

**NOTE ON FORMAT AND PATTERN FOR REPORTING / PUBLICATION  
OF JUDGMENTS ALONGWITH HEADNOTES IN E-HIGH COURT  
REPORTS (E-HCR) IN CONSONANCE WITH THE FORMAT AND  
STRUCTURE ADOPTED IN E-SCR/ DIGI-SCR**

- 1. 'Neutral Citation and Journal (e-HCR) Citation' alongwith 'basic case details' section:** The first section would be the basic case details section which would contain the Neutral Citation of the judgment and the equivalent Journal (e-HCR) citation, alongwith details of the case concerned, such as cause title, case no(s)., date of the decision and the Coram (the names of the Hon'ble Judges on the Bench).
- 2. 'Issue for consideration' section:** In order to enable a reader to quickly identify and grasp the key legal issue(s) in a judgment, the question(s) / issue(s) for consideration before the Court is to be succinctly put forth in this section.
- 3. 'Headnote' section:** The headnotes section would comprise of headnotes which are short summaries addressing specific points of law/ issues in a judgment, typically including the relevant facts and the *ratio decidendi*. Inasmuch as there may be multiple law points/issues within a judgment, each such law point/issue may be enunciated separately, by way of a separate headnote. The headnote should accurately convey the significance of the legal proposition laid down.

The headnotes ought to be usually spread across two portions.

The first portion typically would comprise of a short-note (written in bold font) which would start off with clear headings and sub-headings relating to the law point concerned, thereby indicating subject matter of the law or legislation in question or the doctrines/ principles applied, followed by a short and concise preamble leading to the law point- concisely put forth in the form of short sentences separated by dash separators.

The second portion would comprise of a long-note containing a brief discussion of the relevant facts (if required) and extracts from the judgment concerned covering the law point in issue (with corresponding Paragraph numbers in the judgment/ order at the end for easy reference); and presenting the final findings/ conclusion and reasoning of the Court, by breaking it up into appropriate paragraphs to improve readability. In case there are multiple concurring / dissenting judgments in a matter, long notes corresponding to each such dissenting / concurring opinion may also be similarly put forth along with relevant paragraph numbers.

4. **'Citations and other references' section:** This section would contain hyperlinked citations of judicial precedents/decisions as mentioned in the judgment. The judicial precedents may be divided into those which were affirmed or distinguished or overruled or relied upon or generally referred by the Court, as the case may be, along with their respective eHCR / e-SCR / Digi-SCR citations and Neutral citations, as the case may be. Other references including books and periodicals, primary and secondary legal texts, international legal documents, to be also included in this section, if so mentioned in the judgment.
5. **'List of Acts' section:** A list of Acts to be provided to indicate the relevant statutes and provisions, along with key secondary legislation (Notification, Regulation etc.), if any, for convenience of searching and identifying judgments based on basis of a given statute/provision etc.
6. **'Keywords' section:** Likewise, a list of keywords/ catchwords to be provided with the aim of providing reference to relevant portions /main legal issues/ principles in a judgment, and for convenience of searching and identifying judgments based on a given keyword or combination of keywords.
7. **'Case Arising from' section and 'Appearance for Parties' section:** These two sections would contain other additional details of the case including details of the impugned order and appearances of the Advocates / counsels.
8. **'Judgment / Order' section:** In this section, the entire text of the judgment / order concerned is to be reproduced in *toto*.
9. **'Headnotes prepared by' and 'Result of the case' section:** At the fag end, after the judgment/order section, in fact just below it- on the left hand side of the page, the names of the Officer / Editor concerned who prepared the headnote concerned may be mentioned under the caption "Headnotes prepared by:" and the final result / outcome of the case may be stated on the right hand side of the page under the caption "Result of the case:"

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