

framed and the next date for evidence has been fixed on and from 22.02.2021.

In view of the fact that the petitioners are in custody for more than 24 months and eight witnesses are to be examined, the learned trial court is directed that subsequent dates should be fixed at regular intervals only after the office of the learned court is able to communicate with the learned public prosecutor conducting the case regarding the availability of the witnesses. Once the learned public prosecutor assures regarding the availability of the witnesses and if such witnesses do not appear on the date so fixed, the learned court below would be at liberty to exhaust harsher process of law for compelling the witnesses to be present.

No unnecessary adjournment should be granted to either of the parties and in case, any of the witnesses is absent on vague or flimsy grounds, the learned court below would deal with the said witnesses in a strict manner.

All efforts must be taken by the learned trial court to conclude the trial within a reasonable period of time keeping in mind the spirit of Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

With the aforesaid observations, CRR 1837 of 2020 is disposed of.

Urgent photostat certified copy of this order, if applied for, be given to the parties upon compliance with the necessary formalities.

(Tirthankar Ghosh, J.)