

THE HIGH COURT OF MANIPUR AT IMPHAL

NOTIFICATION No. 74 the 7th August, 2020

No.HCM/COVID-2020/RG/ 11150 : In continuation of and in partial modification of earlier Notification No. 73 issued by the High Court of Manipur to combat the pandemic spread of Novel Corona virus (COVID - 19) and in compliance of the directions passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide Order dated 23.03.2020 in SMWC No. 3/2020: "IN RE- CONGNIZANCE FOR EXTENSION OF LIMITATION" and Order dated 06.04.2020 in SMWC No. 5/2020: "IN RE – GUIDELINES FOR COURT FUNCTIONING THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING DURING COVID – 19 PANDEMIC" and considering extension of the ongoing LOCKDOWN upto 31.08.2020 as declared by the Government of India on 29.07.2020; and subsequently by the Government of Manipur on 06.08.2020 extending complete lockdown till 15.08.2020; and considering letter dated 04.07.2020 submitted by the High Court Bar Association of Manipur for taking up of urgent motion and limited old pending matters, Hon'ble the Chief Justice is pleased to issue the following directions : -

1. The regular court sitting for both the High Court and District Courts/Tribunals shall remain suspended **till 17.08.2020**. However, all Courts in Manipur including the High Court will take up urgent motion cases and limited regular pending cases through video conferencing.

The court proceedings including special ordered cases shall be done through video conferencing facility as per Notification No. 55 dated 08.04.2020 issued by the High Court. However, in case video conferencing is not possible due to any reason, physical court may be conducted by maintaining strict covid-19 protocol and social distancing on permission.

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In partial Modification of Notification No.55, the video conferencing software will be "Jitsi Meet". For *desktop and laptop*, users can join Jitsi Meet video conferencing by simply opening the link sent by the Court end through any browser, e.g., chrome, firefox, etc.

For *mobile phone users*, "Jitsi Meet" app has to be downloaded and installed from "Play Store" or "App Store" and has to click the link sent by the Court end.

2. For the High Court, filing of fresh matters will be accepted email only at hcmefiling@gmail.com pending notification for e-filing which is under process. Hard copies have to be submitted to the Registry after restrictions are relaxed. Any urgent listing for the day or filing of other application/documents, etc., mention by application is to be made before the Registry and it will be placed before the Hon'ble Chief Justice for appropriate order. Counsel for the either side can seek hearing of pending case by way of a mention application for listing of old pending cases after serving notice on the other side.

For the District Courts/Tribunals, fresh urgent cases will be accepted by email and hard copies shall be submitted later on after restrictions are relaxed. Urgent application can be moved with the permission of the Presiding Judge.

Counsels/Parties shall file an undertaking to the effect that necessary court fees, sworn affidavit and other documents be submitted after restrictions are relaxed.

As far as possible, petition/application filed through email filing shall not exceed 15-20 pages along with important annexures/documents. Complete set shall be submitted later on after restrictions are relaxed.

3. All urgent motion matters as above will be listed before the appropriate Bench as assigned by the Hon'ble Chief Justice.

In case of District Courts/Tribunals, mention is to be made before the Presiding Judge.

4. In case the Advocates need to enter court complexes for any reason, strict social distancing and other covid-19 protocol to be maintained. Litigants and other officials relating to a case can enter court premises only with prior permission of the Hon'ble Court/ Presiding Judicial Officer.
5. District & Sessions Judges and Presiding Officers may work out modalities for proper functioning of their respective Courts in consultation with the members of Bar and other stake holders, as may be necessary.
6. Wearing of mask at all time is compulsory in all Court complexes of Manipur. Strict adherence to covid-19 protocol is a must.
7. Normal training programmes of Manipur Judicial Academy which require physical attendance shall remain suspended till 17.08.2020. However, online training programmes shall be continued during lockdown period without fail.
8. In view of the hardship faced by the common people during the covid-19 pandemic, Manipur State Legal Services Authority shall take up urgent legal services activities at all level, as may be possible.
9. Pending cases fixed for hearing on day-to-day basis up to 17.08.2020 shall be adjourned to subsequent dates in respect of High Court and District Courts. The information in this regards is to be uploaded on the website of the District Court. It shall also be pasted on notice board.
10. The interim orders granted by the High Court for a specified date in pending cases shall be extended till next date of effective hearing.
11. The interim orders granted by the District Courts/Tribunals in pending cases for a specified date shall be extended till next date of effective hearing.
12. Similar arrangements shall be made by all the respective Juvenile Justice Boards of the districts.

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13. In view of suspension of regular Court work till 17.08.2020, limitation for any Court proceeding shall not run with effect from 15.03.2020 until further order in pursuance of order dated 23.03.2020 in SMWC No. 3/2020 : IN RE - COGNIZANCE FOR EXTENSION OF LIMITATION passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
14. As far as the High Court is concerned and in view of limited working of the High Court and limited listing of motion, urgent and pending regular cases, all Officers upto the rank of Superintendent and above shall attend office on all working days. However, such Officers who are residing in the containment zones are exempted from attending office on written permission from the Registrar General.

As far as staff below the rank of Superintendent are concerned, they shall attend office on roster basis of 30%. Such staff shall be chosen by the Sectional Head. Staff residing in the containment zones are exempted from attending office. However, such staff shall take written exemption from the Sectional Heads.

Digitization and Scanning work will continue with 50% attendance to be identified by the CPC. However, staff from the containment zones are exempted to attend office on written permission by the CPC.

15. As far as District Courts/Tribunals are concerned, the Presiding Judges shall specify the number of Officers and Staff who will attend the court for the purpose of court sitting and office work on limited scale. Such Officers/Staff shall attend office on roster basis and those residing in the containment zones are exempted from attending office on written permission from the Presiding Judges.

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16. This arrangement is subject to review from time to time.

By order

A. Guneshwar Sharma
7/8/2020

(A. GUNESHWAR SHARMA)
Registrar General

Copy to:-

1. Secretary General, Supreme Court of India
2. Secretary, Department of Justice, Government of India.
3. The Advocate General, Govt. of Manipur.
4. The Chief Secretary, Govt. of Manipur.
5. The Director General of Police, Manipur.
6. The Registrar, Admin & Vigilance, High Court of Manipur.
7. All the learned Judicial Officers, Manipur.
8. The Secretary (Law), Government of Manipur.
9. The Govt. Advocate, Govt. of Manipur.
10. The President, High Court BAR Association.
11. The President, AMBA, Manipur.
12. The Joint Director, Manipur Judicial Academy.
13. All the Joint Registrars, High Court of Manipur.
14. The Principal Magistrates, all Juvenile Justice Boards.
15. All the Deputy Registrars, High Court of Manipur.
16. The Principal Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court of Manipur.
17. All the Asst Registrars/LRO/Court Managers, High Court of Manipur.
18. The P.S to Hon'ble Justice L.S. Jamir, High Court of Manipur.
19. The P.S to Hon'ble Justice Kh.Nobin Singh, High Court of Manipur.
20. The P.S to Hon'ble Justice M.V. Muralidaran, High Court of Manipur.
21. The P.S to Hon'ble Justice A. Bimol Singh, High Court of Manipur.
22. The P.S to Registrar General, High Court of Manipur.
23. The System Analyst, High Court of Manipur for uploading the same to the Official Website.
24. All the Superintendents/Court Officers/Stamp Reporter/Protocol Officer, High Court of Manipur.
25. All the Court Master, High Court of Manipur.
26. The Guard file.