

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF MANI PUR
AT IMPHAL**

WP(C) No. 577 of 2024

Rajesh Thakur & 10 ors.

Petitioners

Vs.

State of Manipur

Respondent

**BEFORE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AHANTHEM BIMOL SINGH**

21.08.2024.

Heard Mr. M. Rakesh, learned counsel appearing for the petitioners; and Mr. H. Samarjit, learned G.A. appearing for the respondent.

In view of the limited prayer made on behalf of the petitioners and as agreed to by both the parties, the present writ petition is being disposed of at the motion stage itself.

At the outset, Mr. M. Rakesh, learned counsel appearing for the petitioners, submitted that as per the relevant rules viz., the Manipur Inner Line Permit Guidelines, 2019, the petitioners have to get Inner Line Permit to carry on business in the State of Manipur. It has been submitted that in terms of the provision of the said guidelines, the petitioners have got Inner Line Permit and thereafter, extension also. According to the learned counsel, the extension can be granted twice by the competent authority as provided in the said guidelines and thereafter, for further extension of the Inner Line Permit, Home Department is the competent authority.

According to the petitioners, as the period of Inner Line Permit has expired or are going to expire soon, they approached the Home Department with a request for extension of the period of their Inner Line Permits, however, they have been informed by the Home Department that the State Government has taken

a decision not to extend the Inner Line Permit with regard to the Barbers. Since all the petitioners are barbers carrying on their business in the State of Manipur, they have approached the Commissioner (Home), Government of Manipur, by submitting a representation dated 07.08.2024 with a request for extending the period of their Inner Line Permit. However, the said representation is lying without any consideration.

The learned counsel appearing for the petitioners submitted that the present writ petition can be disposed of by issuing a simple direction to the Commissioner (Home), Government of Manipur, to consider the said representation dated 07.08.2024 submitted by the present petitioners and to dispose of the same by issuing an appropriate order strictly in terms of the applicable rules and guidelines within a stipulated period. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioners further submitted that pending consideration and disposal of the representation submitted by the petitioners, the authorities may be directed not to take any coercive action against the petitioners.

Mr. H. Samarjit, learned G.A. appearing for the respondent, fairly submitted that as the prayer of the petitioners is confined to the consideration and disposal of the representation dated 07.08.2024 submitted by the petitioners, he has no objection in disposing of the present writ petition as prayed for by the learned counsel appearing for the petitioners.

After hearing the submission advanced by the learned counsel appearing for the parties, this Court is of the considered view that interests of justice will be served by disposing of the present writ petition with the following directions:-

- (i) The Commissioner (Home), Government of Manipur is directed to consider the representation dated 07.08.2024 submitted by the petitioner on its own merit and strictly in terms of the applicable guidelines and to dispose of the same by passing appropriate orders as deem fit and proper;

- (ii) The process for consideration of the said representation and disposal of the same shall be completed within a period of 6(six) weeks from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order; and
- (iii) Pending consideration and disposal of the said representation, the respondents are directed not to take any coercive action against the present petitioners.

With the aforesaid directions, the present writ petition is disposed of.

JUDGE

Indrajeet