

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

WP(C) No. 304 of 2025

K. Memton Devi & 11 ors.

Petitioners

Vs.

State of Manipur & 7 ors.

Respondents

BEFORE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AHANTHEM BIMOL SINGH

10.04.2025

Heard Ms. W. Geetarani, learned counsel appearing for the petitioners.

Issue notice, returnable within 4(four) weeks.

Mrs. L. Monomala, learned G.A., entered appearance and accepts notice on behalf of respondent Nos. 1-6; Mrs. I. Bimola, learned counsel, entered appearance and accepts notice on behalf of respondent No. 7; and Mr. S. Jasobanta, learned counsel, entered appearance and accepts notice on behalf of respondent No. 8. Hence, no formal notice is called for.

It is the case of the petitioners that after taking over of the Private/Aided colleges wherein all the petitioners were serving and in pursuance of the provision under Rule 7 of the Manipur Civil Service (Appointment and other service conditions of employees of Government Aided/Private Institutions taken over by the Government) Rules, 1981, the Government has issued an order dated 07.03.2019 absorbing the petitioners and others into government service w.e.f. 22.01.2019 and also ordering the protection of their past services and their pay protection with notional effect including pension and gratuity in respect of the employees of the erstwhile private/aided colleges including the present petitioners. Subsequently without giving any notice or without giving any opportunity of hearing, the respondents unilaterally issued an Office Memorandum

dated 11.12.2023 thereby keeping an abeyance the order issued in favour of the petitioners. It is also the case of the petitioners that in the minutes of the meeting of the committee for linking up of past service for pensionary benefits held on 29.01.2025 by the officials of the State Government, certain decisions about the applicability of the pension rules in respect of the petitioners and others of their ilk were taken. According to the petitioners, such action of the government is unwarranted and illegal inasmuch as, the said Office Memorandum and the said decision taken in the aforesaid proceeding adversely affect the accrued right of the petitioners without following the principle of natural justice.

The learned counsel appearing for the petitioners prays for passing an interim order for protecting the right and interest of the present petitioners.

Mrs. L. Monomala, learned G.A. appearing for the respondents, seeks some time to get instructions from the authorities and to hear the prayer for passing interim order on the next date.

As prayed for by the learned counsel appearing for the respondents, list these cases again on 07.05.2025 for consideration of the prayer for passing interim order.

In the meantime, it is hereby directed that the impugned Office Memorandum dated 11.12.2023 and the decision taken in the aforesaid committee meeting held on 29.01.2025 shall not be applicable to the present petitioners till the next date of hearing.

List this case again on 07.05.2025.

JUDGE