

CHIEF JUSTICE AND C.M. POONACHA	15/12/2025	1. The learned counsels for the parties stated that Child Access And Custody Guidelines along with Parenting Plan 2025 was formulated with the participation of several stakeholders and the said guidelines were placed before the Calcutta High Court. The same have been directed to be circulated in terms of the order dated 23.09.2025. 2. The learned counsels pray that the said guidelines may be directed to be adopted till the same are considered by the Rule Committee and appropriate changes are made which may be necessary. 3. The memo dated 11.12.2025 has been filed which encloses the guidelines. 4. It is noticed that the High Court of Calcutta, while considering a Public Interest Litigation for a direction to frame appropriate guidelines for the child access, child custody along with parental plan, had referred the matter to the Rule Committee of the said Court. The Rule Committee invited suggestions from the learned District Judges, Directors of the Judicial Academy, State of West Bengal, Child Psychologists and other relevant stake holders, who had held various deliberations with regard to the suggestions made. A Sub Committee was also appointed for the said purpose and guidelines (for child access, child custody along with parental plan) have been framed. Pursuant to which, the High Court of Calcutta by order dated 23.9.2025 accepted the same and ordered that till the Rules are framed and approved, the guidelines be followed. 5. In view of the above, we direct that the said guidelines be placed before the Rule Committee for considering the necessary changes. 6. In the meanwhile, the Registrar General shall circulate these guidelines to all the District Judges and Family Courts and Magistrates in the State exercising jurisdiction in the matters relating to Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005. 7. We clarify that the said guidelines shall be applied till the Rules are made by the Rulemaking Committee and are approved in accordance with law. 8. List on 13.03.2026.
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