

**National Green Tribunal
Southern Zone Bench
Kalas Mahal, Chennai - 600 005**

No.NGT/SZ/Jud/51/2021/

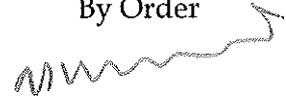
Date: 29.10.2021

OFFICE ORDER

Subject to the reopening of all Government Offices and Public Institutions and functioning of Courts in the State of Tamil Nadu as per the latest Covid-19 norms prescribed by the Government and in line with the directions and guidelines passed by the Hon'ble Apex Court regarding resumption of physical hearing of cases (with hybrid option), the Southern Zone Bench of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, in consultation with the NGT SZ Chennai Bar Association, has been pleased to resume **regular physical hearing of cases (with hybrid option) with effect from 10.11.2021** in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedure prescribed for the same, which is annexed with this order.

It is expected that the Advocates, litigants and parties who visit the Tribunal shall strictly adhere to the norms of social distancing and all other Covid-19 protocols, guidelines, directions, etc. issued by the Government of India and Government of Tamil Nadu and this Tribunal from time to time.

By Order



REGISTRAR

Copy To:

- 1) PPS to Hon'ble Chairperson, NGT PB, New Delhi.
- 2) Ld. Registrar General, NGT PB, New Delhi.
- 3) Ld. Registrars of NGT CZB/WZB/EZB
- 4) Secretary, NGT SZ Bar Association, Chennai
- 5) NGT SZ Notice Board
- 6) Guard File NGT SZ
- 7) NGT website - For uploading

NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE BENCH
KALAS MAHAL, CHENNAI

Standard Operating Procedure for Physical Hearing (With Hybrid Option) w.e.f. 10.11.2021

Subject to the reopening of all Government Offices and Public Institutions and functioning of Courts in the State of Tamil Nadu as per the latest Covid-19 norms prescribed by the Government and in line with the directions and guidelines passed by the Hon'ble Apex Court regarding resumption of physical hearing of cases (with hybrid option), the Southern Zone Bench of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, in consultation with the NGT SZ Chennai Bar Association, has decided to facilitate hearing through physical mode with hybrid option w.e.f. 10.11.2021, subject to the following guidelines.

- (1) The E-filing of cases through e-portal will be continued until further orders. When filing fresh cases, the Advocates/Parties shall mention the mode of hearing (whether physical/virtual mode) in the docket sheet of the application.
- (2) The weekly cause list will be published in advance for information of all. The Advocates/litigants who opt for virtual hearing shall mandatorily intimate the Registry through email to ngtszvc@gmail.com before 09.00 pm on the previous

day of date of hearing. Unless an email seeking permission to appear through virtual hearing is received, it shall be deemed that the Advocate/Party has preferred to appear for hearing through physical mode.

- (3) No Advocates/Parties having symptoms of cough, cold or fever will be allowed in the Court Premises and only Advocates/Parties who have taken **atleast single dose of Covid-19 vaccine** will be allowed. The copy of the vaccination certificate shall be mandatorily produced before entering the court premises.
- (4) Advocates/Parties who are not vaccinated but wish to come to the Court from other states wherein the numbers of Covid-19 cases are more shall produce the **RTPCR Negative Test** result taken within 72 hours.
- (5) Only the appearing parties will be allowed in the Court Hall at a time and only one argument counsel per party will be allowed. Others who are waiting for their turn have to wait in the designated waiting area maintaining social distancing. Advocates/Parties having more than one case for hearing have to wait in the designated waiting area for appearing for the next case.
- (6) A maximum number of **10 (Ten)** persons [apart from the Hon'ble Members and staffs] will be allowed in the Court Hall at a time.

- (7) Thermal scanning is mandatory for all Advocates/Parties before entering the Court Premises. Wearing of mask, frequent use of hand sanitizer and physical distancing norms shall be compulsorily observed by all entrants into the Court premises, including into the Court rooms.
- (8) On completion of hearing of the respective cases, Advocates/Parties shall immediately move out of the court premises.
- (9) All the Advocates/Parties have to follow the S.O.P. and cooperate with the staff for following the guidelines for physical hearing.
- (10) The latest guidelines and safety protocols issued by Central and State Governments regarding Covid-19, from time to time to be followed in public places, shall be strictly adhered to.

By Order

Sd/-

REGISTRAR

29.10.2021