

**HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH : JABALPUR**

**// ADDITIONAL SOP FOR SUBORDINATE COURTS//**

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Jabalpur, Dated 20/04/2021

Looking to the current outbreak of Corona virus, in continuation to SOP issued earlier on 15.01.2021 & 03.04.2021 etc., further additional directions are issued as under:-

1. Districts in which as per assessment of the District Judge concerned, the number of Covid-19 patients of the various stakeholders of District Courts are on higher side, all Courts including Labour Courts and Family Courts shall conduct their court working only for extremely urgent matters by virtual mode by deputing one or more Additional District Judges and one or more Civil Judges/Judicial Magistrates, according to the number of cases for hearing, either in first half or second half of the working hours as may be decided by the District Judge in consultation with the President and Secretary of the Bar Association.
2. Districts where as per assessment of the District Judge concerned, Corona positive cases of various stakeholders of District Courts are comparatively less, then all such Courts including Labour Courts and Family Courts shall work by hybrid mode i.e. both virtual and physical mode.
3. It is incumbent on every Judicial Officer to take care of themselves, their families as well as other stakeholders of



District Court e.g. Employees, Advocates, Prosecution Officers and undertrial Prisoners.

4. In every District, an officer of the rank of the Additional District Judge shall be designated as Covid Compliance Officer for the entire District Judiciary, who shall remain in contact with the Administrative Officers, Chief Medical and Health Officers and other hospital authorities and shall take care of Judicial Officers, other stakeholders and their families, who are Corona positive and shall arrange for them medicines and, if required, shall help them in hospitalization, arrangement of Oxygen, Ventilator and provide other necessary assistance as required. He shall also periodically get Covid test of all stakeholders conducted as per direction of the District Judge concerned.
5. Every Judicial Officer is required to get himself and his/her family members, domestic help tested for Covid-19 periodically.
6. As possible as, 50% staff be deployed in courts on rotational basis and such staff may also be tested for Covid-19 periodically. All staff members and Judicial Officers having any Covid like symptoms should be mandated to immediately bring this to the notice of Covid Compliance Officer, who shall submit report thereof to the District Judge.
7. Crowd in the Court Campus should be avoided and as far as possible, hearing should be made through virtual mode



where the Covid cases are on rise. It shall also be ensured by all the Presiding Officers that every person who enters the court premises / court room mandatorily follows the Covid protocol- namely- use mask, maintain social distancing and sanitization etc.

8. It should be ensured that in the present scenario, no adverse order against any party is passed if accused / litigating party / their advocates do not appear before the Court physically or virtually.
9. Production of the accused before the Court should be allowed only through video conferencing except in the event of remand in the first instance by strictly following the Covid-19 protocol.
10. A report of the working of all the Courts of the Districts shall be sent by the District Judge concerned by 5:00 P.M. on every Wednesday and Saturday of the week.

By Order of Hon'ble the Chief Justice



(RAJENDRA KUMAR VANI)  
REGISTRAR GENERAL  
20.4.2021