

ARMED FORCES TRIBUNAL (REGIONAL BENCH), GUWAHATI

CIRCULAR

File No : AFT/RB/Ghy/07/2020

Dated : 29 Jul 2021

VIRTUAL HEARING OF THE CASES

1. I am directed to convey the views and concern of the Hon'ble Member(s) during the course of Virtual Hearing of the cases conducted on 27 Jul 2021 regarding prior submission of Affidavit-in-Opposition in some cases were mentioned where the actual fact is that no Affidavit-in-Opposition was filed. In a particular instance the Ld Counsel appearing on behalf of the Union of India & Others has submitted before the Bench that he has already filed Affidavit-in-Opposition on today (i.e. the day of Virtual Hearing on 27 Jul 2021) despite the fact well known to him that he has not filed the Affidavit-in-Opposition in a particular case on that day and till today he has not filed the same. Further, the other Ld Counsel(s) appearing on behalf of the UOI & Others have also submitted before the Bench that he has already filed Affidavit-in-Opposition without mentioning the date of filing the same.
2. It is pertinent to mention that all the Ld Counsel(s) are well aware of the practice and procedures of the Virtual Hearing of the cases as well as a Notice to the effect that Fresh Cases, Affidavit-in-Opposition, Rejoinders e.t.c are required to be filed at least one week prior to the week in which the cases(s) are directed to be listed before the Virtual Court. However, it has been experienced that they are appearing before the Registry to file the same 1 to 4 days prior to the date fixed for the Virtual Hearing and pressing to file the same on the day of Virtual Hearing which is practically not possible.
3. Therefore, I am directed to convey that the Ld Counsel(s) are requested to avoid such practice in future and file Fresh Case(s), Affidavit-in-Opposition, Rejoinder(s) e.t.c. at least one week prior to the week fixed for the Virtual Hearing to avoid inconvenience at all level. Fresh Cases, Affidavit-in-Opposition, Rejoinders e.t.c received/filed beyond the specified period can not be placed before the Hon'ble Virtual Bench and in such cases Ld Counsel(s) are requested to submit the exact date of filing the same before the Virtual Bench.
4. Further, Annexure(s) filed alongwith the Affidavit-in-Opposition are not legible. In such cases a typed copy of Annexures must be filed alongwith the illegible copy/ documents.

Manji Rekha Sharma

(MR Sharma)
Consultant (Registrar)

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