

THE HIGH COURT OF MANIPUR AT IMPHAL

NOTIFICATION No. 82 the 1st September, 2020

No.HCM/COVID-2020/RG/12234 : In continuation of and in partial modification of earlier Notifications No. 74 & 76 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 the guidelines for LOCKDOWN and UNLOCK upto 30.09.2020 as declared by the Government of India on 29.08.2020; and subsequently by the Government of Manipur dated 31.08.2020 setting out guidelines for lockdown and unlock till 30.09.2020 whereby several restrictions have been removed; and in consultation with Hon'ble Judges, the High Court Bar Association of Manipur, All Manipur Bar Association and All Manipur Judicial Officers' Association and other stakeholders, 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 be **regulated till 15.09.2020** in anticipation of resumption of regular physical court sitting as per guidelines mentioned below. All Courts in Manipur including the High Court will take up motion cases, urgent 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. 79 dated 22.04.2020 issued by the High Court. However, in case video conferencing is not possible due to any reason, physical

At
1/9/2020

court may be conducted by maintaining strict covid-19 protocol and social distancing on permission.

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, the filing of fresh cases and other applications/documents will be accepted at filing counter in hard copy format only. However, counsel/party-in-person from containment zone can file through email at hcmefiling@gmail.com accompanied by an application supported by documents that they reside in an area declared as containment zone. Hard copies of the cases already filed through email so far have to be submitted to the Registry within seven days. Any urgent listing for the day by application in the approved format 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 cases will be accepted in hard copies. Only the counsel/party-in-person who are from containment zone can file through email accompanied by an application supported by documents that they reside in an area declared as containment zone. Hard copies of the cases already filed through email filing so far have to be submitted to the concerned courts within seven days. Urgent application can be moved with the permission of the Presiding Judge.

AS
19/2020

Counsels/Parties-in-person who file through email, 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 and papers shall be submitted as and when restriction on the containment zone is relaxed.

3. Court hour will be from 10.30 am to 4.00 pm or till the discharge of Cause List, whichever is earlier.
4. All motion and other 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.

5. Advocates who enter court complexes for any reason have to maintain strict social distancing. Covid-19 protocol is 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.
6. 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. Cases ready for argument shall be heard by video conferencing. Arrangements shall be made for conducting time bound and specially directed cases without any excuse.
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. Manipur Judicial Academy will conduct online training programmes without fail.
9. 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.
10. Pending cases, other than listed cases, fixed for hearing on day-to-day basis up to 15.09.2020 shall be adjourned to subsequent dates in respect of High Court and District Courts. The information in this

AG
1/9/2020

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. In view of the present regulation of regular Court work till 15.09.2020, 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. **The counsels for the parties/parties are informed in advance that limitations will start as and when regular physical court starts functioning.**
15. As far as the High Court is concerned, all Officers upto the rank of Superintendent and above shall attend office on all working days. The head of each Section shall ensure that other staff/employees attend court work without fail at least 66% on each day. However, such Officers/ staff who are residing in the containment zones are exempted from attending office on written permission from the Registrar General.

Digitization and Scanning work shall continue. 66% of staff attendance is to be ensured by CPC. However, those who are from the containment zones are exempted to attend office on written permission of the CPC.
16. 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 at 66% working attendance on each day. Such Officers/Staff shall attend office on rotation basis and those residing in the containment

At
1/9/2020

zones are exempted from attending office on written permission from the Presiding Judge.

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

By order

A. Guneshwar Sharma
1/19/2022

(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.