

ARMED FORCES TRIBUNAL (PRINCIPAL BENCH) NEW DELHI

F. No. 22(2)/2017/AFT/PB/Judl.

28th September, 2020

CIRCULAR

It has been observed that despite repeated requests and the advisories issued by the Government of India, social distancing is not being maintained in the Principal Bench of the Armed Forces Tribunal as many persons including advocates, litigants and officials of other departments have been found wandering in the Tribunal, which not only causes great inconvenience to the Courts of Tribunal (especially when they are in session) but also enhances the risk of spread of infection of COVID-19 in the Principal Bench. In the absence of any vaccination to control the infection of deadly COVID-19, social distance has become the crying need of the hour so as to contain the risk of infection of COVID-19. Besides social distancing, it is equally inevitable to strictly adhere to other advisories issued by the Government in the Tribunal in order to effectively contain infection of COVID-19.

It has, therefore, been decided that from 06th October, 2020 onwards, only fresh admission matters or the matters involving extreme urgency shall be taken up by the Principal Bench, till further orders, so as to minimize the risk of infection of COVID-19. All other matters already scheduled from 06th October, 2020 onwards shall be adjourned *en block* to subsequent dates, which may be notified on the website of the Tribunal for information of all concerned in advance.

In the event of urgency of the matter, in the first instance, the learned advocates or the parties in person, as the case may be, may make an application in support of its urgency by e-mail (aftdelhi@rediffmail.com) including all the material facts and particulars necessary for formation of opinion about its urgency, which should invariably include : (i) the nature of the matter; (ii) the date of the impugned order, if any; (iii) the reason for not filing it earlier, if the impugned order was made or the cause of action arose on an earlier date; (iv) the latest date upto which the matter can be heard in view of the urgency indicated therein; and (v) the nature of interim order sought for which the urgency is indicated must be mentioned. The application of urgency of the matter will be considered by the Hon'ble Chairperson in terms of Rule 18 of the Armed Forces Tribunal (Practice) Rules, 2009.



(Dr. Rakesh Kumar)
Principal Registrar

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3. All officers and Sections of the Armed Forces Tribunal, Principal Bench
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5. MoD, AFT (Cell), SenaBhawan, New Delhi – for information
6. Guard Files
7. AFT website