

**DISTRICT JUDGES' CONTINUANCE AFTER SUPERANNUATION
AS FAMILY COURT JUDGES**

GUIDE LINES

1. Continuance in service beyond the age of 60 years as Family Court Judges under Section 4 of the Family Courts Act, 1984 read with Rule 3 of the Family Courts (Kerala) Additional Rules, 1990, shall not be given to District Judges as a matter of course. Suitability will be decided on a case to case basis;
2. Continuance need be given only to officers having impeccable reputation and proven track record, both in terms of disposal and conduct until substitute is provided from the Kerala State Higher Judicial Service Rules or attaining age of 62 years whichever is earlier subject to the terms and conditions stipulated herein below;
3. Before granting continuance, the rate of disposal of contested cases for the previous five years also shall be taken into consideration;
4. Objective evaluation of the Annual Confidential Report for the previous five years be made before granting continuance. Comments of the Judge – in – charge of the district shall also be taken into consideration for assessing suitability;
5. As far as practicable, the officers who are in the habit of availing leave intermittently be avoided from the zone of consideration;
6. All officers in the Higher Judicial Service be alerted that continuance in service beyond superannuation as Family Court Judges under Section 4 of the Family Courts Act and Rule 3 of the Family Courts (Kerala) Additional Rules, 1990 shall not be automatic and shall depend on the availability of posts as also suitability as decided by the Chief Justice of the High Court or a committee of Judges nominated by the Chief Justice;
7. The general performance and the disposal of contested cases of such Family Court Judges shall be monitored on a regular basis. The Registry shall make quarterly assessment on the contested disposal and overall performance of the officers who have been granted continuance;

8. Continuance of each officer appointed shall depend on the assessment of performance and suitability which shall be done periodically by the Chief Justice of the High Court or a committee of Judges nominated by the Chief Justice;
9. Canvassing in any form shall disqualify the officer concerned from being considered as Family Court Judge under Section 4 of the Family Courts Act read with Rule 3 of the Family Courts (Kerala) Additional Rules, 1990.

(These guidelines shall be given wide publicity among the officers of the State Higher Judiciary)

* * * * *