

THE HIGH COURT OF MANIPUR AT IMPHAL

NOTIFICATION No. 71 the 10th July, 2020

No.HCM/COVID-2020/RG/ 10547 : In continuation of and in partial modification of earlier Notifications No. 66 & 70 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 31.07.2020 as declared by the Government of India on 29.06.2020; and subsequently by the Government of Manipur on 09.07.2020 extending lockdown till 31.07.2020, and after discussing with the Hon'ble Judges, Advocate General, Senior and other Members of the Bar and other stake holders, and suggestions of High Court Bar Association, Manipur and All Manipur Bar Association, 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 restricted till 31.07.2020. However, all Courts in Manipur including the High Court will take up motion, urgent pending cases and also regular cases. The courts will work from 10.30 am upto 1.30 pm during this period.

The court proceedings 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.

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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 at the filing counters of the Registry in hard copy format pending notification for e-filing which is under process. As far as practicable, cases filed in proper and complete form and received upto 1.00 pm will be listed on the next working day. Any urgent listing for the day or filing of other application/documents, etc., mention is to be made before the Hon'ble Chief Justice.

For the District Courts/Tribunals, cases if filed in proper and complete form in hard copy format will be accepted upto 1.00 pm and will be considered for numbering and listing. Urgent application can be moved with the permission of the Presiding Judge. There is no bar for supply of soft copy with proper proof of service.

3. All motion matters will be listed before the High Court as assigned by the Hon'ble Chief Justice. Any counsel can move the Hon'ble Chief Justice to take up urgent pending case or regular case after intimation to the opponent counsel and the case will be listed after permission is granted.

However, if both parties/counsels move a joint application for taking up any pending case citing urgency, the same will be considered by the Hon'ble Chief Justice for listing.

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

4. The Advocates who enter court complexes should maintain strict social distancing and other covid-19 protocol. Litigants and other officials relating to a case can enter court premises with prior permission of the Hon'ble Court/ Presiding Judicial Officer.

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5. District Courts/Tribunals are directed to take up pending cases which are specially ordered for time bound trial or hearing subject to strict adherence to covid-19 protocol.
6. District 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.
7. Wearing of mask at all time is compulsory in all Court complexes of Manipur. Strict adherence to covid-19 protocol is a must.
8. Normal training programmes of Manipur Judicial Academy which require physical attendance, shall remain suspended till 31.07.2020. However, online training programmes shall be continued during lockdown period without fail. If online training is not possible for any reasons, training programme in small batch of 8-14 participants may be conducted by adhering to strict covid-19 protocol.
9. In view of the hardship faced by the common people during the covid-19 pandemic, Manipur State Legal Services Authority shall take up necessary legal services activities at all level.
10. Old cases fixed for hearing on day-to-day basis up to 31.07.2020 shall be adjourned to subsequent dates. The information in this regards is to be uploaded on the website of the District Court. It shall also be pasted on notice board.
11. The interim orders granted by the High Court for a specified date in pending cases shall be extended till next date of effective hearing.
12. 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.
13. Similar arrangements shall be made by all the respective Juvenile Justice Boards of the districts.
14. Scanning and Digitization works are to continue at different locations without any interruption subject to adherence to strict covid-19 protocol.

15. In view of suspension of regular Court work till 31.07.2020, 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.
16. Attendance of employees in the High Court and the District Courts/Tribunals shall be as per roster issued by the Registrar General and the concerned District Judges/Presiding Officers respectively. However, the Officers and staff of the High Court and District Courts/Tribunals shall make themselves available as and when required.
17. This arrangement is subject to review from time to time.

By order

A. Guneshwar Sharma

(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 Registrar, Admin & Vigilance, High Court of Manipur.
5. All the learned Judicial Officers, Manipur.
6. The Secretary (Law), Government of Manipur.
7. The Govt. Advocate, Govt. of Manipur.
8. The President, High Court BAR Association.
9. The President, AMBA, Manipur.
10. The Joint Director, Manipur Judicial Academy.
11. All the Joint Registrars, High Court of Manipur.
12. The Principal Magistrates, all Juvenile Justice Boards.
13. All the Deputy Registrars, High Court of Manipur.
14. The Principal Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court of Manipur.
15. All the Asst Registrars/LRO/Court Managers, High Court of Manipur.
16. The P.S to Hon'ble Justice L.S. Jamir, High Court of Manipur.
17. The P.S to Hon'ble Justice Kh.Nobin Singh, High Court of Manipur.
18. The P.S to Hon'ble Justice M.V. Muralidaran, High Court of Manipur.
19. The P.S to Hon'ble Justice A. Bimol Singh, High Court of Manipur.

20. The P.S to Registrar General, High Court of Manipur.
21. The System Analyst, High Court of Manipur for uploading the same to the Official Website.
22. All the Superintendents/Court Officers/Stamp Reporter/Protocol Officer, High Court of Manipur.
23. All the Court Master, High Court of Manipur.
24. The Guard file.

AS
10/10/2020