

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

**MC(REVIEW PET.) No. 2 of 2026**

State of Manipur & 7 Ors.

... *Applicants*

- *Versus* -

Pheiroijam Heramani & 16 Ors.

... *Respondents*

With MC(REVIEW PET.) No. 27 of 2025  
With MC(REVIEW PET.) No. 28 of 2025  
With MC(REVIEW PET.) No. 29 of 2025  
With MC(REVIEW PET.) No. 3 of 2026  
With REVIEW PET. No. 33 of 2025  
With REVIEW PET. No. 34 of 2025  
With REVIEW PET. No. 35 of 2025  
With REVIEW PET. No. 37 of 2025  
With REVIEW PET. No. 38 of 2025  
With REVIEW PET. No. 39 of 2025

**B E F O R E**

**HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. M. SUNDAR  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE A. GUNESHWAR SHARMA**

**O R D E R**

*[M. Sundar, CJ]*

16.04.2026

[1] Mr. R. Venkataramani, learned Attorney General for India instructed by Mr. Kartikay Agrawal, learned counsel, Mr. Lenin Hijam, learned Advocate General of Manipur instructed by Mr. O. Ratankumar, learned State counsel, Mr. Dimalkumar Haobam, learned State counsel, Mr. I. Amri, learned State counsel, Ms.

Sharmila Rahman, learned State counsel, Mr. S. Chittaranjan, learned Additional Advocate General of Manipur for State of Manipur and Mr. Ch. Momon, learned standing counsel for State Election Commissioner, Manipur are before this Court (Physical Court).

[2] Mr. HS. Paonam, learned senior counsel instructed by Mr. A. Arunkumar, learned counsel on record for respondent Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 6 in Review Petition No. 33 of 2025, Ms. Ayangleima, learned counsel on record for respondent Nos. 11 to 17 in Review Petition No. 33 of 2025 and Mr. S. Biswajit, learned senior counsel instructed by Mr. Sanatomba, learned counsel on record and Mr. H. Pravirkumar, learned counsel on record for petitioners in Review Petition No. 37 of 2025, Review Petition No. 38 of 2025 and Review Petition No. 39 of 2025 are before this Court (Physical Court).

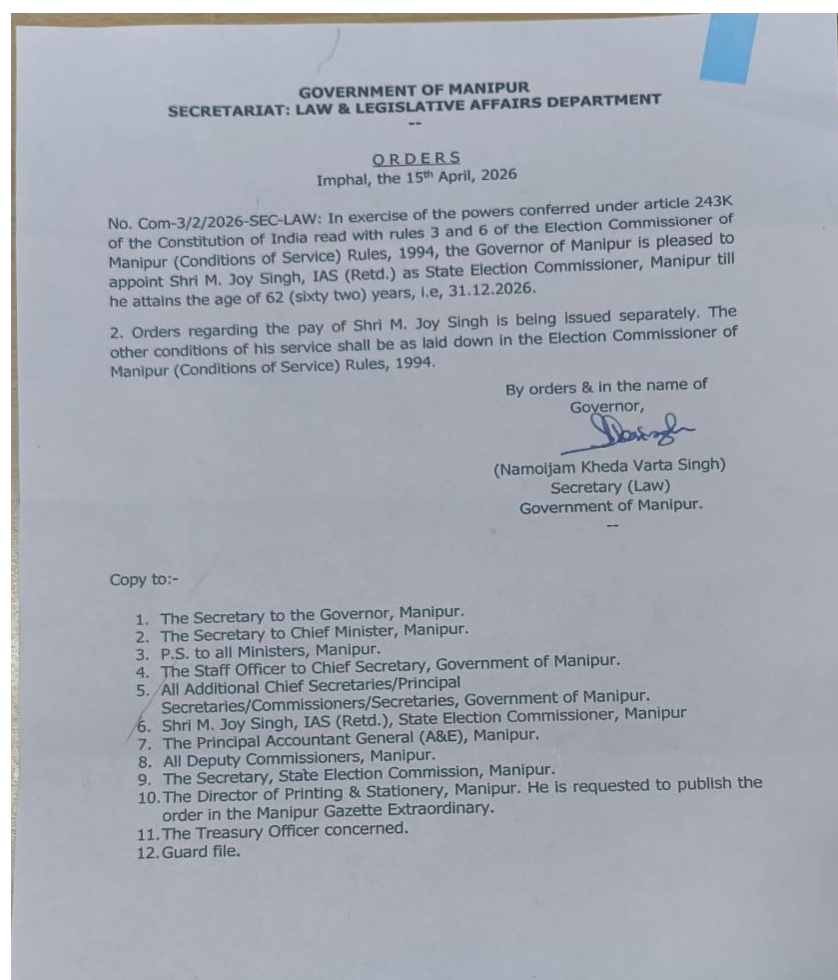
[3] Learned Attorney General for India continued and concluded his submissions.

[4] The following 2 (two) points which are relevant to legal drill at hand emerge:

- (i) there is an amendment to 'Manipur Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 (26 of 1994)' ('said Act' for the sake of brevity and convenience). In and vide this amendment 30 Sections i.e., Sections 110 to 139 have been added to the said Act and the same have been slotted under Chapter – VI.

These 30 Sections kicked in i.e. came into force on or from 22.02.2023;

- (ii) adverting to our earlier proceedings made in the listing on 13.03.2026, more particularly paragraph No. 5 thereat, learned Attorney General for India on instructions submitted that State Election Commissioner has since been appointed vide an order dated 15.04.2024 bearing reference No. Com-3/2/2026/SEC-LAW. A scanned reproduction of this order placed before this Court is as follows:



- [5] The following 3(three) points unfurled in the hearing:
- (i) as regards MC(REVIEW PET.) No. 2 of 2026 taken out by State, learned Advocate General of Manipur on instructions submitted that in limb No. (iii) of the prayer the expression '**till the conduct of fresh election**' is not being pressed and that the same can be treated as deleted. This submission is recorded and MC(REVIEW PET.) No. 2 of 2026 will now be considered on this basis;
  - (ii) advertng to sub-paragraph No. (x) of paragraph No. 64 of order dated 29.08.2025 (order sought to be reviewed), it was submitted by Mr. Ch. Momon, learned standing counsel for State Election Commissioner, Manipur that election for local bodies will positively be conducted within 6 (six) months from today i.e. on or before 16.10.2026. In this regard, it was further submitted by learned standing counsel that elections will be so conducted as per amended said Act more particularly the amendment qua tiers (3 tiers). It was also submitted by learned standing counsel for State Election Commissioner,

Manipur that determination of elected members as per Section 99 of the said Act would be done on the basis of 2011 Census. This submission made on instructions by learned standing counsel for State Election Commissioner, Manipur is recorded as a undertaking given to this Court. Be that as it may, learned standing counsel volunteered to file an affidavit of undertaking in this regard;

- (iii) advertent to sub-paragraph No. (xi) of paragraph No. 64 of the order that is sought to be reviewed i.e. common order dated 29.08.2025 in *W.A. No. 9 of 2024, W.A. No. 10 of 2024 and W.A. No. 11 of 2024*, learned Attorney General for India submitted on instructions that as regards the liberty given to State Government qua appointment of Administrative Committees for Gram Panchayats and Administrators for Zilla Parishads inter-alia vide Sections 22 and 92 respectively of said Act, the State Government has embarked upon the exercise and would complete the exercise as expeditiously as possible.

[6] As regards other aspects of the matter, adverting to proceedings made on 15.12.2025, more particularly Paragraph No. 4 thereat, it was submitted by learned Attorney General for India that though it was earlier submitted that the review is confined to four Sub-paragraphs of Paragraph No. 64 namely, sub-paragraph Nos. (viii) to (xi), it is now confined to sub-paragraph No. (x) besides touching upon sub-paragraph No. (xi) which read as follows:

*[64] In view of the above findings, observations and directions, we hold and direct as follows:*

- i) .....*
- ix) .....*
- x) The State Govt. is directed to conduct fresh election within a period of 6 months.*
- xi) Till the next election is conducted as directed in para (x) above, the State Govt. is at liberty to appoint fresh Administrative Committee for the Gram Panchayat and Administrator for Zilla Parishad in terms of the provisions of Section 22, Section 92 and Section 109 of the Manipur Panchayati Raj, Act 1994 for a period not exceeding 6 months.'*

[7] After conclusion of submissions of learned Attorney General for India and Mr. Ch. Momon, learned standing counsel for State Election Commissioner, Manipur, Mr. HS. Paonam, learned senior counsel instructed by Mr. A. Arunkumar, learned counsel on

record very fairly submitted that with regard to conduct of elections to local bodies within 6 (six) months from today about which there is allusion elsewhere supra in this order, he is on the same page and he supports the submissions made by learned standing counsel for State Election Commissioner, Manipur and this submission is recorded. To be noted, in this regard, Mr. S. Biswajit, learned senior counsel instructed by Mr. Sanatomba, learned counsel on record submitted that he also supports the submissions made by Mr. Ch. Momon, learned standing counsel for State Election Commissioner, Manipur and this submission is also recorded.

[8] Mr. HS. Paonam, learned senior counsel submitted that with regard to the liberty given to State Government vide Sub-paragraph No. (xi) of Paragraph No. 64 of the order sought to be reviewed and the exercise which State Government has embarked upon, he has some submissions to be made. Be that as it may, learned senior counsel submitted that the review itself is not maintainable and pressed into service oft quoted, celebrated **'Padma Sundara Rao & Ors. -vs- State of Tamil Nadu & Ors.'** **[(2002) 3 SCC 533]** and adverted to paragraph 15 thereof regarding cases on issues and as to when cases on issues which is a construction principle can be supplied by Court. **'Inderchand Jain -vs- Motilal'** **[(2009) 14 SCC 663]** was also relied upon and

paragraph 33 thereat was adverted to five principles propounded by Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding review jurisdiction.

[9] Thereafter the learned senior counsel expressed difficulty at his end in continuing submissions today/tomorrow and requested for rescheduling the captioned matter to another date.

[10] In the next listing, the affidavit alluded to supra in this order shall be filed by Mr. Ch. Momon, learned standing counsel for State Election Commissioner, Manipur and Mr. HS Paonam, learned senior counsel will continue and conclude his submissions followed by Mr. S. Biswajit, learned senior counsel and reply, if any, on behalf of State.

[11] List under cause list caption 'PART HEARD' on 28.04.2026.

**JUDGE**

**CHIEF JUSTICE**

*Bipin*