

COMPLAINT CASE NO. 2 OF 2023

21.12.2023

1. Perused the office note dated 21.12.2023, wherein it has been reported that one Shri Laiphrakpam Mohendro Singh, S/o Laiphrakpam Nando Singh, resident of Lairikyengbam Awang Leikai, P.O. & P.S. Porompat, Imphal East District, Manipur filed a Complaint against Shri Th.Ingoba Singh, Addl. Chief Engineer, MSRRDA/RED alleging that Shri Th. Ingoba Singh, Addl. Chief Engineer, MSRRDA/RED had committed corruption to the tune of Rs. 60,00,000/- (Rupees sixty lakh).

2. We have perused the complaint which has been filed in Form No. 1 as provided under Rule 15 (2) of the Manipur Lokayukta Rules, 2018. Rule 15 (3) of the Manipur Lokayukta Rules, 2018 provides that every complaint made under sub-rule (1) shall contain a statement in a concise form of the facts on which that allegation is based. It shall also indicate as far as possible, the evidence by which the complainant proposes to prove each allegation. Rule 15 (5) of the Manipur Lokayukta rules, 2018 mandates that complainant shall deposit a fee of Rs. 1000/- (on thousand) by way of bank draft/IPO payable to the Secretary, Manipur Lokayukta. Rule 15 (6) and (7) of Manipur Lokayukta Rules, 2018 provides that every complainant shall be supported by an affidavit in Form 2 duly sworn in by the complainant before the Magistrate of First Class or any Oath Commissioner appointed by the High Court and every such affidavit shall be verified at the end by the complainant or by one of the complainants. Form 1 i.e. Form of Complaint prescribes that to support the allegations the complaint relies on the facts and is also filing an affidavit.

3. On perusal of the Complaint and also the supporting documents, it appears that there is an allegation for indulging corruption by Shri Th. Ingoba Singh, Addl. Chief Engineer, MSRRDA/RED on the basis of the alleged fact that he had been caught red handed with Rs. 60,00,000/- (Rupees sixty lakh) from his office Chamber by Anti-corruption cell team of Vigilance Department as reported in "Naharolgi Thoudang" Daily Newspaper published on 14.04.2022.

3.1. The General Secretary, Manipur Government Services' Federation also filed a representation dated 21.11.2023 to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Manipur requesting for taking necessary action in the lawful and legitimate manner against Shri Th. Ingoba Singh, Addl. Chief Engineer, MSRRDA/RED in the interest of all concerned as well as the Department. But it is also alleged that Hon'ble Chief Minister, Manipur has not taken any tangible action on the basis of the said representation dated 21.11.2023. The said allegations or facts are reported in the Local Daily and it also appears that as on today there is no clarification for retraction from the said of Shri Th. Ingoba Singh, Addl. Chief Engineer, MSRRDA/RED against the news item.

4. The aim and object for establishing the Manipur Lokayukta Act for the state of Manipur is to inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Therefore, we are of the considered view that the allegation made by the complainant in the present complaint can be inquired into as provided under the Manipur Lokayukta Act, 2014 (Manipur Act No. 11 of 2014).

5. For the foregoing reasons, we are of the considered view that there is a prima facie case for holding a preliminary inquiry as contemplated under section 20(1) of the Manipur Lokayukta Act, 2014. Accordingly, we direct the Inquiry Wing, Manipur Lokayukta to conduct a Preliminary Inquiry in light of the above observations and the preliminary inquiry report may be submitted within the period prescribed under the Manipur Lokayukta Act, 2014. It is also made clear that while conducting the inquiry, the inquiry officer shall keep in view of their powers and jurisdiction as provided under sub-section (1), (2), (4), (5), (9) of Section 20, Section 21, Section 22, Section 25, Section 26, Section 28(2), Section 29, Section 32, Section 36 and other provisions of the Manipur Lokayukta Act, 2014.

6. Director (Inquiry), Manipur Lokayukta is further directed to entrust the preliminary inquiry of this complaint to one of Police Officers attached to Inquiry Wing of Manipur Lokayukta promptly.

6.1. Director (Inquiry), Manipur Lokayukta has to submit a report for taking up prompt steps in this regard on or before 27.12.2023.

7. Deputy Registrar, Manipur Lokayukta is directed to furnish a copy of this order along with a full set of complaint to Director (Inquiry), Manipur Lokayukta within 48 hours.

8. Await preliminary Inquiry Report.

Sd/-
MEMBER

Sd/-
CHAIRPERSON