HIGH COURT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR AT SRINAGAR

To

The Pr. District & Sessions Judge,
Jammu/ Samba/Kathua/Udhampur/
Bhaderwah/Kishtwar/Ramban/Reasi/Rajouri/
Poonch/ Srinagar/Baramulla/Anantnag/Pulwama/Shopian/
Budgam/Kulgam/Bandipora/Kupwara/Ganderbal/
Leh/Kargil.

No: 4223-45/14 Dated: 21/5/2019

Subject: Filling of Plan/Status report in the matter of all India Judges Association & Ors. V/s Union of India, W.P.(C) 1022 of 1989.

Sir,

Kindly find enclosed a copy of communication No.LD(Lit) 2009/35SC/JUD/PF dated 2204.2019, received from Deputy Director (P&S) to Government of J&K, Department of Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs, (Planning Section) Civil Secretariat, Srinagar along with copy of e-mail received from Mr. M.Shoeb Alam, Advocate on record, Supreme Court of India, regarding the subject cited above. In this regard, I am directed to request you to provide the para-wise information/reply to this registry regarding point Nos.1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 14, for onward transmission to Govt. of J&K, Department of Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs and Mr. M.Shoeb Alam, Advocate on record, Supreme Court of India. The said information be furnished to this office on fax number 0194- 2506639 or official e-mail of the High Court.

Matter may be treated as most urgent.

Encl:	

Yours faithfully,

(Anil Kumar Dogra)
Chief Accounts Officer



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.

(Planning Section) Civil Secretariat Jammu/Srinagar

The Deputy Registrar, J&K High Court, Jammu.

NO. LD (Lit) 2009/35SC/JUD/PF

Dated: 22-04-2019

Subject:-Filling of Plan/status report in the matter of all India Judges association & Ors. Vs union of India, W.P(C) 1022 of 1989.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith an email received from Mr. M. Shoeb Alam, Advocate on record, Supreme Court of India, with a request to kindly provide the information regarding the matters highlighted in the said e-mail subject to this Department for its onward submission to Mr. M. Shoeb Alam, Advocate on record, Supreme Court of India for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Encls: A/A [e-mail 02 beance]

Waseem Ahmad Lone <waseemahmadlaw@gmail.com>

Filing of Plan/Status Report in the matter of All India Judges Association & Ors

Law Offices of Shoeb Alam <office@shoebalam.com>

To: Law Department JK <law-jk@nic.in>, Achal Sethi <sethi.achal@gmail.com>, Waseem Ahmad Lone To, 2

The Secretary,

Department of Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir,

Jammu,

Sub: Filing of Plan/Status Report in the matter of All India Judges Association & Ors Vs. Union of India, W.P. (C) 1022 Dear Sir,

A. The aforementioned matter pertains to infrastructure of Subordinate Courts .

B. Hon'ble The Supreme Court of India through its Judgment dated 02-08-2019 was pleased to pass the following

directions with regard to fundamental and vital features to be provided at the earliest in all court complexes: -

Basic amenities such as adequate seating space for litigant public as well as lawyers, sufficient waiting area with seating arrangements, proper lighting and electricity, functional airconditioning/air-cooling/ heating, accessible clean drinking water with Reverse Osmosis (RO) facility, clean and hygienic washrooms separate for men, women, transgenders and physically handicapped persons, klosk and functional canteens selling beverages and eatables at nominal rates, preferably managed by court staff are some amenities and facilities which ought to be ensured at court complexes throughout the country. If these are missing in our court complexes, it would be an

We must further ensure that all our court complexes are conducive and friendly for the differently-abled and towards this end, the Court complexes must have certain features for the benefit of the vulnerable persons such as persons with disability or visually impaired persons. We have to move from disabled friendly buildings to workable and implementable differently abled friendly court infrastructure. Ramps for such categories of persons must be operable, feasible, tried and tested. Such ramps should definitely have steel railings and handles. The court infrastructure must also keep in view the accessibility for visually impaired persons and, therefore, court complexes must have tactile pavements and signage in braille for the benefit of visually impaired citizens. That apart, for ensuring easy movement of common citizens in the court complexes, there must be maps and floor plans of the entire court complex at entry and exit points and visible signage and directional arrows with colour coding throughout the court premises.

3. For saving the litigant public and other citizens from running one end to the other without any guidance in the Court complexes and for assisting them to reach their desired place, it is necessary that all court premises must establish a working and fully operational help desk at major alighting points with trained court staff to brief and guide the citizens about the layout of the court premises

Court premises must also have sufficient number of functional electronic case display systems for litigants and lawyers with the feature of automatic update in every ten seconds.

With the increase in motor vehicles, including cars and two-wheelers, it is imperative that court premises have sufficient and proper parking space to ease vehicular traffic and avoid crowding. All upcoming court complexes must have provision for both sufficient underground and surface parking facilities segregated into four broad categories – for judges, court staff, lawyers and litigants. As far as the existing court complexes are concerned, the possibility and feasibility of constructing underground or multi level parking facilities must be explored.

The court premises must have easy access at both entry and exit points. End to end connectivity of public transport systems must be ensured for court premises by starting feeder bus service and other dedicated transport services between major public transport points and court

complexes. Access to justice will forever remain an illusory notion if access to courts is not ensured.

Court premises must be armed with better crowd management arrangements along with idequate security measures. It has been seen, time and again, that at the time of court proceedings of cases which are well covered by the media, the crowd management in court premises runs into

Gmail - Filing of Plan/Status Report in the matter of All India Judges Association & Ors Vs. Union of India, W.P. (C) 1022 of 1989.

utter chaos. Measures must be taken to ensure that whenever court premises are thronged with heightened crowds, there is smooth ingress and egress of both vehicular traffic as well as citizens in

the court premises.

Creche facility at nominal rates for toddlers, falling within the age group of 6 months to 6 years, of lawyers, clerks of lawyers, bar association staff and officers and employee of court registry must also be constructed. The said creche facility must not be just for the namesake, it has to be both functional as well as effective with proper space and equipment such as baby proofing and other toddler-friendly provisions. That apart, the courts should have a proper atmosphere for children and vulnerable witnesses.

9. Professionally qualified court managers, preferably with an MBA degree, must also be appointed to render assistance in performing the court administration. The said post of Court managers must

be created in each judicial district for assisting Principal District and

Sessions Judges. Such Court Managers would enable the District Judges to devote more time to their core work, that is, judicial functions. This, in turn, would enhance the efficiency of the District Judicial System. These court managers would also help in identifying the weaknesses in the court management systems and recommending workable steps under the supervision of their respective judges for rectifying the same. The services of any person already working as a Court Manager in any-district-should be regularised by the State Government as we are of the considered view that their assistance is needed for a proper administrative set up in a Court.

10.Adequate residential accommodation for judicial officers and court staff is another infrastructural aspect which requires immediate attention. The productivity of judicial officers and court staff who are not provided with residential quarters in and/or around the court premises gets negatively hampered. Thus, residential accommodation in proximity of court complexes for judicial officers and

court staff must also be provided.

11.There shall be solar power installation in each of the district court premises initially and thereafter, the same should spread to all other courts.

12. Keeping in view the obtaining scenario, CCTV cameras should be placed at proper locations within

the court complex.

13. To enhance the quality of speedy justice, video conferencing equipments and connectivity to jails shall be provided at the earliest.

14. The district court complex should have a dispensary with adequate medical staff and equipments.

C. The draft Affidavit along with the minutes of the meeting dated 05-02-2019 sent by the department for the purposes of finalising the same does not highlight the steps taken by the State Government with regard to all the 14 issues highlighted by Hon'ble The Supreme Court.

D. In the above background you are requested to kindly provide us with the information and steps taken by the State government in terms of Judgment dated 02-08-2019 (on all the points highlighted above).

E. You are requested to kindly provide the information at the earliest and depute an office well conversant with the facts of the case to visit our office at New Delhi for assisting us regarding the steps taken by The State of Jammu and Kashmir, so that Plan/Status Report be filed in the matter.

Kind Regards, Yours Truly,

LAW OFFICES OF M. SHOEB ALAM ADVOCATE ON RECORD SUPREME COURT OF INDIA Off: D-40 (LGF), Jangpura Extn., New Delhi-110014 T: 011-4352 1040; F: 011-4372 1040