

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR AT JAMMU

In Re: Reiteration of earlier directions regarding prevention of COVID-19 infection.

Order

No. 121 of 2021/RG

Dated: 21.03.2021

Physical hearing of cases in Courts was permitted vide High Court order No. 839/RG dated 03.02.2021, wherein guidelines were also issued and one such guideline was as follows:

“Entry of litigants and public into the Court premises from the very outer gate shall continue to be prohibited. If, however, any litigant on any reasonable ground is compelled to argue his case personally, he shall be allowed entry into the Court premises subject to the condition that he makes an application at least two days prior to the date of hearing through e-mail to the Registrar Judicial/Presiding Officer of the Court disclosing such compelling reasons and seeking permission in that regard. If and when any such application is made by any litigant, the Registrar Judicial/Presiding Officer concerned shall consider the same and, if satisfied, may permit such litigant to enter into the Court premises and inform the litigant of such order by return e-mail. A copy of such order shall also be sent by the Registrar Judicial/Presiding Officer concerned to the Incharge, Security at the main gate of the Court premises for necessary action.”

In continuation to above order and with a view to ensure recording of evidence, entry of witnesses and accused persons was also permitted vide High Court Order No. 875/RG dated 10.02.2021 subject to the strict compliance of latest SoPs pertaining to containment of COVID-19 infection.

It has been observed that the aforesaid guidelines/directions are not being strictly adhered to resulting in considerable increase in footfall in the Court premises, thereby enhancing the risk of spread of COVID-19 infection particularly when such infection cases are increasing at an alarming rate.

Thus, keeping in view the recent surge in COVID-19 infection cases, the aforesaid guideline/direction are reiterated and the Registrars Judicial of both wings of the High Court and the presiding officers of all Courts in the UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh are directed to strictly implement the aforesaid guideline/direction.

Sd/-
(Pankaj Mithal)
Chief Justice

No: 4427-33/RG/ GS

Dated: 21.03.2021

Copy of the above forwarded to:

1. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court of J&K, Jammu.
2. Secretary to Hon'ble Mr/Mrs Justice _____
..... for information of their Lordships.
3. Registrar Vigilance, High Court of J&K, Jammu.
4. Registrar Rules, High Court of J&K, Jammu.
5. Registrar Computers, High Court of J&K, Jammu.
....for information
6. Registrars Judicial, High Court of J&K, Srinagar/Jammu.
.....for information and compliance.
7. I/C NIC, Jammu, for uploading the same on the official website of the High Court.


(Jawad Ahmed)
Registrar General