

# HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA, BENGALURU

November 12, 2020

## **MODIFICATION IN THE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR THE DISTRICT JUDICIARY WITH EFFECT FROM NOVEMBER 17, 2020**

- A. THE EARLIER STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE IS PARTIALLY MODIFIED IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING TEN DISTRICTS, NAMELY, 1) BAGALAKOT, 2) BIDAR, 3) CHAMARAJANAGAR, 4) CHIKKABALLAPURA, 5) GADAG, 6) HAVERI, 7) KODAGU, 8) KOPPALA, 9) RAICHURU AND 10) YADAGIRI, AS HEREUNDER, SINCE ACTIVE CASES REPORTED ARE LESS THAN 200 DURING LAST TEN DAYS:**
- i) Filing will be allowed to the members of the Bar without fixing prior appointment. However, as per the practice being followed today, the filing counters will continue to be located outside the main Court complexes. In short, in these ten districts, regular filing shall be permitted without fixing prior appointment, but at the places designated for filing by prior appointment at present. The filing can be made during the same hours within which filing was permitted before March 2020.
  - ii) However, parties-in-person shall not be allowed to enter the Court precincts for filing and they will have to seek prior appointment by following existing Standard Operating Procedure.
  - iii) For their own safety and for the safety of the staff members, the members of the Bar shall not be permitted from entering the offices of the Court.

- (iv) For the sake of clarity, it is made clear that the entry of the litigants to Court Complexes shall remain prohibited, except as permitted under the existing Standard Operating Procedure.

**B. PARTIAL MODIFICATION FOR ALL DISTRICTS:**

- i) In all districts, in addition to the permission granted to open Bar Association premises as provided in the existing Standard Operating Procedure, even the libraries of the Bar Associations shall be permitted to be opened during the time when the Bar Associations are permitted to be opened.
- ii) All Courts (except the Courts situated within the limits of Bengaluru urban district) are permitted to record evidence of a maximum ten witnesses per day. The witnesses can be examined in both the sessions. However, there is no upper limit for recording evidence of witnesses through video conferencing. As clarified earlier, the restrictions on examination of number of witnesses will not apply to recording of statements under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.
- iii) The suspension of itinerary Courts as per Notification dated March 20, 2020 stands revoked and all the itinerary Courts will start functioning as per earlier assignments.
- iv) Subject to pendency, each Court shall not post more than 40 matters per day.

**C. Except the above modifications, all other provisions of the existing Standard Operating Procedure shall continue to operate. The above changes shall be**

**purely on experimental basis, subject to further changes which may be made from time to time and circumstances may warrant. A call will be taken to make further relaxations in all Districts in the last week of November 2020.”**

**BY ORDER OF HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE**

**Sd/-**

**(RAJENDRA BADAMIKAR)  
REGISTRAR GENERAL**