

Sl. 1(suppl.)

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

PIL No.9 of 2026

K. Lamneithang Vaiphei, aged about 49 years S/o K Lalkhochuan,
resident of S. Kotlian, Kangvai Sub Division, PO Tuibong, P.S.
Churachandpur, Manipur-795128.

... Petitioner

- Versus -

1. Union of India, represented by the Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs North Block New Delhi-110001.
2. The State of Manipur, represented by the Chief Secretary, Government of Manipur, Secretariat Mantripukhri, Imphal East, Manipur-795001.
3. The Commissioner/Secretary (Home) Secretariat Mantripukhri, Manipur, Imphal East, Manipur-795001.
4. The Deputy Commissioner, Churachandpur Manipur Bethel, Churachandpur-795128.

... Respondents

B E F O R E
HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. M. SUNDAR
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE A. BIMOL SINGH

JUDGMENT & ORDER
[Oral]

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

11.06.2026

[1] The following abbreviations/short forms/short references are used in this order (for the sake of brevity, convenience and clarity):

Sl. No.	Abbreviation/Short Form/reference for convenience	Full Form/Expansion
1.	PiL	Public Interest Litigation
2.	IDP	Internally Displaced Person
3.	IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
4.	JIDP	Joint Internally Displaced Person.
5.	RTI Act	The Right to Information Act, 2005 (22 of 2005)
6.	RTI	Right to Information
7.	OMs	Office Memoranda
8.	OM	Office Memorandum
9.	R1	Denotes Respondent No.1 and similar abbreviations and short forms are used for the other respondents also.

[2] Captioned PiL has been presented in this Court yesterday (10.06.2026).

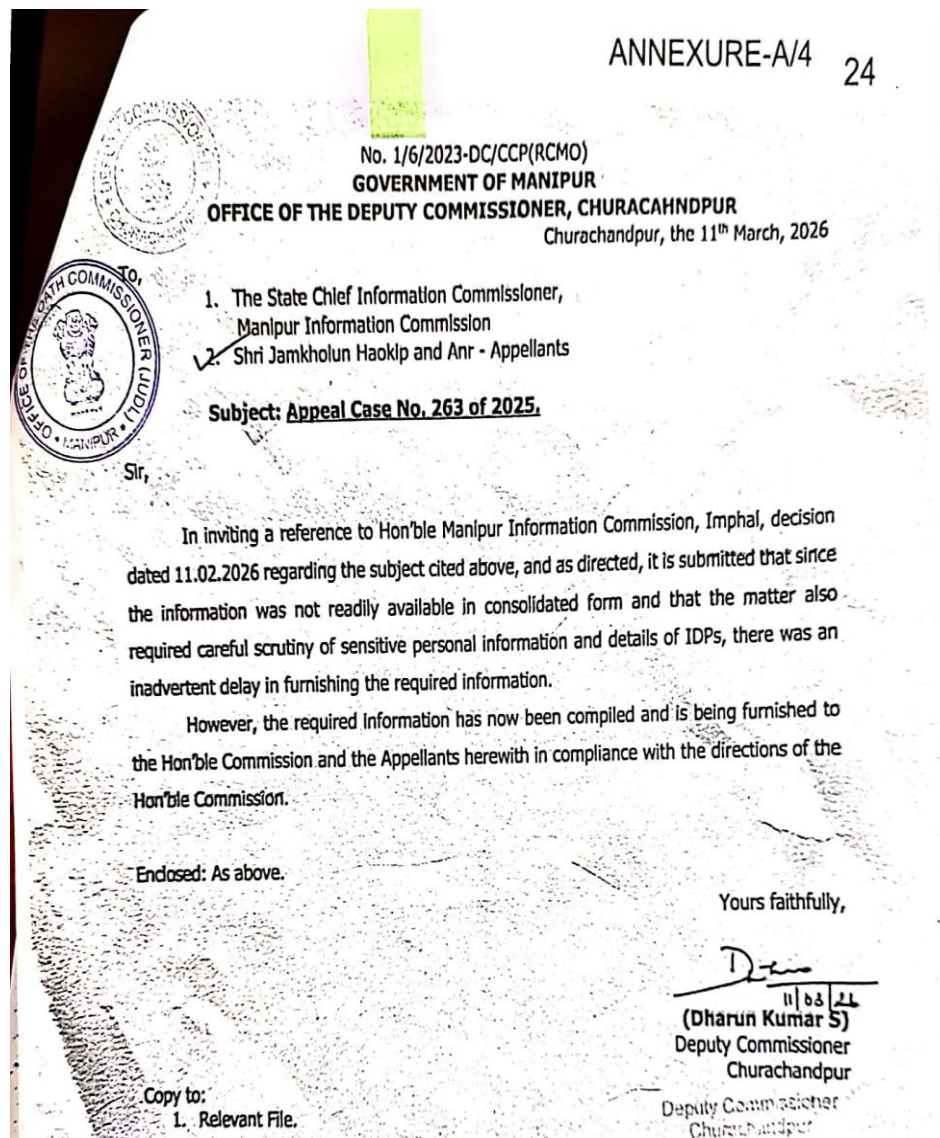
[3] PiL petitioner who is a teacher (Principal of a School) with a post Graduate degree and a Doctorate is concerned for IDPs in Manipur who are not living in camps. The protagonist of the captioned

PiL has chosen to describe the IDPs who are not living in camp as 'non-camped IDPs' in contra distinction to IDPs who are living in camps who have been described by PiL petitioner as 'camped IDPs'.

[4] In the hearing today, Mr. Serto T Kom, learned counsel along with Ms. Deborah L.S. Serto, learned counsel on record for PiL petitioner is before this Court (physical Court).

[5] Learned counsel for PiL petitioner draws the attention of this Court to an 'OM dated 24.10.2025 bearing reference No. H-1701/114/2023-HD-HD' ('said OM' for the sake of convenience) issued by R2 and submits that there is an earlier OM dated 09.06.2023 bearing reference No.H-1701/114/2023-HD-HD. Learned counsel submits that under the earlier OM, guidelines were issued *inter-alia* for providing relief materials such as rice, dal, water and other essential items in kind to IDPs in relief camps. Now under the said OM, there is a modification and vide the modification the exercise of providing relief materials have been stopped w.e.f. 31.10.2025, on from 01.11.2025, a Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to the bank accounts of the head of the family of IDPs at the rate of Rs. 84 per person per day is being made is learned counsel's say. Learned counsel further submits that the non-camped IDPs have not received benefits under both OMs. Learned counsel submits that another public spirited individual concerned for the non-camped IDPs made a RTI query and obtained details of number of IDP

households not residing in relief camp (non-camped IDPs), gender wise breakup, details of fund sanction by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), camp wise/localities wise break up of fund allocation and details of ration and relief distribution. This is in the form of a annexure to a communication dated 11.03.2026 from R4 and a scanned reproduction of this communication and annexure are as follows:





**JOINT INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (JIDP),
CHURACHANDPUR**

C/o Mrs. Thangthatling Hmar, Khawmawi Village,
Tulibong Block, Churachandpur - 795128, Manipur
Contact Nos.: 7085186480 / 8413946200 / 9862100647
Email: jointidpccp@gmail.com

Ref. No.: JIDP/CCP/26/01

Dated, the 25th February 2026

To
Shri Y. Khemchand Singh
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur

Subject: Submission of grievances of non-camped Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Churachandpur for kind redressal and necessary orders.

Hon'ble Sir,

We, the undersigned, the representatives of the various groups of IDPs currently taking shelter in Churachandpur have the pleasure to congratulate you for successfully forming a popular government in our strife-torn state which requires an urgent soothing and healing touch.

That, there are more than 35,000 IDPs taking shelter in Churachandpur District. Out of this population more than half of them are not in the government managed relief camps. The reasons being, no sufficient space for all the displaced persons in the relief camps and some of them having their own valid reasons to stay outside the camps. Therefore it is needless to justify that all non-camped IDPs are not well off families but they have been compelled to stay outside the camps due to reasons such as - lack of available space, intolerance to overcrowding, inadequate facilities, health factor, religious practice factor, lack of privacy and diet factor etc.

It is therefore incorrect to assume that all non-camped IDPs as better off families who could manage themselves. In fact they suffered more hardships than the camped inmates as they have to manage their own food and lodging themselves. It is more of a circumstantial situation that many IDPs did not stay in the designated camps. In the real sense of comparison they are the ones who required more assistance than those who are in the camps looked after by the Government authority.

On the contrary the camped IDPs are provided food, lodging, cash and kind benefits while non-camped IDPs have been rudely ignored and neglected. We are not against the assistance provided to the camped IDPs but we rather felt that we have been totally sidelined and ill-treated. During the long almost three years period of

(Signature)
08/02/2026
(GINSIAN LAL NAULAK)
Oath Commissioner (Judicial)
Churachandpur, Manipur

TRUE COPY
(Signature)
Advocate



displacement not a single paise, not a kilogram of foodgrain nor any kind of material assistance has been provided to the non-camped IDPs in Churachandpur.

It is therefore our appeal that cash and kind assistance in the form of interim relief, students grant, medical assistance, funeral assistance, housing grant or whatever assistance meant for IDPs must be provided to the non-camped IDPs with retrospective effect from May 2023. Any further delay would amount to serious negligence to a vulnerable section that is in dire need of humanitarian support.

We therefore implore your honour to direct the concerned departments and authorities to take immediate actions to implement the necessary relief, rehabilitation, and compensation measures outlined above. Timely action at this juncture will not only restore faith in the governance process but also reaffirm the commitment of the State to justice, equity, and the welfare of its citizens—especially the most vulnerable section. If this appeal is not considerable or if there is any directives from the government for not providing any assistance to the non-camped IDPs we may be kindly communicated.

With sincere regards and profound hope in your leadership,

Signatories:

1. Dr R. Sanga
Chairman, Zomi IDPs

2. Shri L. Thangmuan Ngaihte
Secretary, Zomi IDPs

3. Dr. Vumkhoneh Haokip
Chairman, IDPWCC

4. Shri Reuben Haokip
Secretary, IDPWCC

5. Dr John Pulamte
Convenor, Hmar IDPs

6. Smt. Thangthatling
Co-convenor, Hmar IDPs

08/06/2026
(GINSIANLAL NAULAK)
Oath Commissioner (Judicial)
Churachandpur, Manipur

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Advocate




7. Shri Zabiaksang
Chairman, Vaiphei IDPs



8. Shri Louis Baite
Secretary, Vaiphei IDPs



9. Shri K.C Charles – Chairman, Mizo IDPs

Copy to:

1. The Chief Secretary, Government of Manipur
2. The Deputy Commissioner, Churachandpur
3. The Chairman, Kuki Zo Council, Manipur
4. Local Dailies

Dated 08/06/2026
 (GINSIANLAL NAULAK)
 Oath Commissioner (Judicial)
 Churachandpur, Manipur

TRUE COPY
 Advocate

[7] Learned counsel for PiL petitioner submits that protagonist of the captioned PiL who is concerned for non-camped IDPs is aware that JIDP is awaiting a response to the afore-referred 2(two) representations and that has necessitated the filing of the captioned PiL.

[8] Issue notice.

[9] Mr. Boboy Potsangbam, learned Central Government Standing Counsel (CGSC) who is before this Court on Video Conferencing (VC) platform and Mr. Satish Kh., learned counsel who is

in the physical Court and who is assisting learned CGSC accepts notice for R1. Mr. Dimal Kumar Haobam, learned State counsel who is present in Court (physical Court) accepts notice for R2 to R4 and Mr. Lenin Hijam, learned senior advocate and learned Advocate General (AG) for the State of Manipur who is before this Court on the Video Conferencing (VC) platform is appearing on behalf of learned State counsel Mr. Dimal Kumar Haobam.

[10] Learned AG for State of Manipur very fairly submitted that as regards IDPs, the approach of the State is pan Manipur and complete parity is the principle on which the issue pertaining to IDPs pan Manipur is being approached.

[11] In the light of the narrative thus far, this Court deems it pertinent to make it clear that the captioned PiL is not adversarial and that the PiL petitioner is an informant/public spirited individual, deems it appropriate to direct R4 to consider the aforesaid representation dated 25.02.2026, and send a response to PiL petitioner (though representation has been sent by JIDP) broadly setting out the measures taken/done thus far *qua* non-camped IDPs and also take further steps, if necessary. To be noted, the afore-referred representations have been signed by 9(nine) individuals and as already alluded to *supra*, it has been sent by JIDP and PiL petitioner is not one of the signatories to the representations.

[12] Learned counsel for PiL petitioner submits that JIDP is an unincorporated AoP (to be noted, 'AoP' stands for 'Association of Persons'). Learned counsel also submits that the response to be sent by R4 *qua* the afore-referred representation to the PiL petitioner will be treated as response sent to all the 9(nine) signatories and JIDP. This submission is recorded.

[13] This Court deems it appropriate to write that besides R4 responding to the aforesaid representation in the aforesaid manner, R2 and other authorities concerned shall consider the matter on a pan Manipur perspective *qua* all IDPs as fairly pointed out by learned AG.

[14] This Court directs R4 to dispose of the aforesaid representation dated 25.02.2026 in the aforesaid manner keeping in mind the 2(two) OMs but on the merits of the representation (on its own merits) and in accordance with law as expeditiously as the official business of R4 would permit but in any event within 10(ten) weeks from today i.e., on or before 07.09.2026, the detailed response to the representation from R4 shall be communicated to PiL petitioner under due acknowledgement within 10(ten) working days from date of response.

[15] Before concluding, this Court deems it appropriate to make it clear that post response in the aforesaid manner if the PiL petitioner or any other person/s concerned for the matter has any

further issue to be ventilated, it is open to such person/s to come to this Court on this issue, more particularly pertaining non-camped IDPs.

[16] In the light of the order we have made, there is no direct role for R1 at present. However, with regard to fund allocations if any input is required from R1 and if it is sought by R4, then needful shall be done.

[17] Captioned PiL is disposed of in the aforesaid manner. There shall be no order as to costs.

JUDGE

CHIEF JUSTICE

John Kom

P.S. I : Upload forthwith

P.S. II : All concerned will stand bound by web copy uploaded in High Court website *inter-alia* as the same is QR coded.