Item No. 8

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MANIPUR
AT IMPHAL

WP(C) No. 857 of 2026

1. Rituwm Salvation, aged about 38 years old, S/o Rt. Ngamlun Anal, resident of Larong Khullen Village, Chandel Sub-Division, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur. (Chief of Larong Khullen Village, Chandel District).
2. Singul Larson Anal, aged about 45 years, S/o. Singul Voltung of Lambung Village, P.O & P.S. Chandel, District, Chandel, Manipur.
3. TS Beton Anal, aged about 71 years old, S/o. (L) TS. Bethung Anal of Kanankhu Village, P.O & P.S. Chandel, District, Chandel, Manipur- 795127.
4. Angson Hulang@HL Angson, Chief of Beru Khudam Village, Chandel District, about 52 years old, S/o Moreh of Bero Khudam Village, Chandel, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur-795127.
5. RD Chavan, Chief of Vomku/Womku Village of Chandel, of Vomku/Wombu Village, Chandel, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Mnaipur-795127.
6. HT Thuwnhring, Chief of Anal Khullen Village of Chandel, of Anal Khullen village, Chandel, P.O & P.S, Chandel, ChandelDistrict, Manipur-795127.
7. Tonsing Lovejoy Anal, Chief of Larong Khullen village, of Larong khullen village, Chandel, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur- 795127.

8. Tonsing Rungwar, Chief of Cheengkhu Village, of Cheengkhu village, Chandel, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur-795127.

9. Nula Kono Anal, Chief of Lamphou Pasna Village, of Lamphou Pasna village, Chandel, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur-795127.
10. Pashel Iraband, chief of Y. Khutha Village, of Khutha village, Chandel, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur-795127.
11. SNG Lumdil chief of L. Thangkamm village og L.Thangkam village Chandel, P.O & P.S Chandel District, Manipur-795127.
12. Langhu Rockson Anal, chief of Chandel Christian village of Chandel Christian village, Chandel, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur-795127.
13. Hulang Lutharson Anal, Chief of Anal Khunou village of Anal Khunou village, Chandel, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur-795127.
14. L.Thumno Naga, chief of Charongching village of Charongching village, Chandel, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District Manipur-795127.
15. HB Lovingson, Chief of Oklu Village, Oklu village of Chandel, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur-795127

....PETITIONERS

-Versus-

1. The State of Manipur represented by the Chief Secretary, Government of Manipur, Office at Secretariat, Mantripukhri, P.O. Mantripukhri & P.S. Heingang, Imphal West District, Manipur- 795001.
2. The Additional Chief Secretary (Tribal Affairs & Hills), Government of Manipur, Office at Secretariat, Mantripukhri, P.O. Mantripukhri & P.S. Heingang, Imphal West District, Manipur- 795001
3. The Principal Secretary/ Commissioner/ Secretary (PHED), Government of Manipur, Office at Secretariat, Mantripukhri, P.O. Mantripukhri & P.S. Heingang, Imphal West District, Manipur- 795001

4. The Deputy Commissioner, Chandel, Government of Manipur, Office at Chandel DC Complex, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur-795127.
5. The Superintendent of Police, Chandel District, office at Mini Secretariat, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur.
6. The Additional Superintendent of Police (Ops/Chandel), office at Mini Secretariat, P.O & P.S Chandel, Chandel District, Manipur.
7. The Union of India through its Secretary (DWS) Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation Ministry of Jal Shakti Govt. of India, located at C Wing, 4th Floor, Pandit Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003.

.....RESPONDENTS

BEFORE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE A. GUNESHWAR SHARMA

Order (Oral)

17.11.2026

[1] Heard Mr. Juno Rahman, learned counsel for the petitioners.

[2] The petitioners are villagers of Chandel District. Earlier due to the submission of fabricated report and mismanagement of fund for the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in Chandel District, they approached this Court by way of writ petition being WP(C) No. 347 of 2026 and vide order dated 18.05.2026, this Court disposed of the representation by directing the Superintendent of Police, Chandel District to consider the representation dated 10.03.2026 submitted by the petitioners by a speaking order within a period of two months. It may be noted that the crux of the representation dated 10.03.2026 about the mismanagement of fund and uploading of false information of beneficiaries in official website of Jal Jeevan Mission dashboard. In compliance of the direction of this Court in order dated 18.05.2026, the Superintendent of Police, Chandel District issued an order dated 23.05.2026 whereby Additional

Superintendent of Police (Ops), Chandel was appointed as the Investigating Officer to enquire/investigate into the matter relating to Jal Jeevan Mission, Chandel. It is submitted that there is no progress in the investigation. In terms of the order dated 23.05.2026 issued by the Superintendent of Police, Chandel and by the present petition, the petitioners inter-alia prayed for a direction to the Superintendent of Police Chandel to conclude the enquiry/investigation in terms of the order dated 23.05.2026. Along with this, another substantive prayer is for a direction to implement Jal Jeevan Mission in 14 (fourteen) villages of Chandel District.

[3] The prayer is reproduced below:

(i) To issue rule nisi calling upon the respondents to show cause as to why the prayer made by the petitioners shall not be granted.

(ii) To issue a Writ in the nature of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ/ order/ direction to expedite/ finalise / conclude the enquiry/ investigation initiated vide order No. B-24/SP-CDL/2026 dated 23-05-2026 ***(ANNEXURE-A/26)*** *issued by the Superintendent of Police, Chandel District, Manipur, in the facts and circumstances of the present Writ Petition.*

(iii) To issue a Writ in the nature of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ/ order/ direction to implement Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) Scheme for tap drinking water connection in letter and spirit in respect of (i) Beru Khudam Village, (ii) Lambung Village, (iii) Vomku Village, (iv) Khullen Village, (v) Larong Khullen Village, (vi) Chengkhu Village, (vii) Lamphou Pasna Village, (viii) Oklu Village, (ix) Yangkhelching/Y Khutha village, (x) Charongching village, (xi) L Thangkam/Thangkim village (xii) Chandel Christain village, (xiii) Anal Khunou village (xiv) Chandel Khullen Village of Chandel District, Manipur,

in the facts and circumstances of the present Writ Petition.

(iv) To issue any other appropriate writ/ order/ direction as the Hon'ble High Court may deem fit in the facts and circumstances of the present Writ Petition.

[4] During the course of hearing, Mr. Juno Rahman, learned counsel for the petitioners, on instruction, submits that the petitioners are pursuing only prayer (ii) and they dropped other prayers and the writ petition may be disposed of at this stage by issuing an innocuous order to the Superintendent of Police, Chandel to conclude the enquiry in terms of the order dated 23.05.2026 within a reasonable time.

[5] Mrs. Ch. Sundari, learned G.A. for the State respondent, submits that this Court may consider the altered innocuous prayer of the petitioners, i.e., for a direction to conclude the investigation in terms of the order dated 23.05.2026 within a stipulated time.

[6] This Court has considered the materials on record, the submissions made at the bar and especially, the limited prayer pursued at the time of hearing on instruction. In the circumstances, the writ petition is disposed of by directing the Superintendent of Police, Chandel to conclude the enquiry/investigation in terms of its earlier order dated 23.05.2026 within a period of three months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. It is made clear that this Court does not express any opinion on the merit of the case.

[7] With this observation, writ petition is disposed of.

JUDGE

Kh. Joshua Maring

KH. JOSHUA MARING

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