



OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

Sub: Courts & Judges – COVID-19 Pandemic – Functioning of Subordinate Courts in the State of Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Puducherry – Further directions issued.

Ref: High Court's Official Memorandum in R.O.C.No.41440-A/2021/C3, dated 26.04.2021 and 17.05.2021.

In view of rapid increase of COVID-19 cases in recent days, as ordered, the following directions are issued for restricted functioning of Subordinate Courts in the State of Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Puducherry:-

1. The status quo with regard to functioning of Subordinate Courts, as on date shall continue till May 31, 2021.
2. From June 1, 2021 to June 11, 2021, the Principal District Judges/District Judges/ Principal Judge, City Civil Court, Chennai/Chief Judge, Puducherry/Judges-in-charge of Subordinate Courts sit for court proceedings shall ensure that only the urgent matters are taken up for hearing as far as practicable through video conferencing. No final hearing of the cases to be taken up.
3. Cases be taken up for hearing only on filing of urgency petition. Nature of urgency is to be decided by the Judge in-charge. All other cases posted for the day be adjourned en masse to a specific future convenient date.

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4. Entry of lawyers and parties inside the Court premises is to be restricted unless and otherwise their presence is required.
5. Physical service of summons and Witness summons be deferred.
6. Staff strength is to be maintained at the minimum level to meet the administrative exigencies.

HIGH COURT, MADRAS

DATE: 28.05.2021

Sd/- P.DHANABAL
REGISTRAR GENERAL