

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

**WP(C) No. 425 of 2026 with
MC(WP(C)) No. 441 of 2026**

Deepa Maibam

... *Petitioner*

- *Versus* -

State of Manipur and 2 Ors.

... *Respondents*

**B E F O R E
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE A. GUNESHWAR SHARMA**

ORDER

09.06.2026

[1] Heard Mr. N. Kumarjit, learned sr. counsel assisted by Mr. P. Tamphamani, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner; Mr. H. Samarjit, learned sr. counsel & GA assisted by Mrs. RK. Emily, learned Dy. GA appearing on behalf of the State respondent nos. 1 & 2; and Dr. RK. Deepak, learned sr. counsel assisted by Mr. L. Rajesh, learned counsel appearing for the respondent no. 3 (MPSC).

[2] The issue involved in the present case is that the petitioner, who appeared in the Manipur Civil Services Combined Competitive Examination, 2022 and who obtained 8th rank in the final merit list has been offered the cadre in the lowest grade in the examination on the basis of mistake in selection of the service preference. The petitioner has requested well in advance for making correction of the inadvertent error in the selection of the service preference. In the final merit list dated 22.04.2026 issued by Manipur Public Service Commission, the petitioner is shown at rank no. 8th with a mark of 950. However, in the final cadre distribution notification dated 29.05.2026 issued by Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms, Govt. of Manipur, the petitioner is given no. 1 in the cadre of Sub Deputy Collector (SDC). While issuing impugned notification dated 29.05.2026 distributing the cadre to the successful candidate, nothing is reflected about the various representations submitted by the petitioner for making necessary correction in her service preference choosing MCS Grade-II as no. 1, MPS as no. 2 and MFS as no. 3. It is submitted that last date for submission of offer form is on 22.06.2026.

[3] Mr. N. Kumarjit, learned sr. counsel for the petitioner submits that if 1(one) post of the MCS is not reserved for adjusting the petitioner, she will face disadvantage in her service carrier. It is also submitted that it will take more than 10 to 15 years for promotion to the post of MCS Grade-II from the cadre of SDC. As per merit list, petitioner is entitled for encadrement as MCS Grade-II.

[4] Issue notice.

[5] Mrs. RK. Emily, learned Dy. GA assisting Mr. H. Samarjit, learned sr. counsel & GA accepts notice on behalf of respondent nos. 1 & 2 and Mr. L. Rajesh, learned counsel assisting Dr. RK. Deepak, learned sr. counsel accepts notice on behalf of respondent no. 3 (MPSC). Hence, service is complete on the respondents. The learned counsel for the respondents prays for 2(two) weeks' time for taking instructions and filing counter affidavit, if any.

[6] With regard to the prayer for interim relief, this Court is of the view that if the petitioner does not submit the offer form by 22.06.2026, she will be barred from claiming any seat in the service offered to her. In the circumstances, the petitioner is given liberty to submit offer form for SDC cadre as she has been recommended for the time being. However, it is made clear that if the petitioner succeeds in the present writ petition, the same shall be construed as submitted against the post of MCS Grade-II or any other available post.

[7] The State respondents are directed to keep 1(one) seat of MCS Grade-II as vacant for consideration of the post of petitioner, if she succeeds in the present writ petition.

[8] List this case on 26.06.2026.

[9] Furnish a copy of this order to the learned counsel appearing for the parties.

JUDGE

Thoiba