

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

**WP(C) No. 379 of 2026 with
MC(WP(C)) No. 402 of 2026**

Laishangbam Binarani Devi

... *Petitioner*

- *Versus* -

State of Manipur and 3 Ors.

... *Respondents*

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

ORDER

02.06.2026

[1] Heard Mr. Ajoy Pebam, learned counsel along with Mr. L. Karnajit, learned counsel for the petitioner and Mr. Th. Sukumar, learned GA for the State respondents.

[2] By the present petition, the petitioner, who is a Female Health Worker (FHW) employee under the Govt. of Manipur approaches this Court for a direction to include the post of FHW as a feeder cadre for promotion to the post of Food Safety Officer (FSO) which is under consideration in the Draft Recruitment Rules for the post of Food Safety Officer. It is submitted that along with other feeder post, the Departments have suggested inclusion of the Male Health Worker as a feeder post for promotion to the FSO and FHW has been left out from consideration.

[3] When the matter was taken up on 27.05.2026, Mr. Th. Sukumar, learned GA prayed for 3(three) days' time for filing complete draft recruitment rules as the same is not annexed in the petition. The petitioner has also filed an additional affidavit bringing on record the complete draft recruitment rules for FSO.

[4] When the matter is listed today, Mr. Th. Sukumar, learned GA places on record a letter dated June, 2026 written by Director of Health Services,

Manipur to the Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Health & FW), Govt. of Manipur in connection with the present petition intimating that since no representation has been received from the FHWs, their name could not be included as one of the feeder posts for promotion in the draft recruitment rules and if such representation is made, the same can be considered as per applicable rules and the scan copy of the letter dated June, 2026 is reproduced herein below:

GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR
DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES

No.WP(C)No. 379/2026-DHS:

Imphal, the June, 2026

To

The Commissioner-cum- Secretary (Health & FW),
Government of Manipur.

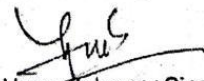
Subject : W.P.(C) No. 379 of 2026
Smt. Laishanbam Binarani Devi
-vs-
The State of Manipur & 3 Ors.- Reg.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to Department of Public Prosecutor-cum-Government Advocate (High Court), Manipur letter No. 102/226(K)/2026-GA(C) dated 27/05/2026 (copy enclosed) on the above subject, I am to furnish the following replies:

- (i) The posts of Female Health Worker and Male Health Worker are not Graduate level posts (RRs enclosed).
- (ii) As per this Directorate Notification No. 1/PROMO(III)/2022-DHS dated 24/02/2026 (copy enclosed), claims / suggestions were invited to the draft MPSC Form-8 for amendments of the Recruitment Rules of the post of Food Safety Officer (FSO) within a stipulated time period. Accordingly, Male Health Workers and Multipurpose Workers had submitted their claims for inclusion in the feeder posts of FSO vide letter dated 27/02/2026. No other claims / suggestions from other posts were received during the stipulated time period.
- (iii) The post of Female Health Worker/ANM exists under Health Department, Manipur. However, no claims were received from the said post during the stipulated time period and as such the post of Female Health Worker was not included as one of the feeder posts in the proposed amendments of the Recruitment Rules of the post of Food Safety Officer.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. N. Hemantakumar Singh)
Director of Health Services, Manipur

Copy to:

1. Addl. Government Advocate (High Court), Manipur
2. Guard file.

[5] At this stage, Mr. Ajoy Pebam, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the writ petition may be disposed of by directing the State respondents to consider the prayer no. 'd)' i.e. about consideration of the

petitioner representation dated 26.03.2026 for including FHW (Paramedics) as feeder cadre for promotion to the post of FSO and the prayer no. 'd)' & the scan copy of representation dated 26.03.2026 are reproduced below:

"d) to issue a writ in the nature of mandamus directing the Respondent No. 3 to consider the Forwarding Letter dated 19/05/2026 - of the Respondent No. 4 along with representation dated 26th March, 2026 of the Petitioner and submit a fresh proposal by including the post of the Female Health Worker (FHW) as feeder post in the new proposed amendment of the Recruitment Rules of the Food Safety Officer under Manipur Health Services, Manipur."

&

To,

The Director,
Family Welfare Services,
Govt. of Manipur.

Date: 26th March, 2026

Through proper channel

Subject: Humble Request for Inclusion of Female Health Workers in the Existing new Amendment of Recruitment Rules for Promotion to the Post of Food Safety Officer.

Sir,

With due respect, I would like to submit that, as per Secretariat Health Department Letter No. MED-301/6/2021-HS-Health Part (1) dated 20th February 2026, it has been clarified that certain posts such as Dietician, UDC, Computer Operator, and Office Assistant are permitted to apply for promotion to the post of Food Safety Officer.

Prior to the issuance of the above-mentioned memorandum, all medical staff/employees eligible to apply for the said post, provided they fulfilled the prescribed qualification were criteria. However, the recent clarification appears to exclude existing Female Health Workers (Paramedics) from the promotion process. This exclusion seems restrictive and not in the interest of fairness, especially when the concerned staff possess the required qualifications and relevant field experience.

I would like to bring to your kind notice that, many of our colleagues, both presently and previously, have completed or are currently pursuing the One-Year Diploma Course in Food Safety and Quality Management through online/distance mode, with the objective of becoming eligible for the post of Food Safety Officer.

In view of the above, I humbly request your good office to kindly consider and grant permission to include existing **Female Health Worker (Paramedics)** in the new amendment and recruitment to the promotion process for the post of Food Safety Officer.

I hope for your favourable consideration in ensuring equal opportunity and justice for all eligible health staffs.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

Enclosed:

1. Relevant documents.

L. Binarani Devi
(L. Binarani Devi)

Female Health Worker
Family Welfare Department

[6] The learned GA for the State respondents submits that this Court may pass appropriate order to the alternate prayer of the petitioner in view of the proposal submitted by the Director of Health Services, Manipur to the Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Health & FW), Govt. of Manipur.

[7] This Court has perused the materials on record and is of the view that writ petition can be disposed of at this stage by giving a direction to the State respondents with respect to prayer no. 'd' read with the letter dated June, 2026 reproduced above.

[8] Accordingly, WP(C) No. 379 of 2026 is disposed of by directing the State respondents to consider the representation dated 26.03.2026 submitted by the petitioner to the Director of Family Welfare Services, Govt. of Manipur and forwarded to the Director of Health Services, Manipur vide letter dated 19.05.2026 while finalizing the draft recruitment rules of the Food Safety Officer as per rules and in parity with the other proposed feeder cadre.

[9] MC(WP(C)) No.402 of 2026 is also disposed of, accordingly.

[10] It is made clear that this Court does not express any opinion on the merit of the case and the State respondents have to pass a decision as per applicable rules.

JUDGE

Thoiba