



নহি ঈশ্বৰ চৰা বালুগৰিহালত বোৰে ঈশ্বৰ
HIGH COURT BAR ASSOCIATION OF MANIPUR

Regd. No. 2113 of 1990

High Court Complex, Mantri Pukhri, Imphal - 795002, Manipur

**MANAGING
COMMITTEE MEMBERS
FOR THE TERM 2019-21**

President

Shri Ibotombi Namojam
Sr Advocate
9856526406

Vice-President

Shri Th. Modhu Singh
Advocate
9612000700

Secretary

Shri Samarjit Hawaibam
Addl. Govt. Advocate
9862292310

Jt. Secretaries

Shri L. Somorendro Roy
Advocate
7005934876

Shri. H. Maipaksana Singh
Advocate
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Ms. Sillori Laisom
Advocate
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Senior Advisor Members
Shri Y. Nirmolchand Singh
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Shri N. Jotendro Singh
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Mrs. L. Chanu Ayangleima
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Ex Officio Member

Shri. Kh. Samarjit Singh
Advocate
9862009051

To

Dated: 1st October, 2020

The Registrar General
High Court of Manipur.

Subject : Views and suggestions regarding
Court sitting.

Sir,

While expressing profound gratitude to His Lordship, The Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur for taking into consideration the earlier requests made by the members of the Association to adjourn the Court proceedings in view of detection of Covid 19 positive cases within the premises of the High Court of Manipur, on behalf of the members of the High Court Bar Association of Manipur, the undersigned would like to state the following.

The official data about COVID 19 in India stands at 6,312,584 positive cases with 98,708 deaths as of October 01, 2020 while that of Manipur stands at 10,983 positive cases with 67 deaths. The numbers are increasingly daily.

Several employees of the High Court of Manipur have also been tested positive for Covid 19.

In the Covid 19 SOP issued by the State Government from time to time discretion has been given to the Hon'ble High of Manipur to follow any convenient and safe procedure.

It is the unanimous view of members of the Bar that functioning of normal physical Court in the present scenario would pose risk to the lives of the Advocates, litigants and employees of the High Court. The members therefore prefer cases be conducted virtually.

While preferring virtual courts the members have expressed some difficulty in adapting to the new virtual environment especially our senior members. In physical court it is easier to rush from one court to another while all the courts are functioning simultaneously. But if multiple single and Double Benches are constituted on one single day our members are facing difficulty in appearing in all the courts through video.

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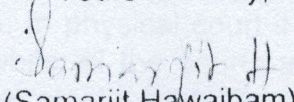
At times technical snags do happen and they are unavoidable. We are in the learning process. We all need some time to adapt to the new virtual environment to which we are slowly, steadily and gradually adapting.

In view of the above, on behalf of the members of the Bar, the following are suggested :

- (i) That for the next fifteen days, counting from Tuesday, the 6th October 2020 virtual courts be continued as the earlier High Court notification covers upto 5th October, 2020. The National Directives for COVID-19 Management dt.30.09.2020 also directs that as far as possible the Practice of Work from Home should be followed.
- (ii) That taking into consideration the difficulties faced by the members of the Bar in adapting to the new virtual environment constitution of multiple Division Benches may kindly be restricted to the minimum for the time being.
- (iii) That only the most urgent matters may be taken up.
- (iv) That matters requiring lengthy hearing may please be not listed for the time being.
- (v) That when a matter is mentioned for listing, consent of the Counsel of the other side obtained in writing be made mandatory as to the urgency of the matter and the necessity for listing

The above suggestions and views of the members of the Bar may kindly be brought to the kind notice of His Lordship, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur .

Yours faithfully,


(Samarjit Hawaibam)
Secretary

High Court Bar Association of Manipur