

Postponement of Hearing dated 31.03.2020

Dear All Concerned

Vide Order dated 22.03.2020, issued by Health and Family Welfare Department, Govt. of NCT, whole of territorial jurisdiction of NCT has been locked down till 31.03.2020. In light of this, Hearing scheduled for 31.03.2020, has been postponed till further notice. Next date(s) of hearing shall be communicated to all, in due course.

Note – Amidst this Coronavirus scare, kindly refrain yourself from socialising and practice self-isolation, as prescribed by WHO. I wish and pray for everyone's good health and safety in these challenging times.

Warm Regards

Justice Deepak Verma (Retd.)

Ombudsman

Clarifications to be uploaded on the DDCA Website

I. Clarification with regard to the Fees charged by me

1. I have received certain emails from some esteemed members of DDCA who have been questioning the amount of Fees charged by me for the Hearings/Proceedings and are comparing the fees charged by me with that of the previous Learned Ombudsman.
2. It is for everyone's clarification that I had not proposed any Fee Structure for these hearings. The Fee Structure was proposed by officials of Apex Council themselves. I had no role to play in it. Said Fee Structure was presented to me at the time of my appointment and I had merely agreed on the proposal. Moreover, I have not

charged even a single penny for certain number of hearing(s), which is matter of record.

II. Clarification with regard to the previous upload on DDCA Website

3. On 21.03.2020, a message/direction from me was uploaded on the DDCA Website, wherein, I had shown my sheer displeasure towards a group of esteemed members of DDCA as the language used in their mail(s) were rude, offensive and totally uncalled for. They had further questioned about my motives in conducting the Forensic Audit. They further questioned as to why I don't reply to their mails. Therefore, the message dated 21.03.2020, was in response to the mail dated 20.03.2020, sent by those members.

III. Clarification with regard to the Forensic Audit

4. Vide my Order dated, 20.03.2020, I had directed that a Forensic Audit of DDCA's Accounts be conducted for the past 5 years. However, it has come to my notice that, a Forensic Audit had already been conducted for the Financial Year(s) – 2012-2013, 2013-14 & 2014-15.
5. In light of this, new/current Forensic Audit will be conducted only for the year(s) 2014-15 onwards i.e. for **Financial Year(s) – 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20.**

IV. Clarification with regard to Para 6 of Order dated 20.03.2020

6. Vide Para 6 of my Order dated 20.03.2020, I had authorised, Mr. Vinod Tihara (Secretary, DDCA) to oversee the entire process of collection and handing over of documents needed to carry out the Forensic Audit of DDCA Accounts. Pursuant to the said Order dated 20.03.2020, I had received various emails from some DDCA Members wherein they have cited Order dated 29.12.2019, passed by Learned ADJ, Tis Hazari Court, New Delhi.

7. In the said Order, Learned ADJ had granted an interim injunction against Mr. Rakesh Bansal (Vice-President) and Mr. Vinod Tihara (Secretary, DDCA). Said Order was then challenged by DDCA in High Court of Delhi. Vide Order dated 13.03.2020, passed by High Court of Delhi, above-mentioned interim injunction on Mr. Vinod Tihara had been lifted and he was permitted to perform his duties as Secretary, DDCA and sign cheques on behalf of DDCA. It is only for this reason that he being the senior most (in hierarchy) had been handed over the charge of handing over of documents. However, in order to avoid any conflict, Mr. Sanjay Bhardwaj, (Member, Finance & Infra Committee) is also appointed alongside Mr. Vinod Tihara for the said purpose.

V. Clarification with regard to the salaries of DDCA employees/staff/support system

8. Vide my Order dated 08.03.2020, I had directed Finance Department to disburse the salary/wages/fees of DDCA employees, staff and support system. However, vide email dated 21.03.2020, by Mr. Rajan Manchanda, it has come to notice that some cheques for the payment are not being cleared. I am also in receipt of an email dated 24.03.2020 from Ms. Meenakshi Bhaskar (Manager, Senior Women's Team, DDCA), wherein she has alleged that her contract was signed in October, 2019, but she hasn't received any payment with respect to the services rendered by her. I have forwarded her complaint to the concerned Department of DDCA. Same be looked into and genuine payments be released as soon as possible.
9. Therefore, it is once again reinstated that salaries/fees/wages of DDCA employees, staff and support system be paid/disbursed immediately if not already paid/disbursed.

Regards

Justice Deepak Verma (Retd.)

Ombudsman, DDCA