## MISC. CASE NO. 1 OF 2022 REF.: COMPLAINT CASE NO. 2 OF 2022

## 15.09.2022

- 1. Perused the office note dated 14.09.2022, wherein it is reported that Director (Inquiry), Manipur Lokayukta under his letter dated 13.09.2022 has requested Manipur Lokayukta for extension of the time period of the preliminary inquiry for 90 days w.e.f. 14.09.2022 on the basis of the application/letter dated 13.09.2022 of the Inquiry Officer of the present case.
- 2. We have perused the case record of the present case as well as the said two letters of the Director (Inquiry), Manipur Lokayukta and the Inquiry Officer. The Inquiry Officer under his letter dated 13.09.2022 has stated that considerable time has been spent in collecting relevant files and documents from the Finance Department, Government of Manipur and also from the Office of the SSA, State Mission Authority. We have also called the inquiry officer to appear before us so that we can have the clear-cut knowledge as to why the inquiry could not be completed within the stipulated period of 90 days.
- 3. The inquiry officer appeared in person before us and explained the reason and circumstances under which the inquiry could not be completed within the stipulated period of 90 days. It is clear that considerable time has been spent in collecting the relevant documents and files from the Finance Department, Government of Manipur and also from the Office of the SSA, State Mission Authority. Over and above, one of the officials whose statement is highly required in the preliminary inquiry is now posted outside India i.e. at Belgium and permissible steps under the law have been taken up for recording the statement of the official who is now posted at Belgium.

- 4. After considering the overall circumstances discussed above, we are of the considered view that a period of 90 days is required to be extended w.e.f. 15.09.2022 for completion of the preliminary inquiry, and accordingly a period of 90 days from 15.09.2022 is extended.
- 5. Registry is directed to furnish a copy of this order to (i) the Director (Inquiry), Manipur Lokayukta, and (ii) the Inquiry Officer, Manipur Lokayukta.

Sd/- Sd/MEMBER CHAIRPERSON