

Item No. 1

Cont. Cas (Crl) No. 1 of 2020

In Re-Criminal Contempt against Thounaojam Brinda

....Petitioner

-Versus-

Thounaojam Brinda, MPS & Anr

....Respondents

BEFORE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE LANUSUNGKUM JAMIR
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KH. NOBIN SINGH

10.06.2020

Heard Mr. N. Kumarjit, learned AG, Manipur assisted by Mr. P. Tamphamani, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner.

The respondent No. 1, Smt. Th. Brinda, MPS presently serving as Additional Superintendent of Police, Head Quarter is present in person before this Court as directed and is represented by Mr. N. Ibotombi, learned senior counsel and Mr. H. S Paona, learned senior counsel. This Court had posed 3 (three) questions upon the respondent No. 1. The three questions are:-

a) Whether she has threatened the witness in the Court of the learned Special Judge, ND&PS on 21-05-2020.

b) Whether she showed her middle finger to the learned Special Judge, ND&PS on 21-05-2020.

c) Whether she has posted derogatory, defamatory and contemptuous post in her face book account against the Special Judge (ND&PS) in particular and against the Judiciary in general.

In reply to the questions posed to the respondent No. 1, she denies question Nos. (a) and (b). However, she admits to

question No. (c) and prays for sometime to file an affidavit defending her action with regard to question Nos. (a), (b) and (c).

Accordingly, respondent No. 1 is allowed four weeks' time to file an affidavit.

This Court has also taken into consideration the letter dated 8th June, 2020 written by the Superintendent of Police (CID-CB) and addressed to the Registrar General, High Court of Manipur giving the details of 20 (twenty) face book account holders who have been tentatively identified based on the publicly available information and photos posted in their face book. We have taken notice. Let all the twenty persons indicated in the letter dated 8th June, 2020 be impleaded as party respondent Nos. 3 to 22 in the present Criminal Contempt proceedings.

Issue notice to the newly impleaded respondent Nos. 3 to 22.

Notice be served to all the newly impleaded respondent Nos. 3 to 22 by a special messenger of this Court who shall take the assistance of the local police concerned while serving the notice. Additionally, the Registry of this Court is directed to cause notice on the newly impleaded respondent Nos. 3 to 22 by publishing the notice in two local Dailies having wide circulation in the State of Manipur, one in English and one in vernacular for two consecutive days. The notice is made returnable on 17th June, 2020. All the respondent Nos. 3 to 22 are directed to be personally present before this Court on 17th June, 2020 at 10:30 a.m sharp.

The respondent No. 2 is directed to continue collecting and verifying details of persons who keep on uploading posts scandalizing the Judiciary in connection with the present case and submit the same to the Registry of this Court.

List on 17th June, 2020.

The personal appearance of the respondent No. 1 is dispensed with for the time being.

Copies of the order shall be sent to the counsels appearing for the parties through their Whatsapp/e-mail.

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