

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

Arb. P. (J2) No. 1 of 2024

The Loktak Development Authority; & Ors.

Petitioner

Vs.

M/S K. Pro Infra Works Private Limited

Respondent

BEFORE
HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. SIDDHARTH MRIDUL

ORDER

27.06.2024

Mr. H. Kenajit, learned counsel, appears on behalf of the petitioners.

The present arbitration petition under Sub-Section (6) of Section 11 read with Section 15 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 in sum and substance, seeks a direction from this Court, to appoint a substitute Sole Arbitrator in place of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Navin Sinha (Retired Judge) of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, who was appointed as the Sole Arbitrator by this Court *vide* order dated 31.01.2023; and who has subsequently addressed a communication dated 12.05.2024, informing the counsel for the parties that he is disinclined to proceed any further with the subject arbitration between the parties.

Notice.

Mr. Mohith Reddy and Mr. Ch. Momon, learned counsel, accept notice on behalf of the respondent and state that they do not wish to file a reply.

Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the parties, on instructions from the latter, in unison state before this Court that a retired Judge of the Hon'ble

Supreme Court of India may be appointed by this Court as the Sole Arbitrator to continue the arbitration proceeding and complete the same in accordance with law.

It is further submitted on behalf of the counsel for the parties that the arbitration proceedings may commence from the time till the date of the first arbitration hearing by the newly appointed Sole Arbitrator while reckoning the time stipulated under section 29-A of the said Act, for making of the arbitration award.

In view of the foregoing and with the consent of the parties, **Justice Vineet Saran, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India, 65 Lodhi Estate, New Delhi – 110003 (Phone No. – 01121420761; Mobile No. – 7897420209; email : vineetsaranjustice@gmail.com,** is accordingly appointed as the Sole Arbitrator to continue the arbitration proceedings, which shall needless to state, be governed by the provision of Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.

With the above directions, the present arbitration petition is disposed of.

A copy of this order be sent to Hon'ble sole arbitrator by email as well, as well as to the counsel for the parties.

CHIEF JUSTICE

Sandeep