

## HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT

### REPORT ON THE WORKING OF THE HIGH COURT DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2020

In continuation of the detailed report published on the website of the High Court with regard to the judicial functioning of the High Court during the pandemic period from 24/03/2020 to 30/06/2020; and in pursuance of the directions of Honourable the Chief Justice to publish every month a report of the judicial working of the High Court, this report for the month of July, 2020 along with the statistics as attached, is made available through website of the [High Court of Gujarat](#).

1. **Filing and Registration:** In all, **2178** Civil and **3054** Criminal cases (including the Interim Applications) came to be filed through exclusive email addresses notified for accepting the soft copies of the matters filed. Of these total **5232** matters filed, **354** and **405** were Civil and Criminal Interim Applications respectively. Of the remaining **4473** matters filed, **3481** matters [**1347** Civil and **2134** Criminal] were registered, barring the matters where the objections raised during the scrutiny of the matters are yet to be cleared by the filing party side.
  - (a) **Civil Filing:** The highest category of matters instituted on Civil side were the Special Civil Applications(SCAs) i.e. **1515** filed and **1174** registered thereof. Most of these SCAs, are the matters filed by the detenues (or those apprehending detention) under the preventive detention law of the State. Amongst other categories on Civil side, **83** Letters Patent Appeals (LPAs), **46** First Appeals (FAs), **5** Second Appeals, **20** Writ Petitions (PILs), **79** Misc. Civil Applications, **42** Civil Applications and **4** Admiralty Suits were also filed, of which, those with no objections having been found during scrutiny, were registered.
  - (b) **Criminal Filing:** On the Criminal side, out of total number of **3054** cases filed, **592** Regular Bail Applications, **261** Anticipatory Bail Applications, **326** Temporary Bail and **11** applications for cancellation of Bail were filed. For the criminal cases for which Criminal appeal for bail matters is to be filed as per the provisions of law, **13**, **8** and **12** Criminal Appeals were filed for Regular, Anticipatory and Temporary Bail respectively. **7** Criminal

Appeals against judgments of conviction and 1 Criminal appeal against acquittal were also filed. For most of the Criminal Misc. Applications of Regular, Temporary, Anticipatory Bail, the number of matters registered were more than the matters filed during the month, as many matters which were filed before July, 2020 but the objections raised therein were cleared during the month, were also registered.

- (c) Due to increasing number of matters being filed through email filing, 3 more exclusive email addresses were added to the taking the total number of email addresses notified for email filing to 13.
2. **Hearing of the Matters:** In all, total of **9408** [**3715** Civil and **5693** Criminal] matters were listed during the whole month of July, 2020 which also included the Interim Applications filed in the main matters. This figure of circulation of matters may include either first listing of the matters or subsequent listing and also the number of times the same matters would have been listed during the month, before Single Judge Benches or Division Benches.
- (a) **Sitting of Benches:** On **20** days of the month, various number of Single Judge Benches and Division Benches sat and took up matters through Video Conferencing. All the Honourable Judges of all the Benches conducted the matters from the residences. All the Ld. Advocates participated in the hearing through video conferencing from their residences/offices. Total of **261** Sittings of Single Judge Benches and **52** Sittings of Division Benches occurred during the whole of the month.
- (b) **High Court in Micro Containment Zone:** During the working of the High Court in the lockdown situation, about two dozen cases of Covid-19 infections were detected amongst the officers and staff of the Registry of the High Court. Based on these cases of infections and the analysis by the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and other Authorities, the High Court premises was placed under micro containment zone w.e.f. 08/06/2020. Honourable the Chief Justice passed orders for shutdown of the functioning of the High Court for 3 working days i.e. from 08/07/2020 to 10/07/2020 suffixed with off-days of 11/07/2020 and 12/07/2020. Bench Sitting commenced with full strength from 13/07/2020, which had to be restricted again from 15/07/2020 due to still rising number of Covid-19 cases in the Registry of the High Court. The date-wise statistics of Bench

sittings along with the orders passed and judgments delivered are as follows:

Sr. No.	Date	SINGLE JUDGE BENCHES			DIVISION BENCHES			Total Benches
		Benches Sitting	Orders Passed	Judgments Delivered	Benches Sitting	Orders Passed	Judgments Delivered	
1	01/07/2020	6	100	0	1	23	0	7
2	02/07/2020	9	102	0	1	26	0	10
3	03/07/2020	10	126	0	1	30	0	11
4	06/07/2020	21	487	2	3	29	0	24
5	07/07/2020	21	487	4	3	48	2	24
6	13/07/2020	21	348	1	3	49	0	24
7	14/07/2020	21	363	1	3	36	0	24
8	15/07/2020	6	87	0	1	36	0	7
9	16/07/2020	5	98	0	1	16	0	6
10	17/07/2020	5	132	0	1	15	0	6
11	20/07/2020	14	440	0	3	82	2	17
12	21/07/2020	15	532	5	3	51	0	18
13	22/07/2020	13	419	7	3	40	0	16
14	23/07/2020	13	392	4	3	52	0	16
15	24/07/2020	14	421	2	7	85	13	21
16	27/07/2020	12	423	0	3	69	0	15
17	28/07/2020	15	420	3	3	46	1	18
18	29/07/2020	13	368	0	3	49	0	16
19	30/07/2020	13	350	1	3	50	1	16
20	31/07/2020	14	323	1	3	114	0	17
		261	6418	31	52	946	19	313

(c) **Online Mentioning:** As per the directions and guidance of Honourable the Chief Justice, an Online Mentioning Platform was launched on 08/06/2020. During the month July, 2020 total **1007** matters [**665** Civil and **342** Criminal] came to be mentioned through this Online Platform which allow the Ld. Advocates to place request for mentioning based on a One Time Passed (OTP) sent on their registered mobile numbers. The matters requested through this platform between 9 am and 10 am in the morning are taken up for mentioning on the same day, through Video Conferencing by two Senior Honourable Judges designated for the same. Based on the orders that may be passed relating to the circulation of the mentioned matters by the Honourable Designated Judges, the matters are listed on the day so directed. In some of the exigencies as expressed during online

mentioning hearing before the Honourable Judges designated for mentioning, certain matters were even circulated on the same day before various Benches of mentioning for hearing. New features of notifying serial number of matters mentioned and acknowledging the same through return SMS to the Ld. Advocate was implemented from 30/07/2020. The serial number so conveyed has brought about convenience for the Honourable Judges as well as the advocates, who can refer to their serial number before the Honourable Judge, on joining the Video Conferencing for mentioning of the matter.

3. **Disposal of Matters:** Total **3128** cases (including 566 Interim Applications) came to be disposed of during the month of July, 2020. Of the **2562** main matters disposed of during the month, **763** were Civil and **1799** were Criminal matters. Thus in the disposal of main cases, component of Civil cases was **29.78%** including the preventive detention matters.
- (a) **Civil Disposal:** In addition to **534** Special Civil Applications most of which dealt with Preventive Detention, **101** Tax Appeals, **22** Letters Patent Appeals, **20** Civil Writ Petitions and **50** Misc. Civil Applications were disposed of during the month.
- (b) **Criminal Disposal:** Total of **672** Regular Bail applications, **312** Temporary Bail Applications, **252** Anticipatory Bail Applications, apart from other Criminal Misc. Applications were decided during the month. For the provisions relating to offences requiring Criminal Appeals to be filed for different types of bail, **17**, **15** and **9** Criminal appeals for Regular, Temporary and Anticipatory Bail were decided. **32** Special Criminal Applications for writ of Habeas Corpus were also decided during the month by the Division Bench designated for Criminal matters. Total **168** Misc. Criminal Application for Parole/Furlough were also disposed of.
- (c) **Pre-lockdown Matters:** As directed by Honourable the Chief Justice, an analysis of the disposal of the month of July, 2020 was done so as to ascertain the number of matters disposed of during the month which were actually instituted before 24/03/2020 i.e. when the High Court started functioning through VC and email filing due to the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown situation. Of the total **3128** matters disposed (including Interim Applications), **605** matters were such which were filed/registered before

the current lockdown situation and came to be disposed during this month. These figures very well reflect the fact that during the online VC mode of functioning of the High Court, the matters already instituted before lockdown situation are also taken care of, heard and decided.

(d) **Case Clearance Rate (CCR):** Looking to the total matters disposed of i.e. **3128** [including the interim applications] in proportion to the matters instituted i.e. **4240** registered, the Case Clearance Rate for the month of July, 2020 stands at **73.77%**.

(e) **Orders & Judgments:** Total number of **50** Judgments came to be delivered during the month of July, 2020 of which, **31** were Single Judge Bench Judgments and **19** were Division Bench judgments. Total of **7364** Orders [**6418** by Single Judge Benches and **946** by Division Benches] were passed by these Benches during the month.

**4. Online Awareness Session for Ld. Advocates:** As per direction and guidance of the Honourable the Chief Justice, two separate batches of Online Awareness Session for Ld. Advocates practising in the High Court were organised on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2020. The Ld. Advocates who had requested in response to a survey questionnaire circulated by the High Court, to have some training organized for use of Zoom VC application and joining the Video Conferencing hearing sessions, were invited in the sessions. **39** and **33** Ld. Advocates participated in these two Batches respectively and more of the such online awareness sessions are slated to be organized in the month of August, 2020.

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**Encl.:** Detailed Statistical Report of Filing, Registration, Listing and Disposal during the month of July, 2020

## HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT

## DETAILED STATISTICAL REPORT OF FILING, REGISTRATION, LISTING AND DISPOSAL DURING THE MONTH OF JULY, 2020

Sr. No.	SIDE	CASE TYPE	SUB-TYPE	FILED	REGISTE RED	LISTI NG (Incl. I.A.s)	MATTERS DISPOSED OF		
							REGISTERED BEFORE LOCKDOWN	REGISTERED DURING LOCKDOWN	TOTAL DISPOSAL
1	CIVIL	ADMIRALITY SUIT		4	4	22	0	0	0
2		APPEAL FROM ORDER		3	2	15	1	0	1
3		CIVIL APPLICATION	FOR CONDONATION OF DELAY	4	14	222	11	5	16
4				38	0	28	11	0	11
5		CIVIL REVISION APPLICATION		8	4	28	0	0	0
6		COMPANY APPLICATION		3	4	12	0	0	0
7		CROSS OBJECTION		1	0	1	1	0	1
8		ELECTION APPLICATION		2	2	4	0	0	0
9		FIRST APPEAL		46	16	260	3	1	4
10		INCOME TAX REFERENCE		0	0	1	1	0	1
11		LETTERS PATENT APPEAL		83	54	70	6	16	22
12		MISC. CIVIL APPLICATION		46	14	78	17	8	25
13			FOR CONTEMPT	33	35	72	11	13	24
14			FOR TRANSFER	0	0	6	0	1	1
15		OFFICIAL LIQUIDATOR REPORT		1	0	4	0	0	0
16		O.J.APPEAL		1	0	1	0	0	0
17		PETN. UNDER ARBITRATION ACT		9	2	63	1	0	1
18		SECOND APPEAL		5	2	16	1	0	1
19		SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION		1515	1174	2659	100	434	534
20		TAX APPEAL		2	8	121	92	9	101
21		WRIT PETITION (PIL)		17	8	19	0	12	12
22			WRIT PETITION (PIL)	3	4	13	1	7	8
23		IA CASES	CIVIL APPLICATON	306	306		95	85	180
24			MISC. CIVIL APPLICATION	48	48		2	9	11
<b>TOTAL FOR CIVIL</b>				<b>2178</b>	<b>1701</b>	<b>3715</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>954</b>

Sr. No.	SIDE	CASE TYPE	SUB-TYPE	FILED	REGISTE RED	LISTI NG (Incl. I.A.s)	MATTERS DISPOSED OF		
							REGISTERED BEFORE LOCKDOWN	REGISTERED DURING LOCKDOWN	TOTAL DISPOSAL
25	CRIMINAL	CRIMINAL APPEAL	REGULAR BAIL	13	16	86	3	14	17
26			TEMPORARY BAIL	12	15	52	0	15	15
27			FOR ANTICIPATORY BAIL	8	8	53	3	6	9
28				45	0	29	2	0	2
29			AGAINST ACQUITTAL	1	1	6	0	0	0
30			AGAINST CONVICTION	7	15	413	0	0	0
31		CRIMINAL MISC.APPLICATION	FOR REGULAR BAIL	592	692	1865	98	574	672
32			FOR TEMPORARY BAIL	326	355	542	1	311	312
33			FOR ANTICIPATORY BAIL	261	292	687	33	219	252
34			FOR QUASHING & SET ASIDE FIR/ORDER	223	265	804	24	115	139
35			FOR CONDONATION OF DELAY	9	14	35	6	14	20
36			FOR CANCELLATION OF BAIL	11	14	46	0	5	5
37				540	0	9	0	1	1
38			FOR DIRECTION	0	0	2	0	1	1
39			FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL	0	1	4	0	1	1
40			FOR MODIFICATION OF ORDERS	1	2	4	0	1	1
41			FOR TRANSIT BAIL	2	2	2	0	1	1
42			DIRECTION	0	0	9	0	0	0
43			FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT	0	0	5	0	0	0
44			FOR MODIFICATION ORDERS	0	0	3	0	0	0
45			FOR TRANSFER	0	0	3	0	0	0
46			POSSESSION OF MUDDAMAL	1	1	0	0	0	0
47			CRIMINAL REVISION APPLICATION	FOR MAINTENANCE	2	2	28	2	0
48		AGAINST ORDER PASSED BY SUBORDINATE COURT		1	1	8	0	1	1
49				11	0	1	0	0	0
50		AGAINST ACQUITTAL		0	0	1	0	0	0
51		AGAINST CONVICTION		0	0	5	0	0	0
52		AGAINST CONVICTION - NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT ACT		0	0	14	0	0	0
53		FOR MUDDAMAL		0	1	16	0	0	0

Sr. No.	SIDE	CASE TYPE	SUB-TYPE	FILED	REGISTE RED	LISTI NG (Incl. I.A.s)	MATTERS DISPOSED OF				
							REGISTERED BEFORE LOCKDOWN	REGISTERED DURING LOCKDOWN	TOTAL DISPOSAL		
54	CRIMINAL	SPECIAL CRIMINAL APPLICATION	PAROLE LEAVE	144	162	223	1	146	147		
55			POSSESSION OF MUDDAMAL	87	94	219	42	20	62		
56			HABEAS CORPUS	31	33	124	7	25	32		
57			DIRECTION	30	34	80	2	23	25		
58			FURLOUGH LEAVE	24	25	31	2	19	21		
59			DIRECTION - TO LODGE FIR/COMPLAINT	18	24	63	1	19	20		
60			QUASHING	35	44	159	7	13	20		
61			DIRECTION - POLICE PROTECTION	6	6	14	1	6	7		
62			AGAINST ORDER OF EXTERNMENT	6	6	21	1	4	5		
63			MODIFICATION/DELETION OF CONDITION	3	3	8	0	3	3		
64			DIRECTION - TO TRANSFER INVESTIGATION TO CID	1	2	5	0	2	2		
65			DIRECTION - AFTER LODGE FIR/COMPLAINT	1	1	2	0	1	1		
66			DIRECTION - TO TRANSFER INVESTIGATION TO CBI	1	1	1	0	1	1		
67			REGULARIZED DAY OF LATE SURRENDER	1	1	2	0	1	1		
68			TRANSFER	0	0	3	1	0	1		
69				194	0	1	0	0	0		
70			AGAINST NOTICE OF EXTERNMENT	1	1	1	0	0	0		
71			FOR MAINTENANCE	0	0	4	0	0	0		
72			IA CASES	CRIMINAL MISC. APPILCATION	405	405		14	361	375	
<b>TOTAL FOR CRIMINAL</b>				<b>3054</b>	<b>2539</b>	<b>5693</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>1923</b>	<b>2174</b>		
<b>TOTAL FOR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL</b>				<b>5232</b>	<b>4240</b>	<b>9408</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>2523</b>	<b>3128</b>		

Benches Sittings, Orders Passed and Judgments Delivered in July, 2020			
	Number of Bench Sittings	Orders	Judgments
Single Judge Benches	261	6418	31
Division Benches	52	946	19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>7364</b>	<b>50</b>

Online Mentioning in July, 2020	
Civil	665
Criminal	342
<b>Total Mentioning</b>	<b>1007</b>