IN THE HIGH COURT OF MANIPUR <u>AT IMPHAL</u>

PIL No. 45 of 2021

Thangjam Santa Singh

Petitioner

Vs.

State of Manipur; & Ors.

Respondents

BEFORE HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. SANJAY KUMAR HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE LANUSUNGKUM JAMIR

21.09.2021

Sanjay Kumar (C.J.):

Heard Ms. Jayna Kothari, learned senior counsel, appearing for the petitioner, assisted by Ms. Thulasi K. Raj and Ms. Akham Romilla, learned counsel.

As per the affidavit-in-opposition filed by the Director, Social Welfare Department, Government of Manipur, the Notification dated 13.07.2021 was modified, whereby a household wherein the main bread-earner is a transgender is also made eligible for the benefits of the scheme. Similarly, households wherein a member of the family was a transgender but not the main bread-earner, were also eligible to avail the benefits of the scheme in the name of the household.

However, it appears that the last date stipulated in para 3.4 of the Notification dated 13.07.2021, *viz.*, 07.08.2021, was not extended to enable these eligible persons to put in their applications for appropriate benefits.

There shall accordingly be an interim direction to the authorities to ensure that the applications made on behalf of households wherein transgenders are either main bread-earners or family members are also permitted to come within the coverage of the scheme, even if they were submitted after 07.08.2021.

Respondents No. 1&4 are yet to file their counters/affidavits-inopposition. They shall do the needful well before the next date of hearing with advance copies to the counsel opposite.

Post on 09.11.2021.

A copy of this order shall be supplied online or through whatsapp to the learned counsel for the parties.

JUDGE

CHIEF JUSTICE

Sandeep