

F.No.2(45)/ATFP/95  
Government of India  
Appellate Tribunal for Forfeited Property  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market  
New Delhi-110 003

September 8, 2020

Notification

Subject: Suspension of functioning of Appellate Tribunal till 30.09.2020

The physical hearing of this Tribunal is initiated from 07.09.2020 in a limited and regulated manner with an intention to hear the appeals and other matters physically. SOP has been prescribed to regulate the hearing. In view of the heavy Board, a large number of Advocates/their juniors/litigants/Advocate Clerks are coming to attend the physical hearing. It is also noticed that there is large gathering inside the Court Room and outside the premises of the Tribunal. The maintenance of social distance and other preventive measures are found not followed because of the scarcity of the space inside the Court as well as outside the Court. We are receiving suggestions from majority of lawyers who are appearing before this Tribunal not to continue the physical hearing. Local and outside Advocates are sending letters for adjournment on Covid-19 situation ground. Even their Clerks are sent to seek adjournments. The number of Covid patients are reportedly increasing daily.

The floor in which the present Tribunal is existing also have other offices of Government of India adjacent to it. The Tribunal has also

shortage of human resources. Only one Single Member Bench is functioning as there are no other Members. In view of the present pandemic COVID-19 situation and in the aforesaid circumstances, it would be very risky to continue with the physical hearing.

Therefore, the Competent Authority has decided, in the interest of all, to dis-continue with physical hearing w.e.f. 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 till 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020. This step is taken to prevent any COVID-19 infection to learned Counsels/Junior Advocates, litigants, Advocate's clerk and staff of the Tribunal.

The virtual hearing of the cases would continue as per the same terms and conditions as provided in the previous Notification No.2(445)/ATFP/95 dated 17.08.2020.

Only urgent matters will be taken up through virtual hearings. The physical hearing of the matters would be taken up in appropriate cases. Dates for the listed cases for the period from 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 would be duly notified in the website of this Tribunal.



(Roma Ambwani)

Registrar-in-charge