

THE HIGH COURT OF MANIPUR AT IMPHAL

NOTIFICATION No. 63 the 2nd June, 2020

No.HCM/COVID-2020/RG/ 8868 : In continuation of and in partial modification of earlier Notifications No. 53, 54, 56, 57, 59, 60, 61 & 62 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 30.06.2020 as declared by the Government of India on 30.05.2020; and subsequently by the Government of Manipur on 01.06.2020; in consultation with Advocate General, Bar Council of Manipur, High Court Bar Association of Manipur, All Manipur Bar Association, Government Advocate, Senior Advocates, Members of Bar, Judicial Officers and other stake holders; and on the basis of the recommendation dated 02.06.2020 of the three Hon'ble Judges Committee, 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 17.06.2020**. All Courts in Manipur will work upto 1.00 pm during this period. As far as practicable, 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.

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

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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 through email only and hard copy may be submitted to the Registry later on. As far as practicable, cases received upto 1.00 pm will be listed on the next working day. For filing of other matters/application/documents and hearing thereof, permission of the senior most Judge shall be required. Fresh cases and applications may be submitted to email id ***hcmefiling@gmail.com***.

For the District Courts/Tribunals, hard copy filing will be accepted along with soft copy.

3. All motion matters will be listed before the High Court and the District Courts/Tribunals and will be distributed equally amongst Hon'ble Judges for the High Court and Judges of the District Courts/Tribunals. For urgent pending cases, the same may be taken up with the permission of available senior most Judge/Presiding Officer.
4. In case any of the Advocates are required to enter court complexes for any purpose, they should maintain strict social distancing and other covid-19 protocol. No litigants and other officials will be permitted to enter court premises without prior permission of the Hon'ble Court.
5. District Courts/Tribunals may take up pending cases which are specially directed and time bound trials subject to strict adherence to covid-19 protocol.

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6. District Judges and Presiding Officers may work out modalities for proper functioning of their respective Courts in consultation with Bar and other stake holders.

7. Wearing of mask is compulsory in all Court complexes of Manipur at all time with maintenance and adherence to strict covid-19 protocol.
8. From the period from 03.06.2020 to 17.06.2020, Lawyers can attend court and court related works without curfew pass between 5.00 am to 2.00 pm. However, they should be in Advocate's uniform and hold valid identity card issued by the Bar Council of Manipur/Bar Association.

In view of imposition of curfew in Imphal city and District HQs, Lawyers are permitted to use curfew pass in relation to their chamber works from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm.

9. Advocates who are attending remand proceedings may go to the concerned court or Judge's residence provided they are in Advocate's uniform and on production of valid identity card issued by the Bar Council of Manipur/Bar Association. On request by the security personnel, they shall give details such as name of the Judge/Court before whom the accused is to be produced, the nature of offence, name of the accused and etc.

Law enforcement agency/District Administration are requested to abide by the directions issued by the High Court in this regard.

10. Normal training programmes of Manipur Judicial Academy which require physical attendance, shall remain suspended till 17.06.2020. However, online training programmes shall be continued during lockdown period.
11. Normal programmes of Manipur State Legal Services Authority shall be suspended during this period except urgent legal aid matters and functioning of 'Front Offices' of legal services authorities.
12. The matters which are already fixed up to 17.06.2020 be adjourned en-bloc to subsequent dates and information in this regards be uploaded on the website of the District Court and pasted on notice board.

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13. The interim orders granted earlier by the High Court and the District Courts/Tribunals for a specified date shall be extended till next date of effective hearing.
14. Similar arrangements shall be made by all the respective Juvenile Justice Boards of the districts.
15. In view of suspension of regular Court work till 17.06.2020, 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
2/6/2020

(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 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.

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