

MISC. CASE NO. 2 OF 2024

Ref.: Complaint Case No. 3 of 2021

04.03.2024

1. Perused the office note dated 04.03.2024 wherein it is reported that Director (Inquiry), Manipur Lokayukta under his letter being No. 3/ML/DIR(INQ)/2021/96 dated 01.03.2024 to the Chairperson, Manipur Lokayukta requested for extension of the period of Investigation of FIR No. 1(02)2023 CB-PS U/S 13 PC Act, 120-B/34 IPC & 5 Manipur Public Servants Personal Liability Act, 2006.

2. Register this as separate Misc. Case.

3. The grounds for extension, inter alia mentioned in the letter dated 03.11.2023 of the Investigating Officer, are that the Investigation of the Complaint Case No. 3 of 2021 was progressing in a swift manner. On 7th May, 2023, the IO has been appointed as Superintendent of Police, Kangpokpi District when the state was going through a tough law and order situation. As he was posted in most affected district he was not in the position to complete the investigation of the case in the given time period. In such a situation, the investigating officer through his application dated 03.11.2023 to the Director (Inquiry), Manipur Lokayukta requested to extend the time frame of investigation for another 6 (six) months w.e.f. 04.11.2023.

4. After careful consideration of the reasons for extension of the time period of the investigation, it is seen that Investigation was ordered on 06.02.2023 and previous extension of 3 months upto 03.11.2023 has already been given. Section 20(5) of the Manipur Lokayukta Act, 2014 provides for a total of 12 months by which time Investigation should be completed. The period of 12 months has already ended on 06.02.2024.

Under the above, circumstances and the reasons stated therein, it is of the considered view that the time frame of investigation of the present FIR No. 1(02)2023 CB-PS U/S 13 PC Act, 120-B/34 IPC & 5 Manipur Public Servants Personal Liability Act, 2006, can be extended for a limited period of 1 (one) month only w.e.f. 08.03.2024 since the total time of 12 (twelve) months made available to the I.O. has already crossed on 06.02.2024. Accordingly, the time period is hereby extended post facto from 04.11.2023 to 03.03.2024 and 1 (one) month from 04.03.2024 upto 08.04.2024 with advise that request for further extension will not be entertained, as it has already crossed 12 months.

Hence, it is imperative that the I.O. should find time to complete the Investigation within the extended period of **1 (one) month**. If he needs to be relieved temporarily from the current assignment to complete the Investigation, the Lokayukta is ready to send a letter to the Chief Secretary, Government of Manipur and the DGP, Manipur on receiving a letter from the I.O. through the Director, Inquiry. This request should be received through Special Message by Lokayukta latest by **06.03.2024**.

5. Registry is directed to furnish a copy of this order to (i) the Director (Inquiry), Manipur Lokayukta, and (ii) the Investigating Officer of the present Complaint Case. Copy of this order be also given to the Chief Secretary, Government of Manipur and the DGP, Manipur.

6. Misc. Case is disposed of accordingly.

Sd/-
MEMBER