed that they are at liberty to make any representation to the Hon'ble the Chief Justice/Hon'ble Judges when they are officially visiting the Districts and in all such cases their written representations must reach the Registrar (Vigilance) atleast 10 days in advance, so as to prepare the Office Note and to appraise the Hon'ble Judges on the subject.

The High Court vide Circular 7th cited, directed all the Unit Heads in the State, not to make visits to the High Court for the purposes like fixing up date and time for laying foundation stone/inauguration of building/ new Courts for finalizing the programme of the functions arranged by District Courts and to distribute the invitations, but to correspond on such matters over phone/fax with the Registrars concerned and obtain orders.

Inspite of the instructions issued by the High Court from time to time directing the Judicial Officers in the State to seek prior appointment to meet the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Hon'ble Judges, the Judicial Officers without adhering to the said instructions, are visiting the High Court, meeting the Hon'ble Judges without prior appointment and causing inconvenience to the Hon'ble Judges. Such practice of the Judicial Officers is viewed as highly deplorable and the same is very much deprecated.

Therefore, the High Court once again hereby directs all the Judicial Officers in the State that whenever they intend to come to Hyderabad for official purposes, they shall intimate the fact to the Registrars concerned, their written representations must reach the Registrars concerned, well in advance so as to prepare the Office Note and to appraise the Hon'ble Judges and in no case the Officer should visit residence/chambers of any Hon'ble Judge without prior appointment.

Failure to adhere to these instructions would render him/her liable for initiating disciplinary action.

NOTE: a) Receipt of this circular may please be acknowledged.

b) The Principal District and Sessions Judges / Unit Heads are requested to communicate the above circular to all the Judicial Officers working in their Unit.

REGISTRAR (VIGILANCE)

To

- The Prl. Secretary to the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Personal Secretaries to the Hon'ble Judges (for placing before Their Lordships kind perusal)
- The Personal Secretaries to the Registrars, High Court of A.P., Hyderabad (for placing before the Registrars for information)
- The Chief Judge, City Civil Court, Hyderabad
- 4. The Chief Judge, City Small Causes Court, Hyderabad
- The Metropolitan Sessions Judge, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Visakhapatnam and L.B.Nagar, Rangareddy District.
- 6. The Director, Andhra Pradesh Judicial Academy, Secunderabad
- 7. The Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh State Legal Services Authority, Hyderabad.
- 8. The Secretary, Andhra Pradesh High Court Legal Services Committee, High Court, Hyderabad

9. The Prl. District and Sessions Judges:

Adilabad, Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari at Rajahmundry, Guntur, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna at Machilipatnam, Kurnool, Mahabubnagar, Medak at Sangareddy, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam at Ongole, Rangareddy District, Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Warangal and West Godavari at Eluru.

10. The Section Officer, Special Officers Section, High Court of A.P., Hyderabad (for codification)

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