## **HIGH COURT OF SIKKIM**

## **NOTIFICATION**

Dated 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

In view of Office Memorandum dated 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2020 of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India by which an advisory had been issued cautioning against mass gathering to avoid the spread of COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus disease and the Government of Sikkim, in view of the rapid spread of COVID-19 Coronavirus in the country, having also issued a Notification dated 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2020, containing certain directions for strict compliance, the High Court of Sikkim is pleased to issue the following instructions:

- 1. Entry and exit points to the High Court complex shall be restricted. Sanitizers shall be made available for the learned Advocates, visitors as well as staff at the entry point.
- 2. The Bar Association and the learned Advocates may be requested to advise the litigants not to visit the High Court unless their presence is considered to be absolutely essential.

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- 3. The Bar Associations and the learned Advocates may be requested to ensure that there is no over-crowding in the High Court including in the Bar rooms.
- 4. No adverse order or order dismissing cases for default shall be passed if the learned Advocate or the party is absent. Intimation, if any, by e-mail, explaining absence, may also be taken note of.
- 5. Seating arrangement of staff shall be looked into to assess whether there is over-crowding in any particular room and, if required, alternative sitting arrangement may be worked out to avoid over-crowding.
- **6**. Functions or events where there will be a gathering of people shall not be organized.
- 7. High Court Museum shall be closed to visitors.

The above instructions are issued in larger public interest for the welfare of all stakeholders and the same shall be effective until 31st March 2020, when the situation will be reviewed.

By Order,

REGISTRAR GENERAL