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මගේ අංකය எனது இலக்கம் My No.

ISC/SEC/COR 12

ඔබේ අංකය உமது இலக்கம் Your No.

දිනය திகதி Date 02.05.2021

To: All High Court Judges/All Judicial Officers and Presidents of Labour Tribunals

Instructions/Measures in relation to Prevention and Control of COVID 19 in Courts

Judicial Service Commission, having considered the current situation prevalent in the country due to the onset of a fresh wave of COVID 19, directed me to issue the following instructions to be operative from 03.05.2021 to 07.05.2021.

Judicial Service Commission will issue further instructions, if deem necessary, upon evaluation of the situation thereafter.

Accordingly, the operation of JSC/SEC/COR 11.1 dated 30.04.2021 is suspended forthwith, until further notice.

Instructions

No cases to be called in open court and all cases are to be re-scheduled and the re-scheduled I. dates of those cases to be notified by publication of a notice at the entrance to the respective courts, preferably on the previous day or at least before 8.30 AM each day.

The above restrictions will not be applicable to;

- a. All matters relating to Bail.
- b. Any other Urgent/Essential matter where the Judge/Judicial Officer is of the view that it should be attended to without delay.
 - Any party or an Attorney at Law who desires that any matter that needs to be taken up on the basis of being Urgent/Essential, such Party/Attorney at Law is required to file a motion to that effect before 10.00 AM on the respective day, for the consideration of the Judge.
- In consultation with respective Registrars all Judges/Judicial Officers should ensure only the II. minimum number of staff required is requested to report to work, preferably on a rotational basis.
- Where ever possible granting of bail or extension of remand period of suspects/accused in III. custody to be done through electronic means.

- **IV.** Attorneys at Law are requested to advise their clients not to visit the court unless their presence is directed by the court or is essential.
- **V.** Ensure that there is no gathering of people inside or outside the gates of the court houses.
- VI. Ensure Social Distancing and adherence to other Guidelines in relation to prevention of COVID 19.

Under the Command of the Judicial Service Commission,

H.Sanjeew Somarathne

Secretary

Judicial Service Commission

H. Sanjeewa Somaratne

Secretary

Judicial Service Commission

Colombo 12

CC: 1. Hon. Attorney General

- 2. Secretary to His Excellency the President
- 3. Secretary, Ministry of Justice
- 4. Inspector General of Police
- 5. Commissioner General of Prisons
- 6. Secretary, Bar Association