## **GAUHATI HIGH COURT**

(THE HIGH COURT OF ASSAM; NAGALAND; MIZORAM AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH)

NOTIFICATION NO. 11
Dated Guwahati the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020

Whereas the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India vide Office Memorandum dated 05.03.2020 has advised avoidance of mass gatherings; or postponement of mass gatherings, till Novel Corona Virus (COVID-19) disease spread is contained:

And whereas the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared Novel Corona Virus (COVID-19) a pandemic;

And whereas in view of the ground realities in the State of Assam, the Government of Assam has also issued advisories to similar effect;

And whereas for the States of Mizoram, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh also certain precautions are being taken by the respective State Governments for control of spread of the disease;

And whereas prevention and precaution appear to be the only redress against Novel Corona Virus (COVID-19) disease;

And whereas in view of the opinion of public health experts, including medical professionals serving in the State of Assam and also considering safety and welfare of all the visitors, litigants, learned Advocates, Court staff, security staff, maintenance and support staff, student interns etc.,

Now, therefore, the following instructions are being issued by the Hon'ble Gauhati High Court for prevention, and spread of the said disease:-

- (i) The functioning of the Courts in Principal Seat of the High Court, as well as its outlying Benches at Kohima, Aizawl and Itanagar shall be restricted to urgent matters only, till further orders.
- (ii) No person except the learned advocates/parties appearing in person who are to address arguments in the matter, shall be permitted in the Court room.

- (iii) Learned advocates and parties in person may mention their matter(s) showing the urgency before the concerned Courts. The Court, only on being satisfied that the matter is of urgent nature, shall hear such matters.
- (iv) Learned advocates, and parties appearing in person may provide the cause-list number/case number of the case of urgent nature to the Court Master of the Court concerned by 10:15 a.m. Only those cases would be taken up for considering the urgency.

The other cases shall stand adjourned.

- (v) In the old block of the High Court, only Gate No. 4 shall be used for ingress; and Gate No. 1 for egress.
  - In the new block of the High Court, only Gate No. 6 shall be used for ingress and egress.
- (vi) All the lawyers, litigants, members of staff, security staff, etc. shall be subjected to medical screening before entry in the new as well as old High Court Building. For enabling the same, ingress and egress to the two buildings shall be restricted.
- (vii) Registrars of Kohima, Aizawl and Itanagar Benches of the Gauhati High Court are required to devise measures as may be deemed fit and proper in terms of above laid down parameters, and issue instructions accordingly.
- (viii) Entry of any foreign national in Courts and Offices is strictly restricted till further orders.

This notification shall remain in force till further orders.

REGISTRAR GENERAL