

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

PIL No. 23 of 2025

Soram Tekendrajit; & Anr.

Petitioners

Vs.

State of Manipur; & Ors.

Respondents

BEFORE

**HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. M. SUNDAR
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AHANTHEM BIMOL SINGH**

(ORDER)

(Order of the Court was made by M. Sundar, CJ)

21.01.2026

[1] 'Saiton No. 2 Primary School, Bishnupur' (hereinafter 'said School' for the sake of convenience and clarity) is a Government School and it is a Primary School. To be noted, Primary School is one where classes are held up to Class-V.

[2] In the captioned writ petition which has been filed as a 'Public Interest Litigation' ('PIL' for the sake of brevity) Mr. Kh. Tarunkumar, learned senior counsel instructed by Mr. W. Jamon, learned counsel on record for the two public spirited petitioners and Mr. S. Nepolean, learned senior counsel and State counsel instructed by Ms. RK Emily, learned State counsel for all three respondents are before us.

[3] At the outset, it is deemed appropriate to record the stated position on learned senior counsel on both sides that the captioned matter shall not be treated as adversarial litigation and that the same shall be construed and as a constructive collaborative effort as it pertains to said school, amenities thereat and constitutional right enshrined in Article 21A of the Constitution.

[4] Be that as it may, learned senior counsel appearing on behalf of counsel on record for PIL petitioners, submits that the geographical location of said school is in a difficult terrain, about 118 students have enrolled and about 40 of them are attending the school regularly but the issue is lack of infrastructure, *i.e.*, basic infrastructure such as class rooms and more importantly teachers which is far below the desired student-teacher ratio codified *vide* the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and 2010 Rules thereunder.

[5] Learned senior counsel also pointed out that a detailed representation (though in the form of notice through counsel) dated 23.08.2025 has been sent to R-2 and the same has been duly received by R-2 on 25.08.2025. To be noted, 'R-2' is an abbreviation denoting '2nd respondent' and similar abbreviations for other respondents will also

be used. A scanned reproduction of this 23.08.2025 representation is as follows:

-29-

ANNEXURE - A/8

Shri. Tarunkumar
B.Sc.(Hons.), M.A.L.L.B.,
Senior Advocate

Office :
Uripok Sorbon Thingel,
Imphal West, Manipur.

Ref : **NOTICE** Date: 23-08-2025

To,

The Director of Education (Schools),
Government of Manipur, Imphal.

Sub:- A legal notice to transfer adequate Teacher at the Saiton No. 2
Government Primary School, construction of classrooms, toilet,
compound wall and playground.

Sir,

I, under the instruction from and on behalf of my clients namely Shri Soram Tekendrajit and Shri Samom Dhruba do hereby serve upon you the following notice for your information and immediate necessary action:-

1. That, my client, Shri Soram Tekendrajit is a retired Lt. Colonel of Indian Army and presently serving as President of the Uripok Apunba Lup which is a confederation of 48 registered local clubs of the Uripok area under Imphal West District, Manipur and he is a Social Activist working since the year 2000 onwards.

My client, Shri Samom Dhruba is a Body Builder by profession and he is a National A-Grade Judge of the Body Building and General Secretary of the Body Building Association of Imphal West District and also serving as General Secretary of the Uripok Apunba Lup.

2. That, my clients have filed Public Interest Litigations (PILs) being PIL No. 18 of 2024 in the Hon'ble High Court of Manipur regarding the killing of six innocent lives (3 minor children and 3 women) at the Jakuradhor Karong of the Borobekra Sub Division of Jiribam District in the month of November 2024 by the suspected Hmar-Kuki militants.

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Shri M. Baby Devi
Oath Commissioner (Judicial)
Imphal West District & High Court
Regd. No. 558/2024

Director Edn. (S) Lamphel
Receipt Regn. No. 41/8
Date . 25/8/25 Signature

TRUE COPY
W Advocate

-30-

-2-

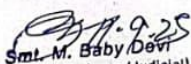
They have also filed a PIL being PIL No. 17 of 2025 in the Hon'ble High Court of Manipur for installation of the garbage container bins in and around the Imphal City to make this city a garbage free city in the larger interest of the general public.

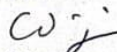
3. That, my clients have been actively organising various social related works by taking up various programs for the welfare of the people particularly for the Uripok area. Since the year 2024, hundreds of trees have been planted on the northern side of the Uripok Kangchup road area to protect the environment. Plantation on the road medians of Uripok area have also been taken up by the Uripok Apunba Lup under the leadership of my clients. After meeting with the Hon'ble Governor of Manipur with the officials of the State PWD, MAHUD, MSPDCL and SP Traffic Police on 17-07-2025, the State authorities have taken up various construction and repairing works like electrification of street lamps at the Uripok Kanchup road, RIMS road have been taken up and blacktopping of the RIMS road and repairing of Uripok Khwairak Selungba road is now under progress.

4. That, recently, my clients have come across a news item on 29-07-2025 in the leading local daily, the Hueiyen Lanpao regarding the poor condition of the Saiton No. 2 Primary School which is a Govt. school. In the said news report, it was reported that after the destruction of the said school building by a cyclone in the year 2019, no step has been taken up by the Government to reconstruct the said school building. Having no alternative, the Headmistress of the said school has constructed a temporary school building consisting of 4 (four) rooms from her own pocket money even by borrowing money from some persons of her locality in the larger interest of the poor students of the said area who doesn't have any means to go the private schools.

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Oath Commissioner (Judicial)
Imphal West District & High Court
Regd. No. 568/2024


Advocate

-31-

-3-

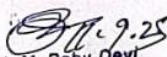
5. That, it was also reported that there is only one teacher i.e. the Headmistress of the School. Later on, one teacher from the Wangoo Selungkhong U.P. School has been utilised at the said school. In fact, 118 students have enrolled in the said school. Out of the said 118 students, 40 students are regularly attending the school. There is no compound wall/fencing of the said school. There is no adequate toilet for the students though the said school is a co-education school. As there is no adequate classroom, students of the class-IV and class-V are compelled to seat in one single classroom, likewise, in other classrooms also, students of the different classes are sitting together in a single classroom.

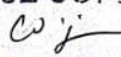
6. That, after a request made by the Headmistress of the said school, the Zonal Education Officer, Bishnupur, Government of Manipur have provided GI sheets for roofing of the temporary structure of the aforesaid school. However, till date, no positive step has been taken up to reconstruct a permanent school building consisting of about 7 rooms where there can be 5 classrooms from Class I to V, one room for the teaching staffs and another room as store room.

7. That, it is very important to mention here that if there is no separate proper toilet for boys and girls, how the children will attend their natural calls. This is one of the reason for the students for not coming to the school regularly. Moreover, there is no any structure where the children can play like seesaw, swing, slides, small merry-go-round, etc. at the said school.

Because of the non availability of the aforesaid facilities, non adequate classrooms, absence of toilet, compound wall/ fencing, play items, the fundamental rights of the students of the said school guaranteed under Article 21A of the Constitution of India have been deprived of.

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Smt. M. Baby Devi
Oath Commissioner (Judicial)
Imphal West District & High Court
Regd. No. 568/2024

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Advocate

-32-

-4-

I, under the circumstances stated above request you to reconstruct the school building of the Saiton No. 2 Primary School consisting of about 7 rooms and also to depute/ transfer adequate number of teacher, construction of toilet, compound wall/ fencing, play items/structures at the earliest possible time failing which, my clients shall be compelled to approach the competent Court of law to redress their grievances of the students of the said school.

With warm regards.

Yours sincerely

W. Jamon

(W. Jamon), Advocate
Jr. to Kh. Tarunkumar, Senior Advocate.

TRUE COPY

W. J.
Advocate

9.9.25
Smt. M. Baby Devi
Oath Commissioner (Judicial)
Imphal West District & High Court
Regd. No. 568/2024

[6] Mr. S. Nepolean, learned senior counsel, advertng to the 'aforesaid representation' (hereinafter, 'said representation' for the sake

of convenience) submits that post representation, the issues raised thereat are being addressed by the State, one teacher has been transferred to said school and one construction has been made with the help of personal money of a good Samaritan officer and further steps are underway.

[7] Mr. Kh. Tarunkumar, learned senior counsel very fairly submitted that the afore-referred position is correct but much remains to be done.

[8] In the light of the narrative thus far, we deem it appropriate to direct R-1 {Commissioner (Education-School) Government of Manipur} to bestow his attention *qua* said representation, make a detailed report addressing the issues raised thereat capturing the steps taken thus far, the steps underway, steps contemplated with time frames for steps underway and contemplated (time frames with specificity)

[9] Disposal of said representation in the aforesaid manner shall be by way of a report drawn up by R-1 {Commissioner (Education-School) Government of Manipur} and this report shall be served on each of the PIL petitioners under due acknowledgment within a fortnight from today, *i.e.*, on or before 04.02.2026.

[10] PIL petitioners can work in coordination with respondents if need arises for steps underway and contemplated steps and if the progress is either unsatisfactory or even if the contents of the report are not satisfactory, it is open to the PIL petitioners to assail the same (though not 'assail' in the adversarial sense) and come to this Court and if such scenario unfurls, it may become necessary for this Court to embark upon a continuing mandamus legal drill.

[11] It is made clear that it is open to any other public spirited person also to come to this Court on the same issue *qua* the report to be drawn by R-1.

[12] Captioned Writ Petition, *i.e.*, PIL is given a closure and disposed of in the aforesaid manner albeit with afore-referred observations and preservation of rights in the aforesaid manner. There shall be no order as to costs.

JUDGE
Sandeep

CHIEF JUSTICE