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THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA

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Kochi -682031
Date: 25-09-2026

NOTICE

Sub:- Rules of the High Court of Kerala (Second Amendment), 2026- powers of Registrar (Case and Court)Management, redefined powers of Registrar(Judicial)- Rules regulating appearance of party-in-Persons before the High Court of Kerala- Circulating of -reg

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A copy of the *Rules of the High Court of Kerala (Second Amendment), 2026*, published in the Kerala Gazette, Vol. XV No. 38 dated 22.09.2026, is forwarded herewith for information and necessary action .

The said amendment relates to the provisions concerning the Registrar (Case and Court Management), the redefined powers of the Registrar (Judicial), and the rules regulating the appearance of Party-in-Persons before the High Court of Kerala.

(By Order)

Digitally signed by
K K ASHOK
Date: 25-09-2026
15:01:45

K K Ashok
DEPUTY REGISTRAR
[For Registrar General]

Encl:As Above

To:- ~~The Advocate General, High Court Building, Ernakulam.~~
The Director General of Prosecutions, Ernakulam.
The Additional Solicitor General for India, High Court of Kerala
The Director of the Kerala Judicial Academy, Athani
The Member Secretary, Kerala State Legal Services Authority, Ernakulam.
The Director, Kerala State Mediation and Conciliation Centre, Ernakulam.
The President, Kerala High Court Advocates' Association, Ernakulam
The Secretary, Kerala High Court Advocates' Association, Ernakulam.
The Chairman, Bar Council of Kerala, Ernakulam
The President, Kerala High Court Senior Advocates' Association, Ernakulam
The Secretary, Rule Committee, High Court.
The President, Kerala High Court Advocates' Clerks' Association, Ernakulam.
The Deputy Registrars and the Assistant Registrars of all judicial Sections, High Court.
All Judicial Sections, High Court .

[Signature]
Adv. Nima Jacob
Secretary, KHCIAA .

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Regn.No. KERBIL/2012/45073
dated 2012-09-05 with RNI
Reg No.KL/TV(N)/634/2021-2023

കേരള സർക്കാർ
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

കേരള ഗസറ്റ് KERALA GAZETTE

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തുന്നത്
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

ചൊവ്വ, 2026 സെപ്റ്റംബർ 22
Tuesday, 22nd September 2026

1202 കന്നി 6
6th Kanni 1202

1948 ഭാദ്രം 31
31st Bhadra 1948

വാല്യം 15
Vol. XV

നമ്പർ } 38
No. }

Part III

Administration of Justice - Judiciary

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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
2026





(2). In rule 15,-

(i) the following rule shall be substituted namely:-

"15. *Powers and duties of the Registrar (Case and Court Management)*.- (1) In addition to the powers and duties conferred by the Chief Justice by any special or general order, or by other Rules, the Registrar (Case and Court Management) shall also have duties and powers as mentioned in these Rules:

Provided that the Registrar (Case and Court Management) may refer any proceedings pending before him for the decision of the Court along with a report containing the reasons as to why the proceedings are being referred.

(2) The Registrar (Case and Court Management) shall have the following duties and powers, namely:-

(i) To decide all questions necessary for fully discharging such duties and powers;

(ii) To decide on the objection to the defects pointed out as per clause (ii) of sub-rule 2 of Rule 16;

(iii) To determine an application for condonation of delay in re-presenting a proceeding beyond the period granted under clause (iii) of sub-rule 2 of Rule 16, up to a maximum of 60 days. To issue notice in the application to condone re-presentation delay, and after due completion of service of notice, condone the delay in re- presentation, if the same is not opposed and if opposed, to post the proceeding before the court;

(iv) To order notice through any mode as specified in these Rules;

(v) To order notice on all delay condonation applications and restoration applications;

(vi) To issue notice through electronic means as specified, to the institutions which are provided with that facility;

(vii) To fix the date of return of notice subject to the directions of the Court, if any;

(viii) To determine whether the notice has been served and if not, to issue fresh notice;

(ix) To extend the period for payment of process fee, at the first instance for period of 30 days and if the fee is not paid within the said period, to extend the period by another 15 days, and if not paid within the extended period, to post the proceedings before the Court;



of minor respondents or for whom guardian *ad-litem* has been appointed;

(xxii) To fix timeline for filing counter affidavit/ objections/ statements/documents etc., in any proceedings where the court has not fixed a timeline and to extend the timeline so fixed up to a maximum of 120 days. While fixing the timeline, the time fixed by these Rules, any Statute or any case management software or modules developed under the directions of the High Court or the Supreme Court, shall also be taken into consideration;

(xxiii) To grant time up to 30 days for filing of rejoinder/ additional affidavits/ additional documents etc., after the filing of counter affidavit /objections / statements / documents etc.,and to extend the time so fixed, up to a maximum of 60 days;

(xxiv) To accept counter affidavit/ objections/ statements/documents etc. after the period specified under clause xxii and before the day fixed for hearing, and refix the timeline fixed for filing rejoinder/ additional affidavits/additional documents etc. subject to clause xxiii;

(xxv) To post the proceedings before the Court to a date fixed in accordance with Rule 91, Rule 92 and Rule 94 of these Rules and the timeline fixed, if any;

(xxvi) To fix a fresh date for hearing after consulting the contesting parties, if any of the parties make a request for adjournment at least three clear working days prior to the date of hearing and if the Registrar (Case and Court Management) considers it expedient to do so;

(xxvii) To pass orders on applications filed under Rule 66 of these Rules;

(xxviii) To pass orders on applications filed under Rule 93 of these Rules;

(xxix) To consider requests/applications/memo for consolidation of proceedings, if unopposed;

(xxx) To allow the application for amendment of cause title of a proceeding or other clerical or typographical errors apparent on the face of the records and, in appropriate cases, to place the matter before the Court with a reasoned report;

(xxxi) To return the original documents produced in pending cases to the party who produced the same, if not objected to by the other parties, subject to the party substituting the same with the certified copy/registration copy. The party shall also file an affidavit that he shall produce the original document so returned, if so ordered by the court;



Management) shall have the power to consider a n application for conversion of a proceeding of one kind into another, provided the application is filed prior to the proceedings being first posted before the Court and the same is not barred by any Act or Rules.

15C. Application for Permission to appear in-person.- (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other Rule, practice, directions or notices, a party-in-person, other than an Advocate appearing as party-in- person, shall not be permitted to participate in any proceedings, except as provided by this Rule.

(2) Whenever a party wants to file any matter/ proceedings or wishes to defend his matter/proceedings and to appear and argue the case in person, either at the commencement of the proceedings or at any subsequent stage, he/she shall file an application, in Form 41 seeking permission to appear in-person, along with the Petition/Application/Counter/Appeal memorandum etc., which he intends to file.

(3)After scrutiny of such application for permission and the petition/ counter or such other documents, the applicant shall be required to appear before the Registrar (Case and Court Management) on the specified date and time. However, the Registrar (Case and Court Management) may, in appropriate cases, permit the applicant to appear on the date of filing of the application itself.

(4) On the appearance of the Party-in-Person, the Registrar (Case and Court Management) shall, after interacting with the party-in- person, assess the following:-

- a. Applicant's capability to assist the court effectively;
- b. Applicant's ability to comprehend facts and to apply law to protect his own rights and interests in the litigation;
- c. Applicant's ability to adhere to the decorum and etiquette of the Court while appearing in the case;

(5) On such assessment, if the Registrar (Case and Court Management) finds that the party in person is incapable of assisting the court, he may inform the party-in-person about the option of availing the service of a lawyer under the High Court Legal Services Committee. If the party does not want such assistance, make a report to the Court. If the party-in person opts for such service, but is found ineligible by the authority concerned, a report to the effect shall be submitted to the Registrar (Case and Court Management) who shall thereupon require the party-in-person to engage a counsel of his choice and if the party refuses, make a report to the Court.

(6)The Registrar (Case and Court Management) shall also scrutinize the matter/proceedings



presentation;

(iii) To condone the delay in re-presenting any proceeding after the 15 days period granted in clause (ii), up to a further period of 15 days;

(iv) To call for the decree or report from the trial court concerned for the purpose of ascertaining the valuation of the suit and the court fee paid;

(v) To call for records from the trial court concerning a pending proceeding;

(vi) To stop, at his discretion, the issue of all or any papers to any Advocate or Party who has failed to pay fees or charges due to the Court;

(vii) To call for a further deposit when the deposit already made in a case is not sufficient to defray the cost of preparing the records;

(viii) To give directions as to the preparation of records in connected appeals;

(ix) To order repayment of the unexpended balance of charges deposited for the preparation of the record in any proceeding;

(x) To fix a time limit in the notice for receiving refund cheques by the Advocate/Party and to issue notice to the Advocate/Party concerned;

(xi) To order the expeditious grant of certified copies;

(xii) To permit the dispensation of production of certified copy of the judgment/ order of the Trial Court on the ground that such a certified copy has already been filed in the Court in another case arising from the same judgment or order, unless specifically precluded by any law;

(xiii) To permit the search of the records of the Court when permissible."

(4). after Rule 16, the following Rule shall be inserted, namely:-

"16A. The Chief Justice may designate a Single Judge or a bench of two Judges to exercise their jurisdiction to hear matters on the orders/ recommendations made by the Registrar (Case and Court Management) and Registrar (Judicial) exercising jurisdiction under Rule 15, Rule 15A, 15B, 15C and Rule 16 of these Rules."

(5). Under the heading 'Forms' after Form 40, the following Form shall be inserted, namely:-



FORM 41

ഫോറം 41

[Rule 15C (2)]

[ചട്ടം 15സി (2)]

Before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala

ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട കേരള ഹൈക്കോടതി മുമ്പാകെ

Application No..... of 20.....

20.....-ലെ അപേക്ഷ നമ്പർ.....

1) Full Name of the Party-in-Person :

വ്യവഹാര കക്ഷിയുടെ മുഴുവൻ പേര്

2) Name of Parent /Spouse/Guardian :

മാതാപിതാക്കൾ/ഭാര്യ/ഭർത്താവ്/രക്ഷാകർത്താവിന്റെ പേര്

3) Permanent address with pin code :

പിൻകോഡ് സഹിതമുള്ള സ്ഥിരം വിലാസം

4) Present address with pin code :

പിൻകോഡ് സഹിതമുള്ള നിലവിലെ വിലാസം

5) Are you an Indian citizen : (Yes/No)

നിങ്ങൾ ഒരു ഇന്ത്യൻ പൗരനാണോ? (അതെ/അല്ല)

6) If not an Indian Citizen, your country of origin (Proof to be attached):



ഇന്ത്യൻ പൗരനല്ലെങ്കിൽ, നിങ്ങളുടെ ജന്മദേശം (തെളിവ് കൂടെ ചേർക്കേണ്ടതാണ്)

7) Age :

പ്രായം :

8) Occupation :

തൊഴിൽ :

9) Educational Qualification :

വിദ്യാഭ്യാസ യോഗ്യത :

10) Proof of identity (to be attached):

തിരിച്ചറിയൽ രേഖ (രേഖ കൂടെ ചേർക്കേണ്ടതാണ്)

11) Is this application submitted, (Tick mark the relevant part)

ഈ അപേക്ഷ സമർപ്പിക്കുന്നത് (പ്രസക്തമായ ഭാഗം ടിക്ക് മാർക്ക് ചെയ്യുക):

a) for filing a new case

ഒരു പുതിയ കേസ് ഫയൽ ചെയ്യുന്നതിനു വേണ്ടി or

അല്ലെങ്കിൽ

b) for filing a proceeding or counter in an existing or disposed of case:

നിലവിലുള്ളതോ തീർപ്പാക്കിയതോ ആയ കേസിൽ ഒരു നടപടിയോ ആക്ഷേപമോ സമർപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു വേണ്ടി

12) The case number and present stage of the existing or disposed of proceeding:

നിലവിലുള്ളതോ തീർപ്പാക്കിയതോ ആയ കേസിന്റെ നമ്പറും നിലവിലെ അവസ്ഥയും



13) The status of the applicant in the main proceeding: പ്രധാന നടപടിയിലെ അപേക്ഷകന്റെ നില:

14) Has the applicant appeared as a party-in-person in any other proceedings: (Yes/No)

മറ്റേതെങ്കിലും നടപടികളിൽ അപേക്ഷകൻ നേരിട്ട് ഹാജരായിട്ടുണ്ടോ? (അതെ/ഇല്ല)

15) If the answer is Yes, the details of the proceedings:

ഉത്തരം അതെ എന്നാണെങ്കിൽ, നടപടികൾ സംബന്ധിച്ച വിശദാംശങ്ങൾ:

16) The details of the earlier applications filed under Rule 15C (2) and the result thereof:

ചട്ടം 15സി (2) പ്രകാരം സമർപ്പിച്ച മുൻ അപേക്ഷകളുടെ വിശദാംശങ്ങളും അതിന്റെ തീർപ്പും:

17) Are you conversant with the filing procedure, Rules and practices of the High Court of Kerala: (Yes/No)

കേരള ഹൈക്കോടതിയുടെ ഫയലിംഗ് നടപടികൾ, ചട്ടങ്ങൾ, സമ്പ്രദായങ്ങൾ എന്നിവയുമായി നിങ്ങൾ പരിചിതരാണ്? (അതെ/അല്ല)

I.....do hereby affirm that the contents of this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and understanding. The entire pleadings and the documents which I propose to file in person have been submitted along with this application. I undertake that, if the Court appoints an Advocate from the panel advocates of the Kerala High Court Legal Services Committee for better assistance of the Court and for proper adjudication of the case, I will accept such an appointment unconditionally.

എന്റെ അറിവിലും ധാരണയിലും ഈ അപേക്ഷയിലെ ഉള്ളടക്കങ്ങൾ സത്യവും ശരിയുമാണെന്ന് എന്ന ഞാൻ ഇതിനാൽ ഉറപ്പുനൽകുന്നു. ഞാൻ നേരിട്ട് ഫയൽ ചെയ്യാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്ന മുഴുവൻ വാദങ്ങളും രേഖകളും ഈ അപേക്ഷയ്ക്കൊപ്പം സമർപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. കോടതിയെ മെച്ചപ്പെട്ട രീതിയിൽ സഹായിക്കുന്നതിനും കേസിന്റെ ശരിയായ വിധിനിർണ്ണയത്തിനുമായി കേരള ഹൈക്കോടതി ലീഗൽ സർവീസസ് കമ്മിറ്റിയുടെ അഭിഭാഷക പാനലിൽ നിന്ന് കോടതി ഒരു അഭിഭാഷകനെ നിയമിച്ചാൽ, അത്തരം നിയമനം നിരുപാധികമായി സ്വീകരിക്കുമെന്നും ഞാൻ അറിയിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.



