

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF MANIPUR
AT IMPHAL**

EL.PET. No. 25 of 2022

With

EL.PET. No. 14 of 2022

Lourembam Sanjit Singh

Petitioner/s

Vrs.

Thounaojam Shyamkumar & 3 ors.

Respondent/s

BEFORE

**HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. M. SUNDAR
(ORDER)**

31.03.2026

Read this in conjunction with and in continuation of earlier proceedings made in the previous listing yesterday i.e., 30.03.2026 which reads as follows:

'30.03.2026

Read this in conjunction with and in continuation of earlier proceedings made in the previous listings.

In the hearing today, Mr. S. Gunabanta, learned counsel on record for the election petitioner led by learned senior advocate Mr. H.S. Paonam and Ms. L. Ashapriya, learned counsel representing Mr. M. Gunedhor, learned counsel on record for the returned candidate are before this Court.

Learned senior counsel for election petitioner, adverting to earlier proceedings, points out that recording of evidence has been completed in EL.PET. No. 14 of 2022 (filed by losing candidate) and in EL.PET. No. 25 of 2022 (filed by elector), after election petitioner's side evidence has been completed, the returned candidate has been repeatedly taking time and one witness remains to be examined. To be noted, recording of evidence is before a learned Advocate Commissioner.

Ms. L. Ashapriya, learned counsel for returned candidate submits that only one witness remains to be examined and the name of the witness is Shri Loitongbam Jitendra Singh. Learned counsel also submitted that

a First Information Report (FIR) has to be marked through him, an application has been made to the concerned Police Station seeking a copy of the same, it is awaited and this is causing delay. Learned counsel also submitted that the FIR has not been uploaded in the official website.

However as learned counsel could not give the following details to this Court today, learned counsel sought a short accommodation. The details are as follows:

- 1. Number, date and Police Station qua FIR which is sought to be marked.*
- 2. How was Shri Loitongbam Jitendra Singh connected with the Election Petition and what is he going to speak about i.e., depose?*

This Court pointed out to the learned counsel for returned candidate that election petitions have to be heard out on a day to day basis.

However, as learned counsel for returned candidate is in difficulty, list tomorrow.

Both learned counsel i.e., Mr. S. Gunabanta and Ms. L. Ashapriya undertake to inform Mr. R.K. Umakanta, learned State Public Prosecutor that this Court requests the presence of learned State Public Prosecutor in the hearing tomorrow.

List on 31.03.2026.'

2. Today Mr. H.S. Paonam, learned senior advocate instructed by Mr. S. Gunabanta, learned counsel on record for election petitioner in both election petitions and Mr. M. Gunedhor, learned counsel along with Ms. L. Ashapriya, learned counsel for returned candidate in both election petitions are before this Court.

3. Adverting to afore-referred earlier proceedings made yesterday, Mr. M. Gunedhor, learned counsel submits on instructions that a decision has been taken not to examine Mr. Loitongbam Jitendra Singh and the returned candidate is closing his side evidence before the learned Advocate Commissioner. This submission is recorded.

4. Both sides agreed that main election petition can now be heard out.

5. To be noted, as regard closing his side evidence by not examining Mr. Loitongbam Jitendra Singh, Mr. M. Gunedhor, learned counsel submits that he will argue on the basis of pleadings and exhibits already on record.

6. List election petitions under the cause-list caption ' FOR ARGUMENTS' tomorrow.

7. List on 01.04.2026.

CHIEF JUSTICE

Ab. Surjit