THE HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH

Writ Petition No.17237/2020

(YASH JAIN Vs THE REGISTRAR GENERAL)

Jabalpur, Dated 02.12.2020

Shri Yash Jain, petitioner-in-person.

Petitioner, a practising Advocate, vide this Public Interest Litigation, seeks direction for use of A4 size paper, with printing on both sides, with 1.5 cm spacing for all pleadings, petitions, affidavits or other documents to be filed in the High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Subordinate Courts and Tribunals.

2. Petitioner it appears is not aware of the fact that there already exist Rule 2(7)(b) Chapter X of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh Rules, 2008, brought in vogue vide Gazette Notification dated 02.10.2020, which mandates that:

> "**2**. Every -
> (1) memorandum of appeal including a writ appeal,
> (2) memorandum of objection under Order XLI Rule 22 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908,
> (3) application, interlocutory or otherwise,
> (4) petition including a writ petition,
> (5) return, reply or rejoinder,
> (6) list of document or
> (7) affidavit;
>
> - in a civil or criminal matter, including a copy thereof where it is required to be served upon the other party under the Rules, shall be–

(a) ……

(b) neatly typed or printed on both sides of A4 size paper having not less than 75 GSM, leaving a margin of not less than 1.5” on the Top and Bottom and 1.75” margin Left and at least 1.0” margin Right.

(c) ……

(d) ……”

3. And, Rule 7 in the Electronic Filing (E-filing) in the High Court of Madhya Pradesh Rules, 2020, brought in vogue vide Gazette Notification dated 02.10.2020, stipulating therein that:

“**7. Formatting**:-

(1) All the original typed text material including notice of motion, memorandum of parties, main petition or appeal, interlocutory application(s), reply, status report, affidavit, documents, will be prepared electronically using the following formatting style:

- Paper size : A-4
- Top Margin : 1.5"
- Bottom Margin : 1.5"
- Left Margin : 1.75"
- Right Margin : 1.0"
- Alignment: Justified
- Font : Times New Roman
- Font size : 14
- Line spacing : 1.5
- If any document is typed in a local language in Trial Courts, its copy must be prepared using Times New Roman Unicode Font 14.

(2) The document should be converted into Optical Character Recognition (OCR) searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) or PDF/A using any PDF converter or in-built PDF conversion plug-in provided in the software. PDF/A is the preferred format.

(3) A document which is not a text document and has to be enclosed with the Action, should be scanned using an image resolution of 300 DPI (Dots per inch) in OCR searchable mode and saved as a PDF document. The procedure for converting a document into an OCR searchable PDF as mentioned above and as required in sub-rule (1) of Rule 9 is as set out in Appendix — III."

4. As to the Subordinate Judiciary, Rule 7 in the Electronic Filing (E-filing) in the Subordinate Courts of Madhya Pradesh Rules, 2020, proposes:

"**7. Formatting.-**

(1) All the original typed text material including notice of motion, memorandum of parties, main petition or appeal, interlocutory application(s), reply, status report, affidavit, documents, will be prepared electronically using the following formatting style:

- Paper size : A-4
- Top Margin : 1.5"
- Bottom Margin : 1.5"
- Left Margin : 1.75"
- Right Margin : 1.0"
- Alignment: Justified
- Font : Times New Roman
- Font size : 14

- Font: Unicode (Mangal)
- Font size : 16 (for Devnagari script)
- Line spacing : 1.5

(2) The document should be converted into Optical Character Recognition (OCR) searchable Portable Document Format (PDF) or PDF/A using any PDF converter or in-built PDF conversion plug-in provided in the software. PDF/A is the preferred format.

(3) A document which is not a text document and has to be enclosed with the Action, should be scanned using an image resolution of 300 DPI (Dots per inch) in OCR searchable mode and saved as a PDF document. The procedure for converting a document into an OCR searchable PDF as mentioned above and as required in sub-rule (1) of Rule 9 is as set out in Appendix — III."

5. Since the issue qua High Court of Madhya Pradesh and the Subordinate Judiciary as regard to use of A-4 size paper and printing on both sides, has been addressed; therefore, the relief sought to said extent stands mitigated.

6. We further gather from public domain that Youth Bar Association of India has also filed a writ petition under Article 32 of the Constitution before Hon'ble the Supreme Court, seeking the relief as sought for in this writ petition.

7. In view whereof, the direction qua Tribunals and other Quasi-Judicial Authorities; since the matter is before Hon'ble the Supreme Court, we refrain from dwelling over it further.

8. Consequently, petition stands **disposed of** finally. No costs.

(Sanjay Yadav)
Acting Chief Justice

(Vijay Kumar Shukla)
Judge

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