

**HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA :: HYDERABAD**

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**ROC.NO.394/SO/2020**

**DATED: 03.09.2020**

**NOTIFICATION**

**Sub:** COVID-19 Pandemic – Reopening of the Courts physically on experimental basis in the Unit of Karimnagar Judicial District from 07.09.2020 to 11.09.2020 by following the instructions of Phase – I in SOP vide ROC No.394/SO/2020 dated 08.06.2020 and to extend the physical closure of Subordinate Courts for regular judicial work in other Judicial Districts in the State till 21.9.2020 - to continue the present practice of filing of cases either by way of Physical mode or online filing, and hearing through Video Conferencing – Hearing of matters ripen for disposal in addition to urgent Civil, Criminal and Family Court matters and Interlocutory and Final Hearing matters through Video Conferencing – instructions – Issued.

**Ref:** 1. High Court's Circular in Roc.No.394/SO/2020, dt.16.3.2020  
2. High Court's Notification in Roc.No.394/SO/2020, dt.27.3.2020, 25.4.2020,07.5.2020,29.5.2020,06.6.2020,13.06.2020,27.06.2020 and 18.7.2020.  
3. High Court's Notification in Roc.No.394/SO/2020, dt.10.8.2020.  
4. High Court's SOP in ROC No.394/SO/2020, dt.08.6.2020.

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In partial modification of the Notifications in the reference nos. 1 to 3 cited and upon considering the present un-lockdown situation and on considering the request of the Advocates for reopening the Courts physically and also looking into the health and safety issues of all stakeholders, the High Court has decided to reopen the Courts physically on experimental basis in the Unit of Karimnagar Judicial District for the period commencing from 07.09.2020 to 11.09.2020 by following the instructions in Phase-I of the SOP dated 08.06.2020 and to extend the physical closure of Subordinate Courts for regular judicial work in other Judicial Districts in the State till 21.9.2020 and to continue the present practice of filing of cases either by way of Physical mode or online filing, and hearing through Video Conferencing. The following directions are issued 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 Courts in the Karimnagar Judicial District will be reopened for physical hearing on experimental basis for the period commencing from 07.09.2020 to 11.09.2020. The Unit Head, Karimnagar shall follow the SOP in the reference 4th cited by suitably modifying the dates of Phase-I of the SOP. The Principal District and Sessions Judge, Karimnagar shall report the daily status to the Hon'ble Administrative Judge and the Registry for further instructions of the Hon'ble High Court, if any, for smooth functioning of the Courts in the Unit
2. All other 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 for regular judicial work, till 21.09.2020 or until further orders. The cases which are listed up to 21.09.2020 shall be adjourned automatically en-bloc to a working day after one month, which shall be uploaded in the District Court website as well as CIS.

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3. All the Unit Heads shall continue to accept online filing of cases or physical filing of cases in the Courts in their Unit, by following the Covid – 19 guidelines such as physical distance, use of mask, sanitizers, etc. The cases filed by physical filing mode will be scrutinized duly disinfected after 48 hours in normal course as directed earlier.
4. As directed in the reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited, all the Judicial Officers in the State are instructed to take up the hearing of the cases ripen for disposal, in addition to Cheque Petitions, urgent Civil, Criminal matters, Family Court matters such as petition for visiting rights, grant of maintenance, mutual consent divorce under Section 13 (B) of Hindu Marriage Act, and petitions for urgent relief's such as protection, residence and maintenance orders under Domestic Violence Act, through video conferencing or physically wherever it is possible during this period. In addition to the above the Unit Heads may in consultation with the Judicial Officers in the Unit decide to take up any other matters either interlocutory or final hearing depending upon the nature and quantum of the work in the Courts, wherever both the parties/Counsel on either side are willing and ready to cooperate for hearing through Video Conferencing.
5. The Judicial Officers may hear the matters preferably from the Courts instead from their home offices through Video Conferencing and dispose of all the matters where arguments were heard or reopened after hearing arguments and submit compliance report by 11.09.2020 without fail, any deviation in this regard will be viewed seriously.
6. As directed in the reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited, the Unit Heads in other Districts are at liberty to open the Courts physically wherever possible in their Unit in consultation with the respective Hon'ble Administrative Judges after taking the Members of the Bar Associations, Judicial Officers, Employees, into confidence by following the guidelines of Phase – I in Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) dated 08.06.2020 in reference 4<sup>th</sup> cited, scrupulously and other instructions issued by the High Court from time to time.
7. All the Unit Heads shall in coordination with the District Administration take necessary steps for disinfection, fogging, sanitization of the courts in their Unit and ensure that COVID-19 protocols are followed by all the stakeholders including staff, advocates, litigants, etc.
8. The Telangana State Judicial Academy shall continue to take up online sessions/classes to the trainee Judicial Officers and online refresher courses to the Judicial Officers through Video Conferencing, till 21.9.2020 or until further orders.
9. All other instructions issued in reference 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> cited, shall continue to be in force until further orders.

  
**REGISTRAR GENERAL**  
8.9.2020

To

- 1) All the Unit Heads in the State of Telangana. {with a request to communicate the same to all the Judicial Officers in your Unit}
- 2) All the Registrars, High Court for the State of Telangana.
- 3) All the Tribunals in the State of Telangana.
- 4) The Member Secretary, Telangana State Legal Services Authority, Hyderabad.
- 5) The Director, Mediation and Arbitration Centre, Hyderabad.
- 6) The Secretary, High Court Legal Services Committee, Hyderabad.
- 7) The Director, Telangana State Judicial Academy, Secunderabad.