

HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA, BENGALURU

January 18, 2021

THE MODIFIED STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 27, 2021

- I. The following modifications are effected to the SOP dated 18th September 2020 with effect from 27th January 2021 in respect of the High Court of Karnataka, Principal seat at Bengaluru and Benches at Dharwad and Kalaburagi:
 - 1) The Silver Jubilee Gate (facing Vidhana Soudha) at Bengaluru shall be opened only for the entry of cars of Hon'ble Judges between 10.00 am to 10.45 am.
 - 2) At the principal seat at Bengaluru, the entry of the Advocates' four wheelers from Gate No.3 shall be allowed after stopping the vehicles at the gate for checking identity cards. The entry of the vehicles of the litigants and officers of the State Government shall not be allowed from the said gate. The entry of the vehicles of the staff shall be allowed from the said gate only on production of identity card. However, the Advocates shall be subjected to thermal scanning and baggage scanning at two entry points by the side of the reception hall. The entry through reception hall shall be prohibited as the said hall shall be used for the time being for rectification of objections.

- 3) At the principal seat at Bengaluru and Benches at Dharwad and Kalaburagi, the restrictions on use of canteens shall be relaxed subject to condition that seating capacity in the canteens shall be restricted to half of the present capacity, rules of maintaining social distancing shall be followed by maintaining distance of six feet and hand sanitizers shall be provided in the canteens. Entry passes shall be provided to the staff members working in the canteen by the Registry who shall be subjected to thermal scanning. An undertaking shall be taken from the canteen contractor that he will ensure that any member of the staff who has symptoms of COVID 19 will not be allowed to work in the canteen and that all the staff members maintain social distancing and wear proper masks at all times.
- 4) There shall be one more additional counter provided at the Principal Bench, Bengaluru for filing and receiving P.F./Court fee, next to the existing counter.
- 5) Reception Hall at the Principal Bench shall be used for the time being for rectification of Office Objections.
- 6) Use of elevators/lifts shall be restricted to 50% of the capacity excluding the lift operator.
- 7) Wearing of masks is compulsory in the Court halls, Bar Association Premises, offices as well as in the

Court compound. Anybody found not wearing mask shall be immediately required to leave the premises.

- 8) The relaxation made to the dress code of the Advocates is hereby withdrawn. **The Advocates shall follow normal dress code with effect from 1st February 2021.**

II. These relaxations are purely on experimental basis. The High Court will have power to withdraw relaxations, if it is found that Advocates and Litigants are not following rules of wearing masks and maintaining social distancing.

III. Subject to modifications made above, the provisions of existing SOP shall continue to operate. It is clarified that the restrictions on the entry of litigants as provided in existing SOP will continue to operate at the principal seat at Bengaluru and Benches at Dharwad and Kalaburagi. The entry of litigants shall remain prohibited except as provided in existing SOP.

BY ORDER OF HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

Sd/-
(RAJENDRA BADAMIKAR)
REGISTRAR GENERAL