## Functioning of High Court during COVID-19 MODALITIES & ARRANGEMENTS

(for Lucknow) 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2021

In view of the recent spike in the number of COVID-19 cases, the following Modalities & Arrangements, will be effective w.e.f. 03.04.2021 to 09.04.2021 in consonance with the guidelines issued by High Court, Allahabad:

- 1. The High Court will function with minimum strength and till further orders, only the special Benches constituted shall remain operational.
- 2. Wearing of face-mask shall be mandatory for entry in the High Court premises.
- 3. The Hon'ble Judges and their supporting staff (Private Secretary, Bench Secretary, Peon etc) will attend the High Court in minimum required number.
- 4. The sections of the Court will be opened as per instructions issued by the Senior Registrar.
- 5. The Ld. Advocates (w.e.f. 03.04.2021) will file their cases/ documents / petitions / applications in E-Mode or in physical form, in the Stamp Reporting section and the Application section which will function at Counters near Gate No. 6.
- 6. There is no need to file Urgency Application with regard to the matters pertaining to Criminal Misc. Bail Applications, Anticipatory Bail, Criminal Appeal u/s 14 A (2) SC/ST Act, Habeas Corpus Writ Petition, Writ Matters pertaining to Arrest/Stay of Arrest either in fresh cases or filed cases. The aforesaid cases shall be placed before the Hon'ble Court as usual. However in all other matters (fresh as well as filed), Urgency Application will be filed and these matters shall be placed before the Hon'ble Court only after the Urgency Application is allowed by the Special Benches constituted. Urgency Applications at Lucknow may be filed either physically or through e-mail on the following e-mail Id-

## urgentlisting\_lucknow@allahabadhighcourt.in

The person submitting Urgency Application shall provide his/her name, mobile number & e-mail ID alongwith relevant case details (i.e. Parties Name, Nature of Case, Case number, Year etc.) in the said urgency Application. The Urgency Applications, so received shall be placed before the Special Benches constitued for hearing of urgent matters, alongwith records, if any, for deciding urgency and hearing, if required.

- 7. In all such matters where petition has been filed in hard copies, and an application, Counter Affidavit etc is required to be filed, such applications/objections etc can be filed in e-filing module. Link of the same is available on the official website of Allahabad High Court.
- 8. The work-flow for e-filing along with the screen shots is already available on the official website of Allahabad High Court namely <a href="https://www.allahabadhighcourt.in">www.allahabadhighcourt.in</a> and the same may be accessed by the Advocates who are facing problem in this regard.
- 9. Only those listed matters shall be listed in Hon'ble Courts for which Urgency Applications filed through e-mail/physical mode are allowed by the Hon'ble Court. Such matters shall be listed only in Additional Cause List.
- 10. The Stamp Reporting Section, till further order will not withhold any fresh file due to any defect and will place that before the concerned Hon'ble Court for appropriate orders.
- 11. The files will be sent from the sections to the Hon'ble Courts after proper sanitization.
- 12. Only those Ld. Advocates will be granted entry in the High Court through E-pass or by verifying their names from the Cause List whose case(s) are to be taken up by the Hon'ble Courts.
- 13. The Senior Advocates if appearing in any case will be granted entry in the High Court if prior information of the same is given to Shri Srish Kumar, Joint Registrar (Security) Mob No-8004996699 or Shri Shailendra Kumar, Dy. Registrar (Security) Mob No-8004905689 well in advance or through e-mail on <a href="mailto:registrar\_lko@allahabadhighcourt.in">registrar\_lko@allahabadhighcourt.in</a>
- 14. The chambers of Ld. Advocates in the High Court premises will not be opened.
- 15. The Robes prescribed for the Hon'ble Judges and the Ld. Lawyers shall remain suspended till further orders.

- 16. The Ld. Advocates appearing in the Court will wear face mask and shall adhere to all necessary conditions prescribed for social and physical distancing.
- 17. Not more than 6(Six) Advocates shall be permitted to remain in the Court Room at any given time.
- 18. The Ld. Advocates shall leave the High Court immediately after hearing of their case(s).
- 19. The Litigant-In-Person will be permitted to physically appear before the Court only after due permission from the Hon'ble Court.
- 20. The Clerks to the Advocates shall not be permitted entry in the High Court premises.
- 21. No Litigants shall be permitted entry in the High Court.
- 22. The Canteens of Advocates as well as the Employees' Canteeen situated in the Court premises will function with observance of COVID-19 protocol.
- 23. No person shall be allowed entry in the High Court campus without observing all protocol necessary to maintain social and physical distancing.
- 24. In case if any Ld. Advocate wishes to appear through video-conferencing, request for the same shall be sent on the email ID- <a href="request\_vc\_lko@allahabadhighcourt.in">request\_vc\_lko@allahabadhighcourt.in</a> not later than 8:00 PM one day before the date of hearing of cases.
- 25. Only the following Gates of the High Court shall be opened for entry/exit:

SI. No.	Gate	Entry/Exit of
1	Gate No. 2	Entry of Hon'ble Judges
2	Gate No. 1	Exit of Hon'ble Judges
3	Gate No.3	Entry of Officers/Staff
4	Gate No. 4	Entry of Ld. Advocates, Litigants-in- Person
5	Gate No.5	Exit of Ld. Advocates, Officers/Staff

- 26. The Advocates and the Staff will not be permitted to roam in the Corridors near Court Rooms.
- 27. The Photo Affidavit Centre will remain closed till further order and the requirement of affidavit in support of the facts averred the matter filed either through e-mode or in hard copy may be dispensed with on having satisfaction that -
  - (i)Litigant is not in a position to swear the same at Allahabad / Lucknow and on having an undertaking by the Advocate filing such petition / application / appeal memo etc. that whatever is stated is as per oral (telephonically or by any other device) / written instructions (in any form) given by his or her client.
  - (ii) The requirement of an affidavit / e-affidavit / scanned notary affidavit shall not be mandatory in the cases and in lieu thereof counsel shall have to submit the AADHAR Number, full details of the card holder like name, parentage, age and address, as also the mobile number linked to the AADHAR Card of the person wanting to act as a deponent in the matter along with a declaration that applicant / petitioner / pariokar is affirming the correctness of disclosure and averments made in the application / petition.
  - (iii)Till the time the Photo Affidavit Centre is closed due to COVID- 19, learned Advocates will be permitted to file their petitions / applications / records with an undertaking that within15 days of re-opening of the Photo Affidavit Centre, the Counsel will ensure that Photo Affidavits are filed in such petitions / applications / records and such petitions / applications / records will be placed before the Hon'ble Court along with Office Report, in the meantime.
- 28. Any person desirous of joining Court proceedings through Video- Conferencing shall have to send an email indicating his/her mobile number along with case details (Parties' Name,Nature of Case, Case Number, Year etc.) and his email id with a request for being provided a Video Conferencing link to enable him to join the Court proceedings. This email has to be lodged with the High Court not later than 8:00 P.M. one day before the date of hearing on the following email id:- request vc lko@allahabadhighcourt.in. It is also clarified that the counsel on

record/AGA/Counsel for the Respondent is not permitted to share the Video link with any other individual except with those who are disclosed as representing the party on the e-file/petition/application. Not more than two advocates for a party shall be permitted on the video platform of actual hearing. The Video Conference Software works best on Google Chrome Browser.

- 29. The Learned Advocate for the purpose of compliance of Judgment / Order passed by the Hon'ble Court will verify / attest the print-out of the said Judgment / Order and will forward the same to the concerned authority for compliance. The concerned authority upon receipt of the said order will verify the genuineness of the said Judgment / Order by visiting the official website of Allahabad High Court <a href="https://www.allahabadhighcourt.in">www.allahabadhighcourt.in</a>
- 30. The Advocates and Employees coming from outside Lucknow are required to furnish written information of the same in the office of the Senior Registrar with the declaration that he / she is not suffering from COVID-19 symptoms.
- 31. Consumption of liquor, 'paan', 'gutka', tobacco inside the premises of the High Court will be prohibited and consumption of the same will attract punishment.
- 32. Till further orders, all shops in 'M' Block shall remain closed.
- 33. Spitting in the premises of the High Court is prohibited and will attract punishment.
- 34. Provision of handwash and sanitizer will be made available at operational entry, exit points and in common area.
- 35. The Chief Medical Officer Lucknow shall arrange all necessary medical assistance and attendance in the High Court campus at Lucknow to meet any urgent medical eventuality.
- 36. Frequent sanitization of the premises of the High Court, common facilities and all points which come into human contact viz. door- knobs, chairs, tables etc. will be ensured.
- 37. Parking of vehicles to be made as per existing arrangement.
- 38. All the guidelines regarding COVID-19 issued by the Central Government, Government of Uttar Pradesh and the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad will be followed by all concerned strictly.

By order of Hon'ble Court

Sd/-SENIOR REGISTRAR 03.04.2021

## Copy to:

- 1. The President/General Secretary, Awadh Bar Association
- 2. Registrar (J) Listing
- 3. Joint Registrar (J) Nazarat
- 4. Joint Registrar (Security)
- 5. System Manager (for uploading on the official website)
- 6. Assistant Registrar (Protocol-Medical)/Protocol Officer (Medical)
- 7. S.O. (Administration) (for circulating amongst all concerned)

Sd/-SENIOR REGISTRAR 03.04.2021