Abujam Surjit Singh
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Item No.1-4

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MANIPUR
AT IMPHAL

CONT.CAS(C) No. 104 of 2026
With
MC(Review. Petn.) No.13 of 2026
With
Review.Petn. No.7 of 2026
With
MC(CONT.CAS(C)) No.82 of 2026

Dr. Bhabeshwar Tongbram, aged about 61 years, S/o(Late) T. Krishna Singh of Sagolband Kangabam Leikai, P.O.& P.S, Imphal, Imphal West District, Manipur-795001.

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Petitioner/s

Vs.

1. Shri Ningthoujam Geoffrey IAS, Commissioner (Higher Technical Education), Government of Manipur, New Secretariate Building, Mantripukhri, P.O. Mantripukhri,. P.S. Heingang, Imphal East, Manipur-795002.
2. Shri Ajoy Kumar Balla, the Chancellor, Manipur Technical University, Lok Bhawan, Manipur, P.O.& P.S. Imphal, Imphal West District, Manipur-795001.
3. Shri Ramananda Nongmeikapam, Registrar, Manipur Technical University, Government of Manipur, Polytechnic Campus, Takyelpat, P.O.& P.S. Lamphel, Imphal West District, Manipur-795004.
4. Professor W. Chandbabu Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Manipur Technical University, Government of Manipur, Polytechnic Campus, Takyelpat, P.O.& P.S. Lamphel, Imphal West District, Manipur-795004.

Respondent/s

BEFORE
HON'BLE Mr. JUSTICE A. GUNESHWAR SHARMA

Counsel for Petitioner	Mr. N. Ibotombi, Sr., Advocate assisted by Mr. N. Leo, Advocate.
Counsel for respondent	Mr. Lenin Hijam, Advocate General assisted by Mr. Dimal Kumar; Dr. R.K Deepak, Sr. Advocate assisted by Mr. L. Rajesh, Advocate.
Date of final hearing.	**04.11.2026.**
Date of Judgment.	**04.11.2026**

ORDER(Oral)

04.11.2026.

[1] Present Mr. N. Ibotombi, learned senior counsel assisted by Mr. N. Leo, learned counsel on behalf of the petitioner; Mr. Lenin Hijam, learned AG assisted by Mr. Dimal Kumar, learned Jr. Government counsel along with Dr. R.K. Deepak, learned senior counsel assisted by Mr. L. Rajesh, learned counsel on behalf of the respondent Nos. 3 & 4 and Ms. Jyotsana, leaned counsel on behalf of Mr. M. Devananda, learned Addl. AG for respondent No.1.

[2] On 05.10.2026, this Court issued notice only to respondent Nos.1, 3 & 4. This Court has not issued notice to respondent No.2.

[3] Ms. Jyotsana, learned counsel appearing for respondent No.1 submitted that respondent No.1 is not involved in the present case and has been impleaded merely as a formal party. When the matter was taken up yesterday i.e., 03.11.2026, this Court considering the contents of Para 23 of the order dated 05.08.2026 in WP(C) No.91 of 2026 which is reproduced as follows:

> *[23] As held above, this Court passes the following directions:*
>
> *I. WP(C) No. 91 of 2026 is partly allowed.*

II. Decision of the Chancellor of MTU in order dated 22.08.2025, especially para 12 & 13 to the effect that the petitioner, Dr. Bhabeswar Tongbram, does not have requisite qualification, is set aside; as administrative decision on the same issue is merged with and erased by later judicial findings in order dated 27.10.2025 in WP(C) No. 805 of 2021.

III. Petitioner is reinstated to the post of VC, MTU with immediate effect till 07.11.2026 or till he attains the age of 70 years, whichever earlier, in terms of his original appointment order dated 08.11.2021. In-charge VC of MTU [i.e., VC of DMU] is directed to hand over the charge of VC of MTU to the petitioner.

IV. The enquiry in terms of directions in letter dated 16.01.2026 of Hon'ble Governor of Manipur can continue, except for the term of references mentioned in paras 2.3, 2.4 & 2.5 of Notification dated 12.02.2026 issued by Commissioner (Hr. & Tech. Education), Government of Manipur in view of judicial findings in order dated 27.10.2025 in WP(C) No. 805 of 2021 on these points.

V. Notice dated 23.01.2026 issued by Commissioner (Hr. & Tech. Education), Government of Manipur to the petitioner for deposing before the Enquiry Committee is in the nature of a summon to witness and does not suffer from any infirmity.'

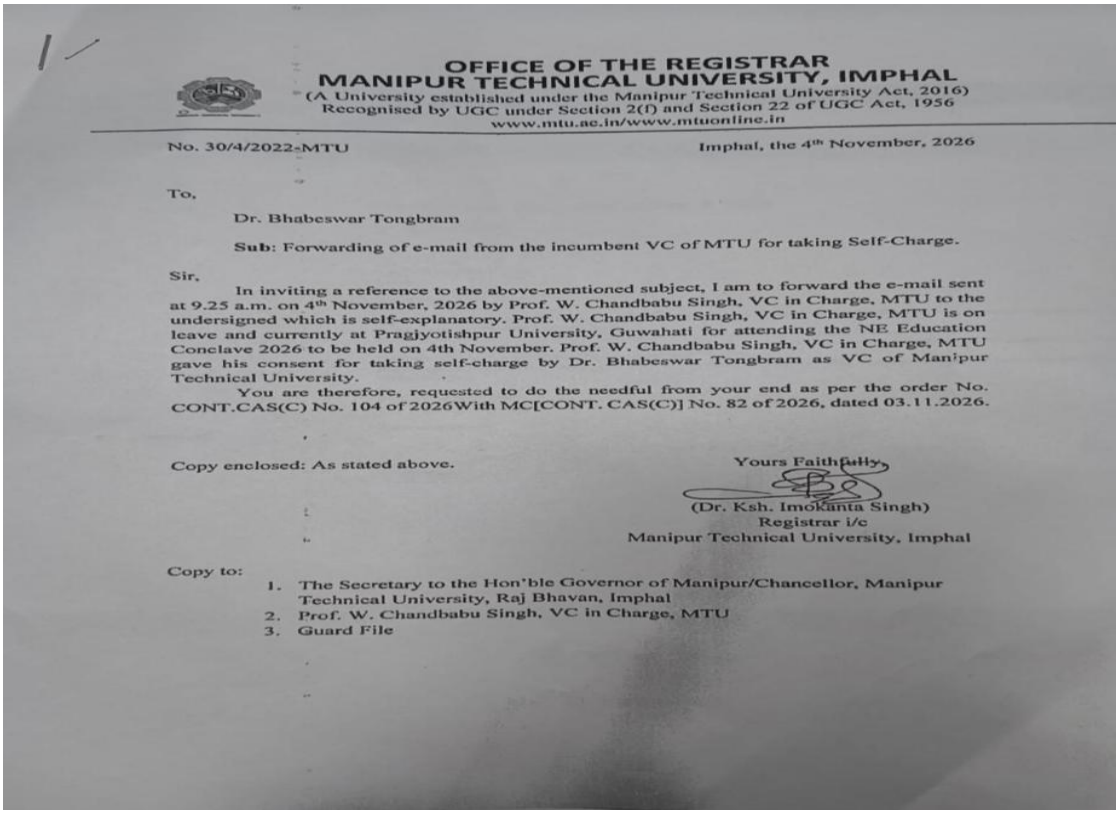
directed the respondent No.4 herein to handover the charge of Vice-Chancellor, Manipur Technical University (MTU) to the petitioner Dr. Bhabeshwar Tongbram today in terms of Para 23(III) supra, failing which charge would be framed against the respondent No.4 (Dr. W. Chandbabu), Vice-Chancellor, Dhanamanjuri University and (In-Charge) Vice-Chancellor, MTU in terms of order dated 03.11.2026.

[4] Mr. Lenin Hijam, learned AG for the State respondent No.2 hands over a copy of the letter dated 04.11.2026 written by (In-Charge) Registrar, MTU to the petitioner (Dr. Bhabeswar Tongbram) intimating him to take same charge of Vice-Chancellor, MTU today in pursuant to an e-mail sent by (In-Charge) Vice-

Chancellor, MTU i.e., respondent No.4 herein. The scanned copy of the letter dated dated 04.11.2026

and e-mail are reproduced as follows:

a) Letter dated 04.11.2026:



OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR
MANIPUR TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY, IMPHAL
(A University established under the Manipur Technical University Act, 2016)
Recognised by UGC under Section 2(f) and Section 22 of UGC Act, 1956
www.mtu.ac.in/www.mtuonline.in

No. 30/4/2022-MTU

Imphal, the 4th November, 2026

To,

Dr. Bhabeswar Tongbram

Sub: Forwarding of e-mail from the incumbent VC of MTU for taking Self-Charge.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to the above-mentioned subject, I am to forward the e-mail sent at 9.25 a.m. on 4th November, 2026 by Prof. W. Chandbabu Singh, VC in Charge, MTU to the undersigned which is self-explanatory. Prof. W. Chandbabu Singh, VC in Charge, MTU is on leave and currently at Pragjyotishpur University, Guwahati for attending the NE Education Conclave 2026 to be held on 4th November. Prof. W. Chandbabu Singh, VC in Charge, MTU gave his consent for taking self-charge by Dr. Bhabeswar Tongbram as VC of Manipur Technical University.

You are therefore, requested to do the needful from your end as per the order No. CONT.CAS(C) No. 104 of 2026With MC[CONT. CAS(C)] No. 82 of 2026, dated 03.11.2026.

Copy enclosed: As stated above.

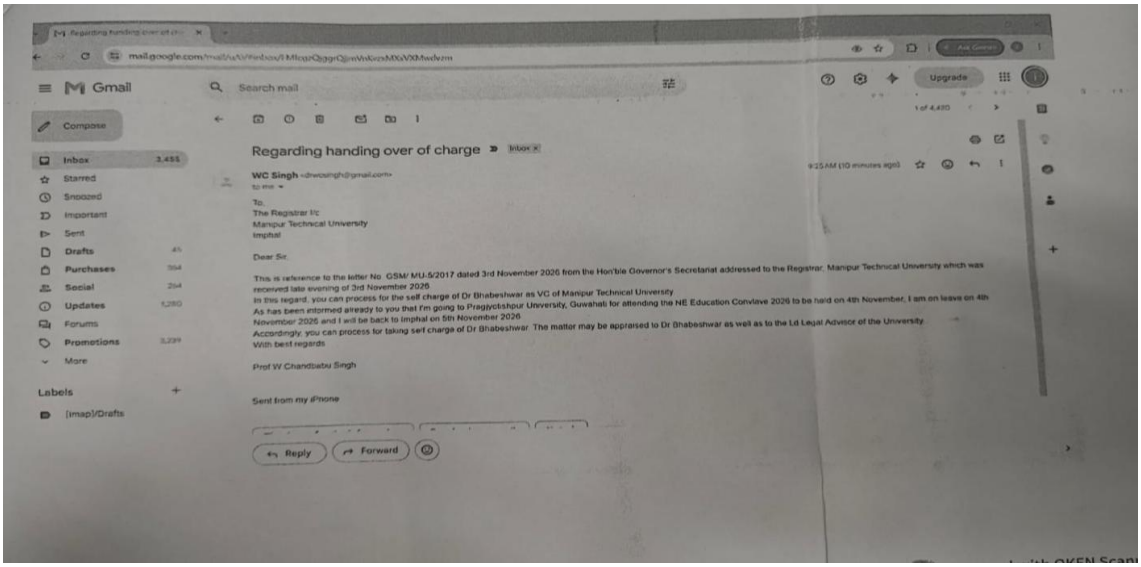
Yours Faithfully,

(Dr. Ksh. Imokanta Singh)
Registrar i/c
Manipur Technical University, Imphal

Copy to:

1. The Secretary to the Hon'ble Governor of Manipur/Chancellor, Manipur Technical University, Raj Bhavan, Imphal
2. Prof. W. Chandbabu Singh, VC in Charge, MTU
3. Guard File

b) e-mail



[5] Learned AG submitted that in view of the letter dated 04.11.2026 and subsequent of taking over the charge of Vice-Chancellor by the petitioner herein, the cause of the contempt petition does not survive and it may be closed. Mr. N. Ibotombi, learned senior counsel fairly submitted that the contempt petition may be closed in terms of the compliance letter dated 04.11.2026 issued by in-charge, Registrar, MTU. Accordingly, the letter is taken on record.

[6] Considering the subsequent events of compliance as reflected in letter dated 04.11.2026, the present contempt petition is closed as infructuous.

[7] Present Contempt Petition No.104 of 2026 stands closed and MC(CONT.CAS(C)) No.82 of 2026 is also closed.

[8] List the remaining matters i.e., MC(Review. Petn.) No.13 of 2026 and Revew. Petn. No.7 of 2026 on 18.11.2026 for taking instruction.

JUDGE

Ab. Surjit