HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI

ROC.No.192/SO/2020

NOTIFICATION

Sub: High Court of Andhra Pradesh – Alarming rise in COVID-19 positive cases in the State – Functioning of the Subordinate Courts including Tribunals and Labour Courts under the control of the High Court from 05.10.2020 to 03.11.2020 – Further instructions issued – Reg.

Dated: 04.10.2020

Ref: 1. High Court's Notification in Roc No.192/SO/2020, dated 01.07.2020

- 2. High Court's Notification in Roc No.192/SO/2020, dated 13.07.2020
- 3. High Court's Notification in Roc No.192/SO/2020, dated 16.07.2020
- 4. High Court's Notification in Roc No.192/SO/2020, dated 21.07.2020
- 5. High Court's Notification in Roc No.192/SO/2020, dated 03.08.2020
- 6. High Court's Notification in Roc No.192/SO/2020, dated 17.08.2020
- 7. High Court's Notification in Roc No.192/SO/2020, dated 31.08.2020
- 8. High Court's Notification in Roc No.192/SO/2020, dated 21.09.2020
- 9. High Court's Notification in Roc No.192/SO/2020, dated 23.09.2020

In view of COVID-19 pandemic across the State of Andhra Pradesh, in continuation of the notifications issued in the references cited above and by superseding 8th instruction in the reference 1st cited, the following instructions are issued for Judicial and Administrative functioning of all the Subordinate Courts including Tribunals and Labour Courts working under the control of High Court of Andhra Pradesh with effect from 05.10.2020 and shall remain in force till 03.11.2020.

- 1. The Judicial and administrative work in the Subordinate Courts including Tribunals and Labour Courts working under the control of High Court of Andhra Pradesh, shall be through video conferencing from 10.30 A.M. onwards on all working days from the respective courts or court premises.
- 2. The instructions issued regarding filing of cases under reference 7th cited will remain in force till 03.11.2020.
- 3. The Judicial Officers who are working on appellate side are advised to take up hearing of pending Appeals and Criminal Revision Petitions through video conferencing for disposal. While taking up those cases, the Judges are at liberty to take recourse encouraging hearing of pending cases.

- 4. The Judicial Officers are also advised to:
 - Take up hearing of interlocutory applications, Criminal Miscellaneous Petitions and Cheque Petitions for disposal, and take up the cases for filing of written statements framing of issues in civil suits or such other matters, and also framing of charges in criminal cases, including examination of accused under Section 313 Code of Criminal Procedure and such other allied functions.

-Take up administrative work like, Updating of Registers, Indexing of Pending Records, Consignment of Records, Internal Inspection, steps to safeguard Library books, Record Room and existing infrastructure with the assistance of staff.

- 5. The Judicial Officers are further advised to:
 - explore the possibility of appointing of Advocate Commissioner to record evidence in civil matters where ever possible.
 - prepare special cause list of ready matters well in advance and publish the same on notice boards of their respective courts intimating the Bar Associations or through President of the Bar Association.
- 6. Cases of Under Trial Prisoner(s), Ex parte matters, Mutual Divorce Petitions and other ready matters may be taken up, to record evidence in open Court, wherever it is practically possible.
- 7. In case of physical hearing of cases, the Principal District Judges are at liberty to issue suitable instructions to the Judicial Officers working in their respective Unit subject to COVID-19 situation.
- 8. The Principal District Judges are authorized to purchase Thermal Screening Guns, Sanitizers, Mike Sets, Sanitization Guns to create a safe and healthy work atmosphere to all the Judicial Officers, Supporting Staff, Advocates, Parties and other stakeholders.

- 9. The Principal District Judges are instructed to ensure in coordination with the network providers, that all the courts working in their respective Units shall have good and uninterrupted internet connectivity.
- 10. All the Advocates are requested to cooperate in effective implementation of the above instructions and shall file Written Statements and Counters/responses in pending matters with in the time frame, either through E-Filing or physical filing and shall make every endeavour to file written arguments in matters which are ripe for disposal to facilitate disposal of such matters.
- 11. The Judicial Officers, supporting staff, advocates and their clerks and the litigant public must adhere to Covid-19 guidelines issued time to time, including wearing of masks, sanitization of court premises and its use in court rooms, if required, and to maintain social distancing.

REGISTRAR GENERAL

To

- 1) The Prl. Secretary to the Hon'ble the Chief Justice (with a request to place the notification before the Hon'ble the Chief Justice for His Lordship's kind perusal)
- 2) All the P.Ss to the Hon'ble Judges (with a request to place the notification before the Hon'ble Judges for their Lordships' kind perusal).
- 3) All the Registrars, High Court of Andhra Pradesh.
- 4) The Registrar (IT-cum-Central Project Coordinator), High Court of Andhra Pradesh [with a request to instruct the concerned to place the same in High Court's website]
- 5) All the Unit Heads in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- 6) All the Officers, High Court of Andhra Pradesh.
- 7) All the Section Heads, High Court of Andhra Pradesh.
- 8) The Director, Judicial Academy, Secunderabad.
- 9) The Director, High Court Mediation & Arbitration Centre, High Court Building, Amaravati.
- 10) The Member Secretary, A.P. State Legal Services Authority, High Court Building, Amaravati.
- 11) The Secretary, High Court Legal Service Committee, High Court Building, Amaravati.
- 12) The Advocate General, State of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravati.
- 13) The Secretary to Governor, for the State of Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.
- 14) The Chief Secretary to Government, Government of Andhra Pradesh, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravathi.
- 15) The Secretary to Govt., Law (L.A & J-Home Courts) Dept., Government of Andhra Pradesh, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District 522237.
- 16) The Registrar, A.P. Lokayukta, Hyderabad.
- 17) The Registrar, Andhra Pradesh State Consumers Redressal Forum, Vijayawada
- 18) The Chairman, Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal, at Visakhapatnam.
- 19) The Special Judge for trial of CBI Cases, Visakhapatnam.
- 20) The Presiding Officer, Labour Court, Anantapuramu, Guntur and Visakhapatnam.
- 21) The Additional Registrar, Railway Claims Tribunal, Amaravati Bench, Arandalpet, Guntur.
- 22) The Registrar, Income Tax AppellateTribunal, Visakhapatnam.

- 23) The Chairman, Tribunal for Disciplinary Proceedings, Hyderabad.
- 24) The Secretary General, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.
- 25) The Registrars General, All High Courts in India.
- 26) The Secretary, Bar Council of A.P., High Court of A.P., Amaravati.
- 27) The Accountant General, Enikepadu, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.
- 28) The Public Prosecutor, High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravati
- 29) The Administrative Officer, Government Pleaders' Office, High Court of A.P., Amaravati.
- 30) The Administrator General & Official Trustee at High Court Buildings, Hyderabad.
- 31) The Director of Prosecutions, Governorpet, Vijayawada.
- 32) The Commissioner of Printing and Stationery Department, A.P. Government Press, Mutyalampadu, Vijayawada. Pin.520 011 (For Publication in the Gazette Urgently).
- 33) The President, Andhra Pradesh High Court Advocates' Association, Amaravati.
- 34) The Secretary, Advocates' Clerks' Association, High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravati.
- 35) The Commissioner, Information & Public Relations, A.P., RTC Bhavan, Vijayawada (with a request to publish the notification in all local dailies)
- 36) The Director, All India Radio, Vijayawada.
- 37) The News Director, Doordarshan Kendra, Vijayawada

38) The Editors, Eenadu, Deccan Chronical, Sia-sat, Sakshi Andhra Jyothi, Vaartha, The Hindu & Indian Express.

With a request for making necessary announcement

For publication in the Newspaper

- 39) The Deputy Director, Public Relations, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi.
- 40) The Overseer, High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravati.

SPARE.