

# RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT

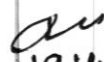
No. 05/PI/2021

Date- 19.04.2021


## **CIRCULAR**

For effective containment of rapid spread of Covid-19, the State Government has issued order dated 18.04.2021 and prohibited various activities from 19.04.2021 to 03.05.2021 including closure of work places, commercial establishments and markets. In view of this order and considering the extreme grave situation, in supersession of all previous directions, following directions are issued for functioning of the Subordinate Courts/Special Courts/Tribunals from 20.04.2021 to 03.05.2021:-

1. Limited number of Subordinate Courts shall function only through video conferencing for matters of urgent nature. One Special Court/Tribunal of each category in every Judgeship shall be kept functional on rotational basis as managed by the Principal District Judge for matters of urgent nature.
2. The District Judges are authorized to depute bare essential judicial officers on rotational basis at each court complex for hearing of urgent matters. Only those bare minimum Judicial Officers would be required to come to court who have been deputed by the concerned District Judge for urgent work. Remaining judicial officers would not be required to attend the office but they shall not leave headquarter without permission.
3. During above limited functioning, morning court working hours as per this office Notification No. 02/E.V./2021 dated 01.03.2021 shall be observed.
4. Following shall be deemed to be matters of urgent nature:-
  - i. Remands and bail applications, Appeals under Special Acts regarding bail.
  - ii. Suspension of sentence applications
  - iii. Injunctions/Stay Applications.
  - iv. Supurdagi Applications.
  - v. Statements under section 164 Cr.P.C. including dying declarations.
  - vi. Any other matter which the Court considers to be urgent.
5. Judicial custody remands shall be given through video conferencing as far as permissible.

  
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6. Only bare essential court staff required to manage the above urgent work shall be called on rotational basis. Sitting arrangement of the staff shall be in such a manner so as to maintain required physical distance between them. Remaining staff would not be required to attend the office but shall remain available at headquarter and work from home.
7. In matters having no urgency, en block common dates shall be given and notice thereof be published on official web site of each judgeship so that the lawyers and litigants would get the next dates without coming to the court. For giving common dates, Covid-19 Management Module of CIS be used so that not only the dates are updated in CIS, the same are automatically intimated to concerned Lawyers and Litigants through SMS.
8. All interim orders expiring between 20.04.2021 to 03.05.2021 shall remain extended till next date.
9. Prescribed limitation for filing petitions/application/suits/appeals shall stand extended w.e.f. 20.04.2021 till 03.05.2021.
10. Video conferencing shall be conducted through video conferencing application 'Microsoft Teams'. If some newly created courts do not have licenses of Microsoft Teams, the District Judge may provide them Microsoft Teams license of any other vacant court or they may use free VC Applications 'Jitsi' or 'Google Meet'.
11. Video conferencing hardware for each court is under process of delivery and installation. In the meantime, for court proceedings through video conferencing, All-in-one computers available in courts, official Laptop of the Presiding Officer and NSTEP Mobile Phones may be used.
12. Easy and simple Help Manuals in Hindi have been sent to all District & Sessions Judge about use of Microsoft Teams by learned Advocates, litigants and other stakeholders. All District & Sessions Judge will ensure that meeting Links of all the Courts and these Help Manuals are uploaded on the website of respective Judgeship. These Links and Help videos may also be circulated through Whatsapp and other social media platforms.
13. All the District & Sessions Judges will also publish Email Address and Landline Phone Number of each Court along with the VC Links. The Landline Phone Number of each Court will work as helpline number for issues related to Video Conferencing.
14. Learned Advocates are exempted from wearing Coat during hearing of cases during virtual hearing.

  
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