



THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA

Ernakulam-682031
Email: isec.hc-ker@gov.in
Phone: 0484-2562960
Fax: 0484 2391720
Date: 31-03-2021

No:I-1/37617/2020

OFFICIAL MEMORANDUM

Sub:Code of conduct for regulating involvement and intervention of staff members of District Judiciary in the social media and other public platforms-Issuance of-Reg.

.....

It has come to the notice of the High Court the growing trend among the members of the staff of the District Judiciary indulging in Social Media and often posting messages containing unsavoury and unwanted messages, many in violation of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules and other directions issued in this regard. The High Court therefore found it necessary to evolve a code of conduct for the members of the staff of the District Judiciary to regulate their involvement and intervention in the Social Media and other public platforms. Accordingly the code of conduct for regulating the involvement and intervention of staff members of the District Judiciary in the Social Media and other public platforms appended herewith is made applicable to all the staff members of the District Judiciary. The District Judges and the Chief Judicial Magistrates shall bring the same to the notice of all the staff members working under their administrative control.

(By order)

Encl: Code of conduct

P.G.Ajithkumar
Registrar (District Judiciary)

To

All the District Judges/ the Chief Judicial Magistrates

Copy to

- 1.The Private Secretaries to the Judges, High Court.
- 2.The Confidential Assistants to Registrars, High Court.
- 3.The file.

Copy submitted to :- The Honourable Judges

.....
Note: Reply, if any, shall be addressed to the Registrar (District Judiciary), High Court of Kerala, Kochi-31 or may also be e-mailed to isec.hc-ker@gov.in .

CODE OF CONDUCT
FOR THE STAFF OF THE HIGH COURT AND DISTRICT JUDICIARY
IN THE MATTER OF USING SOCIAL MEDIA

- 1) The High Court will have a Monitoring Cell to observe and secure proper use of computer and internet system provided in the courts and to report about the misuse of social media using the computers and electronic gadgets supplied to the office of the courts and staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary. Monitoring Cell will report such instances of misuse of social media by staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary to the Registrar General.
- 2) Staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary shall declare their e-mail address and internet/social media accounts maintained by them and they shall ensure secure and proper use of the same. No fake ID - address or accounts shall be made or used by staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary.
- 3) Staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary shall not indulge in use of internet, other than for official purposes, during office hours. They shall not access prohibited sites during working hours. They shall not indulge in exchange of communication of personal matters in official sites.
- 4) Staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary shall not use social media for making offensive, irresponsible or defamatory statements criticising policies and actions of the Government and its Institutions, Ministers, Officials, Heads of Departments, Judges, Political Leaders and Social Activists etc.
- 5) Staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary shall be very careful in expressing or propagating any opinion on the Social Media which may offend any cultural, ethnic, social or religious group. They shall take care that no derogatory or insulting remarks, comments

pertaining to any person, group of persons either official, socio-cultural or political shall be made on Social Media platform.

- 6) Staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary shall not publish any proceedings, official actions, records or data from the office files in social media or publish blogs on any matters in social media without prior permission of the High Court.
- 7) Staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary shall not use mobile phones, tablets, electronic gadgets etc., for corrupting, data hacking or any other illegal activities.
- 8) Staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary shall not use carping, intemperate, filthy, derogatory, insinuating, discriminatory language in social media.
- 9) Staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary shall not indulge in criticising case laws and judgments of the courts, Judges or judicial system to scandalise them in social media.
- 10) Staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary shall not indulge in any use of social media which causes depletion of work time in the office.
- 11) Staff members of the High Court and District Judiciary shall not use social media for any activities which affects the integrity, propriety and discipline of his/her official position.
