Serial No.01
Daily List

HIGH COURT OF MEGHALAYA
AT SHILLONG

PIL No.21/2026

Date of Order: 14.10.2026

Registrar General, High Court of Meghalaya Vs. State of Meghalaya & ors

Coram:

Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Revati Mohite Dere, Chief Justice
Hon'ble Mr. H.S. Thangkhiew, Judge

Appearance:

For the Petitioner : -

For the Respondents : Mr. N.D. Chullai, AAG with
Mr. A.S. Dey, Sr.GA
Mrs. S. Laloo, GA

ORDER: (per the Hon'ble, the Chief Justice) (Oral)

The aforesaid petition was registered as a suo motu PIL having regard to the call for abstention of judicial work given by the Shillong Bar Association and the High Court of Meghalaya Bar Association to all districts vide resolution dated **30th September, 2026**. The abstention from judicial work as per the resolution is from 1st October, 2026, to all the Bar Associations in the districts of Meghalaya, until the Government of Meghalaya removes the Advocate General from his post.

2. On **8th October, 2026**, this Court had issued notice under Section 15 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 read with Article

215 of the Constitution of India to all the Advocates mentioned in paragraph 10 of the said order. The said notices were made returnable on 13th October, 2026.

3. Pursuant thereto, all Advocates (except Advocates at serial numbers 13 and 15(vi) to whom show cause notices were issued, appeared before this Court on the returnable date i.e., 13th October, 2026. All Advocates, except Advocates at serial numbers 13 and 15(vi) appeared and tendered their unconditional apology and sought time to file their respective affidavits to that effect. As far as Advocates at serial numbers 13 and 15(vi) are concerned, we are informed that they had resigned from their respective posts much prior to the passing of the resolution of abstention/call for abstention by the concerned Bar Associations. The same is a matter of record. In view of the same, contempt proceedings are dropped qua Advocates at serial numbers 13 and 15(vi).

4. As far as Advocates mentioned at serial numbers 1 and 2 are concerned i.e. Mr. K.S. Kyngjing, and Mr. N. Syngkon, they have filed their respective affidavits stating therein, that they had not participated in the call for abstention given by the Shillong

High Court Bar Association and Meghalaya High Court Bar Association. To their affidavits, they have annexed documents evidencing that they had appeared before the Courts, despite the call for abstention given by the said Associations. Since, both the Advocates at serial numbers 1 and 2 had not participated, the contempt proceedings against the said two Advocates are dropped.

5. As far as Advocates at serial numbers 3 to 8(i-vii) and 9 to 12, 14 and 15(i-v) are concerned, all the said Advocates have filed their respective affidavits. The contents of all the affidavits is identical. Paragraphs 3 to 5 of the said affidavits which are germane, are reproduced hereunder:

> "3. *That pursuant to the aforesaid Order and Show Cause Notice, I appeared before this Hon'ble Court on 13.10.2026 along with the other Respondents. On behalf of the other Respondents, the Respondent No.3 had placed on record the Notice dated 09.10.2026, whereby it was resolved that the resolution calling for abstention from attending Courts had been withdrawn with immediate effect. I have also tendered my unconditional apology before this Hon'ble Court. However, this Hon'ble Court directed the Respondents to file their respective affidavits tendering their apologies.*
>
> *4.* ***That I hereby tender my unconditional apology before this Hon'ble Court for my participation in the aforesaid abstention from attending Courts. I sincerely regret the***

same and I assure that I shall not participate in any such abstention from attending Courts in the future.

5. That I have the utmost respect for the majesty, dignity and authority of this Hon'ble Court and hold the highest regard for the Rule of Law and the administration of justice."

6. It is pertinent to note, that the High Court of Meghalaya Bar Association and Shillong High Court Bar Association had taken steps to withdraw the call for abstention from Court work, on 9th October, 2026, i.e. on the very next day, the show cause notice under the Contempt of Courts Act was issued. Today, all the Advocates have tendered their affidavits giving their unconditional apology for participating in the call for abstention of Court works and have expressed their sincere regret and have assured that they will not participate in any such abstention from attending Courts in future.

7. We find that the unconditional apology tendered is bonafide and sincere. All the contemnors have shown genuine regret and remorse. Considering the aforesaid, in particular, the withdrawal of the call for abstention, at the earliest, as soon as contempt notices were issued, the unconditional apology tendered at the earliest opportunity and assurance given not to participate

in any such call for abstention of Court work, this Court is of the view that the majesty of law stands restored.

8. Accordingly, the apology and assurance as stated aforesaid of the contemnors is accepted and the contemnors are purged of contempt and they are discharged from the instant proceedings.

9. Contempt petition is closed.

10. Petition is disposed of accordingly.

11. We acknowledge and appreciate the stand taken by both the Shillong High Court Bar Association and Meghalaya High Court Bar Association with respect to what is stated in the affidavits and trust that the same will not be repeated in future.

(H.S. Thangkhiew)
Judge

(Revati Mohite Dere)
Chief Justice

Meghalaya
14.10.2026
"Lam DR-PS"