

F.No.233-Ad(AT)/2019-20
INCOME TAX APPELLATE TRIBUNAL
Pratishtha Bhawan, 3rd & 4th Floors,
101, M.K. Marg, Mumbai - 400020

Date : 16th April, 2020

OFFICE ORDER


The Ministry of Home Affairs, vide Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 15th April, 2020, has issued consolidated revised guidelines/directions, in continuation of their earlier Order dated 14th April, 2020, to all Ministries/Departments of the Government of India with a view to arrest the spread of COVID-19 in the country. In terms of the said revised guidelines, the offices of the Government of India, its Autonomous/Subordinate Offices are to function with effect from 20th April, 2020 with certain restrictions and complying not only with the existing guidelines but also adhering to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for social distancing in the premises as contained in Annexure II thereof.

Accordingly, a video meeting with all the Zonal Vice Presidents via 'Zoom Cloud Meetings' App was held today to discuss about the preparation and modalities of opening of the offices of the ITAT with effect from 20th April, 2020. In the meeting, the exhaustive revised guidelines of the Ministry of Home Affairs dated 15th April, 2020 were discussed in detail and preliminary feedback was given by all the Vice Presidents.

In pursuance to such discussions, it is hereby directed that the respective Vice Presidents may take steps to ensure opening of the offices under their jurisdiction subject to strict compliance with the guidelines and instructions of the Government of India till date. It is further directed that the Vice Presidents may ensure all preparatory arrangements with regard to social distancing in offices as also that the permitted activities are implemented in a phased manner after strict implementation of the guidelines.

Insofar as the regular judicial work of the Benches is concerned, the same shall remain suspended, as earlier, till 3rd May, 2020. However, the extremely urgent matters may be taken up, for which the respective Vice Presidents may draw up the modalities at their level in consultation with all the stakeholders. The Vice Presidents are also advised that the aforestated modalities may be finalized only after obtaining the concurrence of the undersigned.

The Vice Presidents are also advised to assess the local prevailing situation regularly so as to ensure compliance of the guidelines and also keep the undersigned updated with the position in their respective Zones.


[JUSTICE P.P. BHATT]
PRESIDENT

Copies to : All concerned.