

HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA : : HYDERABAD

ROC.NO. 02/JJ Cell/2020

DATED: 07.05.2020

CIRCULAR

Sub:-**Juvenile Justice** – Recording of evidence of minor girls/boys in POCSO cases by the Presiding Officers, **without robes** – Instructions Issued.

It has been brought to the notice of the High Court that while recording the evidence, the Presiding Officers dealing with the cases relating to the offences against the children under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (for brevity '**the POCSO Act**') observed that the minor victim girls/boys get panicky on seeing the officers in robes and that whenever they interact with the children without robes, the victims are feeling more comfortable and coming forward to give their evidence without hesitation.

The High court has considered the same and directed the Registry to issue instructions to the POCSO courts that whenever the Presiding Officers of the said courts record the evidence of minor children, they shall dispense with robes to create 'child friendly' atmosphere.

Therefore, all the Presiding Officers dealing with cases under **the POCSO Act** are hereby directed to record the evidence of the minor victim boys/girls, without robes.

The unit heads are directed to communicate this circular to all the concerned working under their control.

Please acknowledge this circular.


REGISTRAR (ADMINISTRATION)

To

- 1) All the Registrars, High Court for the State of Telangana
- 2) The Principal Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice (with a request to place the same before His Lordship)
- 3) The PSs to the Hon'ble Judges (with a request to place the same before their Lordships)
- 4) All the Principal District and Sessions Judges (with a request to communicate the circular to all the Presiding Officers dealing with POCSO cases)
- 5) The Chief Judge, City Civil Court, Hyderabad
- 6) The Metropolitan Sessions Judge, Hyderabad

- 7) The Principal Special Judge, Court of Principal Special Judge for CBI cases at Hyderabad.
- 8) The Director, Telangana State Judicial Academy, Secunderabad
- 9) The Member Secretary, Telangana State Legal Services Authority, Hyderabad.
- 10) The Section Officers of 'E', OP Cell, and Special Officer's Sections