

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

NEW DELHI, 26 MARCH 2020

CIRCULAR

This issues in continuation of directions of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India vide Circular issued on 23 March 2020 and in light of orders of a nation-wide lockdown as appear to have been issued by various offices of the Government of India, effective midnight 24th - 25th March 2020.

The Supreme Court of India shall continue to function and to hear matters involving extreme urgency, till further orders in this regard. The steps enlisted in the said Circular dated 23rd March 2020 shall continue to be followed by the Advocate-on-Record /Party in-person, and all others concerned. The following clarification, in respect of the steps enlisted in Circular dated 23rd March 2020, may kindly be noted by all concerned:

1. For all matters involving extreme urgency, the AOR/Party-in-person is first required to file the petition/misc. application, preferably through the e-filing mode available on the SC Website. Thereafter, and upon completion of all formalities as per rules governing such petition/misc.application, the AOR/Party-in-person is permitted to file separately the signed and verified application containing a synopsis of extreme urgency not exceeding one page, at mention.sc@sci.nic.in, as per procedure detailed in para. 3 of the said Circular dated 23.03.2020;
2. To obviate the inconvenience that may be faced due to unforeseen linkage issue of the 'Vidyo' video-conferencing, as detailed in para. 4 of the said Circular dated 23.03.2020, the AOR/Party-in-person are hereby requested to mention their alternative Skype, Facetime or WhatsApp contact details, if any, alongwith other details in their mentioning application, as per procedure detailed in para. 3 of the said Circular dated 23.03.2020;
3. Since the prevailing situation demands that persons be discouraged from undertaking any kind of journey/travel, SC Registry is taking all steps necessary to conduct the aforesaid hearings through remote VC links, and hence AORs/Parties-in-persons are advised to refrain from exercising the option of participating in the hearing through VC link facility available at the SC premises for the present, as that would entail unnecessary and avoidable travel through public spaces;

We solicit co-operation from all concerned to enable us to ensure optimum safety for all stake-holders in these extraordinary circumstances.

Sd/-

**Secretary General
Supreme Court of India**