

Dated: 11-06-2021

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

Sub : Courts & Judges – COVID-19 Pandemic – Functioning of Subordinate Courts in the State of Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Puducherry – Further directions issued by the Hon'ble High Court, Madras – Directions issued for functioning of Subordinate Courts in Salem District – Regarding.

- Read : 1. Official Memorandum of the Hon'ble High Court, Madras in R.O.C.No.41440-A/2021/C3, dated 26.04.2021, 17.05.2021 and 28.05.2021
2. Official Memorandum of the Hon'ble High Court, Madras in R.O.C.No.41440-A/2021/C3, dated 10.06.2021.

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As per the Official Memorandum of the Hon'ble High Court, Madras in the reference 2nd cited above, all the Judicial Officers / Advocates/ Staff Members / Litigant Public in Salem District are hereby directed to adhere the following guidelines and restricted functioning of Subordinate Courts in Salem District **w.e.f. 14.06.2021** until further orders.

1. Only both side ready matters be taken as far as possible through Video Conferencing.
2. Filing process shall be continued through drop box method, as was done earlier.
3. Only urgent cases be taken up, restricting to a manageable number of cases in a day by fixing time slot to every case.
4. Urgency of the matter to be taken up, has to be decided by the Presiding Officer of the court concerned.
5. Exparte orders should be avoided unless absolutely necessary and only upon giving due reasons therefor.

6. If necessary, witnesses can be examined through Video Conferencing, by following the rules in this regard.
7. Already sufficient number of Microsoft Teams Video Conferencing Licences have been provided and communicated to the Judicial Officers to facilitate the functioning through Video Conferencing and the same may be effectively utilized.
8. Entry of Advocates and litigants into the Court Complexes to be restricted.
9. Bar Associations and canteens shall remain closed until further order. However, to sanitize and to provide access to papers for the Lawyers, the Bar Associations may be opened for four hours on Saturday.
10. 30 % of staff may be permitted to work on rotation basis, as fixed by the Presiding Officer of the court concerned and remaining staff members are directed to be readily available to their residence to attend emergent work when called upon by the Judicial Officers concerned or by the Principal District Judge, Salem.
11. The staff members should follow the COVID-19 guidelines such as Social Distancing, Hand Wash, Wearing of Face Mask., in the court premises.
12. In view of the Covid-19 pandemic situation, all the Subordinate courts functioning in Salem District shall until further orders, continue to function as per the aforesaid directives subject to any further decision being taken by the Hon'ble High Court, Madras.

Sd/- S.Kumaraguru
PRINCIPAL DISTRICT JUDGE,
SALEM.

To

All the Judicial Officers of Salem District.

Copy to

1. The Government Pleader/ Public Prosecutors, Addl. Public Prosecutors, Salem Dt.
2. All the Advocates Bar Associations in Salem District.
3. The Commissioner of Police, Salem
4. The Superintendent of Police, Salem.

Copy to

1. The Court Manager, Principal District Court, Salem
2. The Sherishtadars (General/Admin/Judicial), Head Clerk, Central Nazir, Copy Superintendent, Record Keeper, Official Receiver of Salem District.