OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE (HQs): DELHI

No. 9039 – 9156 /Genl./DHC/2021 Dated, Delhi the 20 MAR 2021

Copy of the letter No. 368/Estt.II/E.V/DHC dated 18/03/2021 (diary No. 417 dated 20/03/2021) alongwith the copy of the order dated 08/03/2021 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, received from the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, to be circulated for information and necessary compliance to :-

1. All the Ld. Principal District & Sessions Judges, Delhi/New Delhi (except Central-District) with the request to circulate the same amongst the Judicial Officers under your control.
2. The Ld. Principal Judge, Family Courts (HQs), Dwarka Courts, Delhi with the request to circulate the same amongst the Judicial officer s under your Control.
3. All the Ld. Judicial Officers posted in Central-District, Tis Hazari Courts Delhi.
4. The Chairman, Website Committee, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi With the request to upload the same on the Website of Delhi District Courts as per rule.
5. Dealing official for uploading the same on Centralized Website through LAYERS as per rules.
6. P.S. to Ld. Principal District & Sessions Judges (HQs), Delhi for information.

20/03/21

(RAKESH PANDIT)
Officer In-Charge, General Branch, Central
Additional District & Sessions Judge,
Tis Hazari Courts Delhi

Encl. As above

417
20 MAR 2021

HIGH COURT OF DELHI : NEW DELHI
(ESTABLISHMENT –II BRANCH)

No. 368/Estt.II/E-V/DHC
Dated: 18.03.2021

As directed, a copy of the orders dated 08.03.2021 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Suo Motu Writ Petition (Civil) No. 3 of 2020 titled "In Re: Cognizance for Extension of Limitation" is circulated for information of all concerned officers.

Sd/-
(Manoj Jain)
Registrar General

Endst. No. 5179-5200/Estt./E-V/DHC Dated: 18.03.2021

Copy forwarded for information and compliance to:-

1. Ms. Aditi Choudhary, Registrar (Vigilance)
2. Sh. Deepak Garg, OSD
3. Sh. Surinder S. Rathi, OSD-Cum-Registrar to Hon'ble the Chief Justice
4. Ms. Kaveri Baweja, Co-ordinator, DIAC
5. Sh. Saurabh Kulshreshtha, OSD
6. Sh. Ashish Aggarwal, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
7. Ms. Savitri, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
8. Sh. Sidharth Mathur, Joint Registrar (Judl.) (CPC)
9. Ms. Surya Malik Grover, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
10. Sh. Sharad Gupta, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
11. Ms. Vandana Jain, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
12. Ms. Jyoti Kler, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
13. Sh. Devender Nain, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
14. Ms. Twinkle Wadhwa, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
15. Ms. Aparna Swami, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
16. Sh. Purshotam Pathak, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
17. Sh. Raj Kumar Tripathi, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
18. Sh. Rakesh Kumar Singh, Joint Registrar (Judl.)
19. Sh. Pranjal Aneja, Additional Co-ordinator, DIAC
20. Ms. T. Priyadarshini, Additional Co-ordinator, DIAC
21. Sh. Nishant Garg, Additional Co-ordinator, DIAC

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR (ESTT.II)

OIC (Genl.)

Endst. No. 5201/Estt./E-V/DHC Dated: 18.03.2021

Pl. DJ&SJ (HQ) 19.03.2021

Copy forwarded for circulation amongst Judicial Officers for information and compliance to:-

1. The Principle District & Sessions Judge (Headquarters), Delhi with a request to circulate the above mentioned order amongst all the Judicial Officers.

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR (ESTT.II)

REPORTABLE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION
Suo Motu Writ Petition (Civil) No.3 of 2020

IN RE: COGNIZANCE FOR EXTENSION OF LIMITATION.

..... Petitioner (s)

Versus

.....Respondent (s)

O R D E R

1. Due to the onset of COVID-19 pandemic, this Court took *suo motu* cognizance of the situation arising from difficulties that might be faced by the litigants across the country in filing petitions/applications/suits/appeals/all other proceedings within the period of limitation prescribed under the general law of limitation or under any special laws (both Central or State). By an order dated 27.03.2020 this Court extended the period of limitation prescribed under the general law or special laws whether compoundable or not with effect from 15.03.2020 till further orders. The order dated 15.03.2020 was extended from time to time. Though, we have not seen the end of the pandemic, there is considerable improvement. The lockdown has been lifted and the country is returning to normalcy. Almost all the Courts and Tribunals are functioning either physically or by

virtual mode. We are of the opinion that the order dated 15.03.2020 has served its purpose and in view of the changing scenario relating to the pandemic, the extension of limitation should come to an end.

2. We have considered the suggestions of the learned Attorney General for India regarding the future course of action. We deem it appropriate to issue the following directions: -

1. In computing the period of limitation for any suit, appeal, application or proceeding, the period from 15.03.2020 till 14.03.2021 shall stand excluded. Consequently, the balance period of limitation remaining as on 15.03.2020, if any, shall become available with effect from 15.03.2021.
2. In cases where the limitation would have expired during the period between 15.03.2020 till 14.03.2021, notwithstanding the actual balance period of limitation remaining, all persons shall have a limitation period of 90 days from 15.03.2021. In the event the actual balance period of limitation remaining, with effect from 15.03.2021, is greater than 90 days, that longer period shall apply.
3. The period from 15.03.2020 till 14.03.2021 shall also stand excluded in computing the periods

prescribed under Sections 23 (4) and 29A of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, Section 12A of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015 and provisos (b) and (c) of Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 and any other laws, which prescribe period(s) of limitation for instituting proceedings, outer limits (within which the court or tribunal can condone delay) and termination of proceedings.

4. The Government of India shall amend the guidelines for containment zones, to state.

> "Regulated movement will be allowed for medical emergencies, provision of essential goods and services, and other necessary functions, such as, time bound applications, including for legal purposes, and educational and job-related requirements."

3. The Suo Motu Writ Petition is disposed of accordingly.

.....CJI.
[S. A. BOBDE]

.....J.
[L. NAGESWARA RAO]

.....J.
[S. RAVINDRA BHAT]

New Delhi,
March 08, 2021.