

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

PIL No. 25 of 2023

Aribam Dhananjoy Sharma @ Paojel Chaoba; & Ors.

Petitioners

Vs.

State of Manipur; & Ors.

Respondents

**With
MC (PIL) No. 12 of 2023
With
PIL No. 28 of 2023
With
PIL No. 29 of 2023
With
PIL No. 30 of 2023
With
W.P. (C) No. 441 of 2023**

BEFORE

**HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. SIDDHARTH MRIDUL
HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE GOLMEI GAIPHULSHILLU KABUI**

09.11.2023

Siddharth Mridul, C.J.:

Mr. M. Rarry, learned Special State Counsel, appearing on behalf of the State of Manipur, undertakes to upload on the website, i.e., <https://manipur.gov.in>, the latest order extending the limited ban in relation to internet service in the State of Manipur, forthwith.

Directed accordingly.

In compliance with the direction of this Court *vide* order dated 06.11.2023, Mr. M. Rarry, learned Special State Counsel, has handed over in Court today a compliance report dated 08.11.2023.

The same is taken on the record.

A perusal of the annexure appended to the said compliance report authored by T. Ranjit Singh, Commissioner (Home), Government of Manipur, reflects that they have operationalized 41 mobile towers and unbarred mobile data in the Districts of Senapati, Ukhrul, Tamenglong and Noney.

It is further observed that the Director General of Police, Manipur, has not objected to the State Government extending internet services to the District Headquarters elaborated hereinabove, and additionally to Chandel, Jiribam and Kamjong.

However, the compliance report dated 08.11.2023 further states that operationalization of mobile towers in areas not affected - in partially affected districts – is underway, and will be operationalized immediately upon overcoming the technical difficulties that obtained due to paucity of time.

In view of the foregoing, whilst reiterating the directions issued *vide* order dtated 06.11.2023, in the following terms :

“Having heard the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the parties and in view of the express contents asseverated in paragraph 4 of the said order dated 5th November, 2023; the State of Manipur is directed to open and operationalize mobile towers, on a trial basis, in all those District Headquarters which have not been affected by violence and thereafter, if found feasible, extend the services to other areas where the law and order situation, so permits.

It is clarified that even in the Districts that are partially affected by violence, those areas which are not so affected - in the same District - mobile towers shall be operationalized forthwith” ;

the government of Manipur is directed to file a further compliance report on or before the next date of hearing, after providing an advance copy to all the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioners.

List on 20.11.2023.

Registry is directed to furnish copy of this order to all the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the parties.

Sandeep

JUDGE

CHIEF JUSTICE