

HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI

ROC No.192/SO/2020

Dated: 24.03.2020

NOTIFICATION

SUB:-“TOTAL LOCKDOWN IN THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH AND NEIGHBOURING STATES - Suspension of work in the High Court of Andhra Pradesh and Subordinate Courts and Tribunals under the Control of the High Court in the State of Andhra Pradesh, A.P. State Legal Services Authority, Mediation and Arbitration Centre and High Court Legal Services Committee upto 01.04.2020 – Reg.

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Having considered the prevailing situation in the entire Country and in the State of Andhra Pradesh, in order to combat spreading of Corona virus (2019-nCoV), particularly in view of the lockdown declared by the Government of Andhra Pradesh as per G.O.Rt.No.209, Health, Medical and Family (B-2) Dept., dated 22.03.2020, upto 31st March, 2020, taking into consideration the representations given by the A.P. High Court Advocates' Association, A.P. High Court Employees' Service Association and A.P. State Judicial Employees' Association, for declaring holidays to the High Court and Subordinate Courts, in supersession of the earlier Notification and Circulars issued in this regard, as resolved by the Full Court of Hon'ble Judges of High Court of Andhra Pradesh, the following directions are issued:

- i. The Judicial and Administrative work in the High Court and Subordinate Courts and Tribunals under the Control of the High Court in the State of Andhra Pradesh, A.P. State Legal Services Authority, Mediation and Arbitration Centre and High Court Legal Services Committee, is hereby restricted, confining only to extremely urgent matters with immediate effect till 1st April, 2020.
- ii. The Registrar (Judicial) of the High Court has to be contacted telephonically between 10:30 AM and 2:00 PM in case of any extremely urgent matters and those matters will be allotted as per the decision of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice to the bench for hearing on 27.03.2020 and 31.03.2020 between 10:30 AM and 01:30 PM. The Registry of the High Court shall make necessary arrangements in posting the staff on turn basis for assisting the Hon'ble Judges in attending the extremely urgent matters. The remaining Officers and Staff of the High Court shall be deemed to be

on duty and work from home and they shall make themselves available as and when required and keep their mobile phone in switch on mode and shall not leave headquarters during the aforesaid period without permission. In case of urgency, they shall report duty as and when directed.

iii. The cases for which dates were already given by the High Court shall automatically be adjourned to subsequent dates.

iv. In W.P.No.21274 of 2019, an order dated 24.03.2020 has been passed by the High Court of Andhra Pradesh that in the cases where stay has been granted for a limited period are falling for consideration during the tenure of limited functioning of the courts and where the parties/advocates are insisting for extension of stay, it ~~was~~ decided that if the stay has expired a week prior to 24.03.2020 upto 14.04.2020 shall be treated to be extended for a period of three (3) weeks from the date of expiry and the extension of stay is not required in individual cases.

v. As regards the Subordinate Courts and Tribunals functioning under the control of High Court, the following directions shall come into force with immediate effect till 01st April, 2020:

- a. The respective District and Sessions Judges shall make necessary in-charge arrangements of District Judges, Senior Civil Judges and Junior Civil Judges in both civil and criminal matters for taking up extremely urgent matters on rotation basis for dealing with civil cases, remand, bails etc. and matters relating to fresh arrests in the District Headquarters. The In-Charge Judicial Officers who deal with the extremely urgent matters may nominate necessary staff on rotation basis. The remand extensions shall be only through Video Conferencing.
- b. Any one Senior Civil Judge, Junior Civil Judge or Judicial Magistrate of First Class shall be nominated by the Principal District and Sessions Judges in case of mofussil courts and the concerned Judicial Officers may nominate necessary staff on rotation basis for dealing with extremely urgent matters.
- c. The sitting days shall be on 27.03.2020, 30.03.2020 and 01.04.2020 and the timings for hearing of the extremely urgent matters shall be restricted from 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM on the sitting days.

- d. The Judicial Officers who are not nominated shall remain in their respective home offices and work from home and in case of any urgency they shall be available. The Judicial Officers dealing with FIRs, dying declarations, judicial remands and etc., shall attend the same even from their respective home offices.
- e. The cases which are already listed upto 01.04.2020 shall be adjourned automatically to the subsequent dates which shall be uploaded in the Official Website of the respective District Courts.
- f. In civil cases, where the interim orders have expired one week prior to 24.03.2020 or are expiring during the period of limited functioning of the courts, the order dated 24.03.2020 in W.P. No.21274 of 2019 of the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh as mentioned supra would apply.
- g. The Principal District and Sessions Judges shall fix the date and time of sitting of the in-charge Officers and upload the same in the official website of the District Court.
- h. Except the Advocates and parties-in-person appearing in the extremely urgent matters, none others shall be allowed into the precincts of the courts on the dates of hearing.
- i. The Principal District and Sessions Judges shall ensure that the staff who are residing in the Headquarters and have their own conveyance, shall be called for handling indispensable services.
- j. All the remaining Judicial Officers and Staff Members shall be deemed to be on duty and work from home and they shall make themselves available as and when required and keep their mobile phone in switch on mode and shall not leave headquarters during the aforesaid period without permission. In case of urgency, they shall report duty as and when directed.
- k. One Administrative Officer shall be nominated by the Principal District and Sessions Judges in each District who can be contacted telephonically by the Advocate/Party. Necessary directions be issued and his e-mail id and mobile number be uploaded on the official website of the respective District Courts.

- l. The Principal District and Sessions Judges shall upload the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India (in Suo Motu Writ Petition (Civil) Nos.3/2020 In re: Cognizance for extension of Limitation) as regards to the aspects of limitation in the official website of the respective District Courts for the purpose of information to Judicial Officers/Advocates/Litigant public.
- m. The respective Presidents of the Bar Associations are requested to apprise the learned members of the Bar and litigant public not to come to the courts without their cases being listed before the bench. They are also requested to close down the Bar Associations. The said instructions are issued only to ensure that no inconvenience is caused to learned Advocates and litigant public in view of the advisory issued by the Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Police.



REGISTRAR GENERAL

24/3/20

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 A.P [with a request to instruct the concerned to place the Notification 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 and 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.
 - 13) The Secretary to Governor, State of Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada.
 - 14) The Chief Secretary to Government, Government of Andhra Pradesh, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati.
 - 15) The Secretary to Govt., Law (L.A & J-Home Courts) Dept., Government of Andhra Pradesh, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati.
 - 16) The Registrar, A.P. Lokayukta, Hyderabad.
 - 17) The Registrar, A.P. State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, Vijayawada.
 - 18) The Chairman, Sales Tax Appellate Tribunal, Visakhapatnam.
 - 19) The Special Judge for Trial of CBI Cases, Visakhapatnam.
 - 20) The Presiding Officer, Labour Court, Anantapur; Guntur; and Visakhapatnam.
 - 21) The Registrar, Railway Claims Tribunal, Secunderabad.
 - 22) The Registrar, Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, 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, Amaravati.
 - 27) The Accountant General, Enikepadu, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.
 - 28) The Public Prosecutor for the State of Andhra Pradesh, High Court of A.P., Amaravati.
 - 29) The Administrative Officer, Government Pleaders' Office High Court of A.P., Amaravati.
 - 30) The Administrator General and Official Trustee, High Court Building, Hyderabad.
 - 31) The Director of Prosecutions, 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, A.P. High Court Advocates' Association, Amaravati.
 - 34) The Secretary, A.P. High Court Employees Service Association, Amaravathi.
 - 35) The Secretary, Advocates' Clerks' Association, High Court of Andhra Pradesh.
 - 36) The Commissioner, Information & Public Relations, Andhra Pradesh, RTC Bhavan, Vijayawada. (with a request to publish the notification in all local dailies)
 - 37) The Director, All India Radio, Vijayawada.
 - 38) The News Director, Doordarshan Kendra, Vijayawada.
 - 39) The Editors, Eenadu, Deccan Chronical, Sia-sat, Sakshi Andhra Jyothi, Vaartha, The Hindu & Indian Express.
 - 40) The Deputy Director, Public Relations, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi.
 - 41) The Overseer, High Court of Andhra Pradesh.
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necessary announcement