

HIGH COURT OF DELHI: NEW DELHI

No. 01/RG/DHC/2023
Dated: 05.06.2023

OFFICE ORDER

Sub: Directions regarding Hybrid Hearing in Delhi District Courts issued by the Hon'ble Full Court, High Court of Delhi.

In partial modification of the previous directions issued vide office order No.2551/DHC/Gaz/G-2/2022 dated 11.05.2022 in respect of Hybrid Hearing in District Courts, it is informed that the Hon'ble Full Court, High Court of Delhi has been pleased to order that:

".....that the District Courts in Delhi, shall permit any of the parties and/or their counsel to appear through hybrid/video-conferencing mode during Court proceedings, without there being any requirement of a prior request for the same.

The hearings shall be conducted in hybrid/video-conferencing mode in conformity with the High Court of Delhi Rules for Video Conferencing for Courts, 2021 and also bearing in mind the provisions of the Live Streaming and Recording of Court Proceedings Rules of the High Court of Delhi, 2022.

The judicial officers, while conducting hearings through hybrid/video-conferencing mode, shall ensure that in the categories of cases mentioned hereunder, no person other than the parties and counsel of a particular case, digitally accesses or joins the proceedings of that particular case:

- i. Matrimonial matters, child adoption and child custody including transfer petitions arising thereunder.
- ii. Cases concerning sexual offences, including proceedings instituted under Section 376, Indian Penal Code, 1860 (IPC).
- iii. Cases concerning gender-based violence against women.
- iv. Matters registered under or involving the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO) and

under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

v. Matters registered under or involving the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971.

vi. In-camera proceedings as defined under Section 327 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (CrPC) or Section 153 B or Order XXXIIA of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (CPC).

vii. Matters where the bench is of the view, for reasons to be recorded in writing that publication would be antithetical to the administration of justice.

viii. Cases, which in the opinion of the Bench, may provoke enmity amongst communities likely to result in a breach of law and order.

ix. Recording of evidence, including cross-examination.

x. Privileged communications between the parties and their advocates; cases where a claim of privilege is accepted by the Court; and non-public discussions between advocates.

xi. Any other matter in which a specific direction is issued by the Court.

Further in a given case, the Court may for reasons to be recorded in writing, direct the parties and/or their Counsel to appear physically where in the opinion of the Court the physical presence of the parties/counsel in the court is required or where the court is otherwise of the opinion that the matter should be heard physically in the court.

The decision taken in the Full Court dated 25.04.2022 in this respect accordingly stands modified."

The Ld. Judicial Officers in all the District Courts are requested to strictly adhere to the aforesaid directions.

BY ORDER

Sd/-

(Ravinder Dudeja)
Registrar General

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action, if any, to:

1. All Principal District & Sessions Judges, Delhi with request to circulate this office order to all the Ld. Judicial officers in their Jurisdiction.
2. The Principal Judge, Family Courts (HQ), Dwarka Courts Complex, Dwarka, New Delhi, with the request to circulate the Office Order to all the Ld. Judges, Family Courts.
3. Mr. Pawan Kumar Jain, Ld. Chairman (IT & Digitization), District Courts with a request to upload the office order on the website of all District Courts.
4. The Principal Secretary (Law, Justice & L.A), Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi.
5. The Member Secretary, Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DSLSA), Rouse Avenue Court Complex, New Delhi.
6. The Secretary, Delhi High Court Legal Services Committee, Delhi High Court.
7. The Commissioner of Police, Police Headquarters, New Delhi.
8. The Director (Academics), Delhi Judicial Academy, Delhi.
9. The Director of Prosecution, CBI, Block No.3, 2nd Floor, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, Delhi.
10. The Director of Prosecution, Directorate of Prosecution, Tis Hazari, Delhi.
11. The Director General, Narcotics Control Bureau, West Block, I-Wing-5, Sector-7, R.K. Puram, Delhi.
12. The Superintendent Jail, Tihar/Rohini/Mandoli, Delhi.
13. The Secretary, Bar Council of India, New Delhi
14. The Secretary, Bar Council of Delhi, New Delhi
15. The Secretary, Supreme Court of India Bar Association, New Delhi
16. The Secretary, Delhi High Court Bar Association, New Delhi
17. The Secretary, Delhi Bar Association, Tis Hazari, Delhi
18. The Secretary, Bar Association, New Delhi Courts, Patiala House, New Delhi
19. The Secretary, Bar Association, Karkardooma Courts, Shahdara, Delhi
20. The Secretary, Bar Association, Rohini Courts, Rohini, Delhi
21. The Secretary, Bar Association, Dwarka Courts, Dwarka, New Delhi
22. The Secretary, Bar Association, Saket Courts, Saket, New Delhi.
23. Registrar-cum-Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice and All Registrars/OSDs.
24. The Joint Registrar, Registrar General's Secretariat
25. Director (IT) of this Court.
26. Private Secretaries to all Hon'ble Judges.
27. P.A. to Registrar (IT) with the request to arrange to upload the Office Order on the website of this Court.
28. Copy to be displayed on the Notice Board.
29. Guard file.


(Abhilash Malhotra)
Joint Registrar (J) (CPC)