HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH (Office of the Registrar General at Jammu)

Subject:- Resumption of physical hearing of cases.

<u>Order</u>

No:310 of 2022/RG

Dated: 10.03.2022

In view of significant decline in the number of Covid-19 cases and in the light of various instructions issued by the Department of Disaster Management, Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Hon'ble the Chief Justice has been pleased to modify the High Court order No. 169 of 2022/RG dated 09.02.2022 with the following guidelines:

- 1. The judicial work in the High Court and all Subordinate Courts including Tribunals shall henceforth be through physical mode but virtual hearing is not prohibited.
- 2. Advocates are allowed entry in the Court rooms in the High Court and all the Subordinate Courts to a limited extent avoiding concentration but clerks and litigants are not allowed.
- 3. Ld. Counsels awaiting their hearing(s), may wait in the designated Bar Lounges/Libraries and may avoid crowding in the corridors.
- 4. Only those advocates whose cases are listed in the Courts and who are fully vaccinated shall be allowed entry in the Court rooms.
- 5. The guidelines and protocols for prevention of Covid-19 contagion including wearing of masks, frequent use of hand sanitizer and maintaining safe distancing norms are mandatory for all the entrants into the Court premises.
- 6. Entry of witness(s) and accused person(s) shall be permitted in District and Subordinate Courts provided they are fully vaccinated and subject to strict compliance of SOPs pertaining to the containment of Covid-19 infection.

Entry of clerks and agents of advocates shall be permitted into Court premises and Advocates' Chambers, subject to observance of all Covid-19 related protocols.

7.

- 8. Entry of litigants in the Court premises shall be permitted to only fully vaccinated persons from the outer gate of the Court Complex.
- 9. Judicial custody remands shall be given only through video conferencing as far as permissible.

The aforesaid modified guidelines will come into effect from 14th March, 2022.

By Order

No:6060-6110/RG/GS

Registrar General
<u>Dated:- 10.03.2022</u>

(Sanjeev Gupta) Registrar

Copy of the above forwarded to:

- Principal Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Jammu.
 Secretary to Hon'ble Mr./Mrs. Justice
 - for information of their Lordships.
- 3. Secretary to the Government, Department of LJ&PA, Civil Secretariat, Jammu.
- 4. Registrar Vigilance, High Court of J&K, Jammu,
- 5. Registrar Judicial, High Court of J&K, Jammu/Srinagar,
- 6. Director, J&K State Judicial Academy, Jammu,
- 7. All Principal District and Sessions Judges of the UTs of Jammu and Kashmir & Ladakh with the request to circulate the same among all the judicial officers within their respective jurisdiction.
- 8. Administrative Officer, Office of the Advocate General, J&K.
- 9. President, all Bar Associations in UTs of Jammu and Kashmir & Ladakh. for information,
- CPC, e-Courts, High Court of J&K, for uploading the same on the official website of the High Court of J&K,
- 11. In-Charge Librarian, High Court of J&K, Jammu/Srinagar for information and keeping the record of the same.
- 12. Order File.

Registrar General