



RAJASTHAN STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT PREMISES, JAIPUR BENCH, JAIPUR

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Guidelines of Video Conferencing Facility for consultation between Prisoners lodged in different Jails of Rajasthan and their Advocates

Vide RSLSA letter no. RSLSA/2019/10484-10485, dated 30th April 2019, RSLSA has decided to improve present facility of Video Conferencing (VC) to make it more effective so that prisoners or the persons behind bar, may have reasonable opportunity for legal consultation and advise from their Advocates, therefore, in continuation of earlier directions, all DLSAs are directed to adopt following protocol, for ensuring smooth connectivity between prisoner, lodged in any Jail of Rajasthan and the Advocate of the case before Hon'ble High Court:

- (i) The VC facility shall be extended to Central and District Jails of Rajasthan, wherein Video Conferencing facility is available.
- (ii) The Jail, having VC Facility, will be connected for facilitating legal consultation to the Prisoner by his Advocate, in pending cases before Hon'ble Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur or Bench at Jaipur.
- (iii) Under present scheme, if any prisoner, in any matter including bail and parole, pending before Hon'ble High Court, Jodhpur or Jaipur Bench, as the case may be, desires to have legal consultation with his lawyer, is required to intimate the Superintendent of Central Jail or the Deputy Superintendent or In-charge of District Jail, wherein he is kept under custody.
- (iv) A similar request of legal consultation may also be made to legal aid clinic (LAC) established by RSLSA at the Central or District Jails. The PLV or Panel Advocate at LAC shall immediately apprise about the request of such prisoner to the Secretary of DLSA/ RHCLSC.
- (v) On receipt of request for consultation, either oral or in writing, the Superintendent/Deputy Superintendent or In-charge of Jail will intimate either to office of the Secretary of RHCLSC or to legal aid clinic of Jail or to the Secretary of DLSA either

by mail/ in writing or by WhatsApp or by phone, mentioning the name of prisoner, description of the case and name of Advocate. The details, provided shall be entered into a Register to be maintained for the purpose, by the Jail In-charge.

- (vi) As soon as the request is received by the office of RHCLSC, after making necessary entries in prescribed register and after due verification about the pending case, the Advocate, desired for consultation may be contacted on available mobile/ phone or by email and he or she, also accepts the request of prisoner for providing legal advice then after fixing day and time of connectivity, the concerned officer of Legal Services Institution shall intimate to the prisoner through In-charge of Jail about day and time of consultation.
- (vii) On the specified day (date) and time, the Video Conferencing facility for legal consultation between prisoner and his Advocate shall be facilitated for a period of 5 minutes but once a month only.
- (viii) The connectivity from Jaipur shall be provided from “Nyay-ro-Sarthi” VC studio situated at RLSA, High Court Campus, Jaipur Bench, Jaipur, whereas at Jodhpur it may be provided under existing practice through Jodhpur Metro Court VC Studio.
- (ix) Facilities on similar terms would be available to all such advocates, engaged in any proceedings before the Hon'ble High Court on behalf of the prisoner (Whether under legal aid or otherwise). In such case the Advocate has to submit an application to the Secretary RHCLSC under his signature for consultation regarding case with his client lodged in any of the prisons of Rajasthan. The consultation opportunity may be availed only once in a month for a period of 5 minutes.
- (x) During the VC consultation, only engaged Advocate along with maximum one Junior Advocate would be permitted; any request for entry in VC studio to any relative or friend would not be entertained.
- (xi) For the purpose of maintaining record, the registers would be supplied to all such Jails by RLSA through DLSAs and it

would be duty of every Superintendent or Deputy Superintendent or Jail In- charge to sincerely observe present protocol for securing access to Justice to the prisoners in the state of Rajasthan.

- (xii) In case of any difficulty, the helpline No 9928900900 of RSLSA may be contacted for further clarification.
- (xiii) At any time, if, it is found that VC facility was obtained by adopting false declaration by anyone, serious action would be taken to ensure fairness of the process.
- (xiv) The VC facilities are extended as part of initiative of RSLSA to achieve object of providing access of reasonable legal consultation to every prisoner.
- (xv) The VC facilities are subject to technical feasibility at all ends and same may not be construed as a binding obligation for RSLSA to continue it.

DLSAs are also requested to make all necessary arrangement for smooth functioning of VC consultation for prisoners of Rajasthan with immediate effect under this protocol.

By Order

Member Secretary
Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority
Jaipur