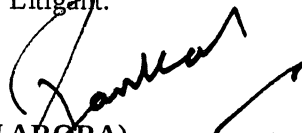


**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE
NORTH-EAST DISTRICT, KARKARDOOMA COURTS, DELHI**

CIRCULAR

Persuant to the Order dated 17.08.2023 (Annexure A) passed by Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in Writ Petition (C) No. 6082/2019 titled as "Karan S. Thakral & Others vs District and Sessions Judge & Others" and Letter ref. No. 69049-060/S.R.(143)/Comp. Br./THC/2023 dated 11.09.2023 (Annexure B) issued by Ld. Chairman (I.T. & Digitization), Centralized Computer Committee, Delhi District Courts, it is impressed upon all the Judicial Officers posted in North-East District, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi to ensure the compliance of directions contained in the said Order.

1. Reader of all the Courts functioning in North-East District, Karkardooma Courts to maintain an Inward Dak Register for maintaining the record of physically filed written Statement/ Rejoinder / Misc. Applications / Misc. Documents in the respective court and to acknowledge the receipt thereof to concerned Adocate/ Litigant till the time a Centralized filling is implemented.
2. Ahlmad of all the Courts functioning in North-East District, Karkardooma Courts are directed to register Interim Applications / Misc.Applications in CIS compulsorily on the same day and the acknowledgement /unique IA registration number be given to the Advocate / Litigant.

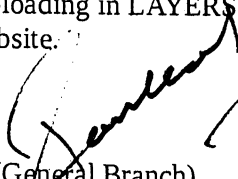

(PANKAJ ARORA)
Officer Incharge (General Branch)
North-East District
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

No. 6840-6849 /Genl./NE/KKD/2023

Dated 21 SEP 2023

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to :

1. The Principal District & Sessions Judge (HQ), Central District, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi.
2. The Principal District & Sessions Judge, East/Shahdara, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi
3. All the Judicial Officers posted at North-East District, Karkardooma courts, Delhi with the request to direct the Reader and Ahlmad of the Court to comply with the abovesaid directions.
4. The CMM Office, North-East District, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi
5. Branch Incharge, Judicial Branch / Administration Branch, North-East District, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi
6. Incharge, Filling Section, North-East District, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi
7. PS to the Undersigned.
8. Dealing Assistant, R& I Branch, North-East District, KKD Courts, Delhi for uploading in LAYERS.
9. Incharge, Computer Branch, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi- For uploading on website.

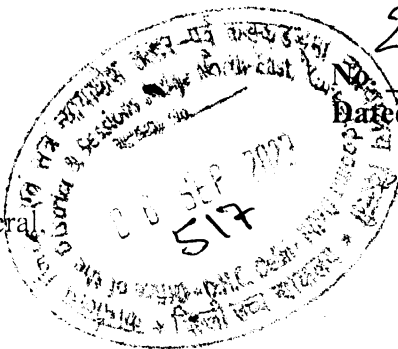

Officer Incharge (General Branch),
North-East District,
Karkardooma Courts, Delhi

IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

Copy of order

From

The Registrar General
Delhi High Court,
New Delhi



21266-w

Dated: _____ DHC/WRITS/D3/2023
NDOH: 09.10.2023

4-9-20

To

1. Registrar (Rules), Delhi High Court
2. Joint Registrar (CPC), Delhi High Court
3. The District & Sessions Judge, Tis Hazari Court (Headquarter), District-Central, Delhi
4. The District & Sessions Judge, District-South, Saket Court
5. The District & Sessions Judge, District-North-West, Rohini Court
6. The District & Sessions Judge, District-South-West Dwarka Court
7. The District & Sessions Judge District-East Karkardooma Court
8. The District & Sessions Judge District-Shahdara Karkardooma Court
9. The District & Sessions Judge, District-New Delhi, Patiala House Court
10. The District & Sessions Judge, District-West, Tis Hazari Court
11. The District & Sessions Judge, District-South-East, Saket Court
12. The District & Sessions Judge, District-North Rohini Court
13. The District & Sessions Judge, District-North-East, Karkardooma Court

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. : 6082/2019

KARAN S.THUKRAL

.....Petitioner/s

Versus

THE DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE & ORS

.....Respondent/s

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of order dated 17.08.2023 passed by Hon'ble Division Bench of this Court in the above noted case along with a copy of memo of parties for information and immediate compliance/necessary action

Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,

Sanshu
02.09.2023

Admn. Officer (J)/Writs
For Registrar General

AS

Seen. Be circulated amongst all concerned for information f necessary compliance,

*OIC (Cal)
PE, KRK*

②

5. THE DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE
DISTRICT-EAST
KARKARDOOMA COURT

6. THE DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE
DISTRICT-SHAHDARA
KARKARDOOMA COURT

7. THE DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE
DISTRICT-NEW DELHI
PATIALA HOUSE COURT

8. THE DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE
DISTRICT-WEST
TIS HAZARI COURT

9. THE DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE
DISTRICT-SOUTH-EAST
SAKET COURT

10. THE DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE
DISTRICT-NORTH
ROHINI COURT

11. THE DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE
DISTRICT-NORTH-EAST
KARKARDOOMA COURT

12. REGISTRAR GENERAL
HIGH COURT OF DELHI

PLACE: *Delhi*
DATE: *05/07/2019*

RESPONDENTS

[Signature]
PETITIONER

Through

[Signature]

THUKRAL LAW ASSOCIATES
ADVOCATES

A-1/158, SUITE 3, PASCHIM VIHAR
NEW DELHI-110063
M: 9999009339

TRUE COPY
A

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* IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI
+ W.P.(C) 6082/2019

KARAN S THUKRAL

..... Petitioner

Through: Mr. Sahil Ralli and Ms. Vaishnavi
Arora, Advocates.

versus

THE DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE & ORS

..... Respondents

Through: Mrs. Avnish Ahlawat, Standing
Counsel, GNCTD with Mr. Nitesh
Kumar Singh, Ms. Laavanya Kaushik,
Ms. Aliza Alam and Mr. Mohnish
Sehrawat, Advocates for R-1 to 11.

CORAM:

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV NARULA

ORDER

%

17.08.2023

1. This Public Interest Litigation ['PIL'], filed in 2019, concerns the administrative procedure of acknowledging the filing of pleadings, documents, and miscellaneous applications in ongoing cases in Delhi District Courts. Presently, there exists no standardised procedure for issuing a filing number or acknowledgement receipt for such submissions.
2. Representing the Petitioner, the learned counsel highlights lack of structure in the current filing procedure of the District Courts. The lawyers and parties are relegated to the use of an unsupervised drop box for the

submission of miscellaneous applications pertaining to ongoing matters. In some courts, the Court Master/ Reader receives the filings, but does not issue an acknowledgement. Such a system has frequently resulted in lost applications or unverified allegations regarding the non-filing of certain documents. This glaring procedural void not only makes it difficult to track and verify filings, but also opens doors for potential manipulation, errors and mismanagement.

3. Transparency and accountability are paramount in judicial proceedings. To that end, every application, pleading, document, or any other submission to the Court should be duly acknowledged with a unique filing number, ensuring traceability and preventing any potential disputes or discrepancies related to their submission. Given the strict timelines especially in criminal proceedings, commercial courts, and other time-sensitive matters, an accurate recording of the filing date is of utmost importance. Absence of concrete acknowledgement threatens the very foundation of procedural fairness and efficiency.

4. Despite the PIL's initiation in 2019, a tangible and systematic procedure addressing these concerns remains conspicuously absent in District Courts. This Court was informed on 18th January, 2023 that deliberations regarding this issue are currently ongoing before the Review Committee of this Court. However, no conclusive resolution has been achieved till date.

5. In view of the foregoing, this Court emphatically recommends the adoption of a standardized online filing system in the Delhi District Courts for the aforementioned filings and submissions. It is crucial that the required technological infrastructure be established to support this system.

Furthermore, it is essential that lawyers and concerned parties not only have the option to utilize this online method, but also receive appropriate training to navigate it effectively. We acknowledge the challenges inherent in such a transition. The initial stages would necessitate the allocation of resources for training and demand adaptability from all stakeholders. However, we are firm in our conviction that, in the long run, this system will usher in an era of greater efficiency, transparency, and reliability

Provisional Measures:

6. Recognizing that the full implementation of an online system will require time, it is imperative to put an interim solution in place. To address the procedural shortcomings outlined earlier, District Courts are hereby directed to adopt temporary measures as follows:

- a. *Centralized Filing System:* District Courts shall centralize all filings related to ongoing and pending cases, similar to the existing procedure for new cases. This system must provide each submission with a unique filing number and issue an acknowledgment receipt to the party or attorney submitting the documents. Filing of miscellaneous applications, documents, pleadings etc. must be methodically logged at centralized filing counters, overseen by designated personnel. To achieve this, staff recruitment or augmentation may be necessary. The respective Principal District and Sessions Judges are tasked with overseeing this centralized filing mechanism's swift and effective deployment. They must also ensure that the transition is seamless and training is provided to all relevant stakeholders, thereby minimizing the disruptions in court proceedings.
- b. *Temporary Inward Dak Register:* Until the above measures are in place, Court Masters in all the District Courts are instructed to maintain an inward

dak register. Filings related to miscellaneous applications, documents, pleadings etc. will be logged by the Court Master, who will issue an acknowledgment number to the filing counsel/ parties. This temporary system shall cease once the centralized filing is operationalized.

c. *Pilot and Oversight:* The Patiala House Court will serve as a testing ground for implementing the centralised filing on trial basis. Following a review by this Court, the system may then be rolled out to other District Courts.

d. *Online Transition:* Although a system for online filing of new cases is in existence, we are informed that the same does not provide for filing of miscellaneous applications, documents, pleadings etc. in the cases pending adjudication. In this regard, it is noticed that the Principal District and Sessions Judge, Dwarka Court, has issued an "Advisory for Filing of Cases/ Caveat/ Misc. Applications/ Bail Applications/ Misc. Documents Etc." on 26th July, 2022, which *inter alia* permits filing of miscellaneous applications through the online portal [<https://efiling-dl.ecourts.gov.in>]. Noticing that there is no consistency in the procedure for online submissions of documents/ applications, we direct all the District Courts to augment their existing online filing system to incorporate a procedure for filing of miscellaneous applications, aligning them with the existing procedure for new cases. They shall also publish a manual/ handbook/ tutorial elucidating the procedure for e-filing documents by counsel/ parties, with relevant screenshots, on their website. The Information Technology Committee of this Court is requested to extend necessary aid to the District Courts for integration and operationalisation of the online filing system.

7. The above interim measures shall remain in effect, and shall be

diligently adhered to, until the formal inauguration and operationalisation of the online filing system and/ or till such time as the Rules Committee finalises and promulgates definitive rules addressing the issue at hand.

8. The matter shall be reviewed in the next hearing scheduled for 09th October, 2023, wherein updates regarding the implementation of both the centralized and online systems must be presented along with further developments of the deliberations of the Rules Committee of this High Court.

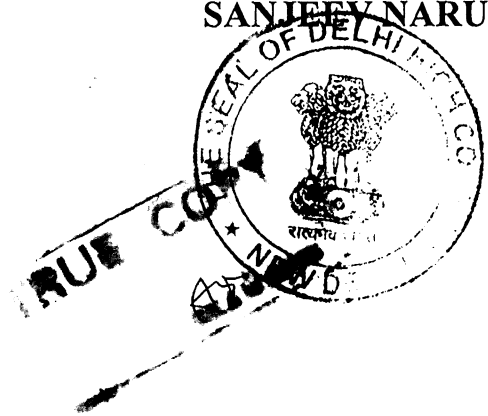
Sd/-

SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA, CJ

Sd/-

SANJEEV NARULA, J

AUGUST 17, 2023/as



51/PDSJ/NE
12-9-23

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

Ref. No. 69049-060 /S.R(143)/Comp.Br/THC/2023

Dated: 11 SEP 2023

To

Ld. Principal District & Sessions Judge (N.E.)
of all Districts
Delhi / New Delhi

Sub: Writ Petition (Civil) No. 6082/2019 titled "Karan S. Thukral Vs. District & Sessions Judge & Ors."

Respected Sir/Madam,

Reference is invited to the ibid subject and in terms of approval of Ld. Principal District & Sessions Judge (HQs), it is to inform your good self that the office has taken the following steps to comply with the directions contained in the order dated 17.08.23 passed in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 6082/2019 titled as "Karan S. Thukral Vs. District & Sessions Judge & Ors." as hereunder:

1. The Filing Section has to issue a circular directing thereby the Reader of all the courts functioning in your district to maintain an Inward Dak Register for maintaining the record of physically file Written Statement / Rejoinder / Misc. Application / Misc. Documents in the respective court and to acknowledge the receipt thereof to concerned Advocate / Litigant till the time a Centralized Filing Section is implemented.
2. The Filing Section has to issue a circular directing thereby Ahlmads of all the courts functioning in your districts that whenever an Interim Application (IA) / Misc. Application is filed in the court physically, he shall compulsorily register in CIS on the same day and the acknowledgment/unique IA registration number be given to the Advocate / Litigant.
3. That in view of the direction 6 (b) contained in the order dated 17.08.2023 passed by Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in WP(C) 6082/2019, the Centralized Filing System for physical filing of Written Statement / Rejoinder / Misc. Application / Document shall be implemented in all the court complexes after reviewing the Pilot System which is to be developed to introduce at Patiala House Court.
4. Since, there is no provision in CIS to register Written Statement / Rejoinder in pending case, IT-Cell is directed to take up the matter with Hon'ble e-Committee, Supreme Court of India through Centralized Project Coordinator (CPC), Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, to provide a provision to register physical Written Statement / Rejoinder like available qua Interim Application.
5. Ld. Principal District & Sessions Judge – New Delhi District, Patiala House Court Complex is requested to introduce a Centralized Filing System for physical filing of Written Statement / Rejoinder / Misc. Application / Document. Whenever an Interim Application / Document is filed at the said Centralized Filing Centre, the official shall register the same in CIS and give the acknowledgment mentioning therein unique registration number qua the same. As presently there is no provision to register Written Statement / Rejoinder to file in CIS, the official shall maintain a physical record like he maintains the record qua the fresh plaint and shall acknowledge the receipt of Written Statement / Rejoinder and give the receipt of the same to Advocate / Litigant, till the provision is created by the Hon'ble e-Committee, Supreme Court of India.

This is your information with a request to take requisite steps accordingly.

With Regards,

Yours faithfully,
(6/9/23)

(Pawan Kumar Jain)
Chairman (IT & Digitization)
Centralized Computer Committee
Delhi District Courts

69061-095

Ref. No. /S.R(143)/Comp.Br/THC/2023

Dated :

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. Ld. Officer In-Charge, Computer Branch and Judicial Branch of all districts/court complexes.
2. The Administrative Officer (Judl.)/In-Charge, Computer Branch of all districts/court complexes.
3. Office file.

(6/9/23)

Chairman (IT & Digitization)
Centralized Computer Committee
Delhi District Courts