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PART-- I--Orders and Notifications by the Government of Tripura, The High Court, Government Treasury etc.

GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA LAW & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT SECRETARIAT :: AGARTALA

NO.F.2(7)-LAW/ESTT.2/2019/41-55

Dated, Agartala, the 3rd April, 2025.

NOTIFICATION

WHEREAS, the State Government has already framed a Scheme for Post Retiral Benefits of the Retired Chief Justices and Retired Judges of the High Court of Tripura for defraying the services of an Orderly, Driver, Security Guard, Secretarial Assistance etc. and for a free of cost Residential Telephone, vide this Department's Notification No.F.2(7)-LAW/ESTT.2/2013/4648-58 dated 01.07.2015, in compliance with the Judgment and Order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Case No.WP (C) 521/2002 etc. dated 31.03.2014 and in accordance with the resolution of the Joint Conference of the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of the High Courts held on 18.09.2004 and further an Addendum dated 15.12.2017 was issued vide No.F.2(7)-LAW/ESTT.2/2013 on the question of authorizing Pension Disbursing officer to draw & disburse the expenses of domestic help(s) etc. and residential telephone calls expenses etc.;

AND WHEREAS, the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide Order dated 18.02.2025 passed in Conmt. Petition (C) No.425-426/2015 in WP(C) 523/2002 (Justice V. S. Dave, President, the Association of Retired Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts Vs. Kusumjit Sidhu & Ors.) has directed all the State Governments and Union Territories to make available the facility on the issue of domestic help(s) and telephone bill reimbursement to the retired Judges as are provided in the State of Andhra Pradesh in view of their earlier order dated 01.05.2017 and if after the said order, the Andhra Pradesh Government is giving better facilities to the retired Judges in that State, the same must also be extended by all the States and Union Territories;

AND WHEREAS, the State Government has received a copy of the G.O.Ms. No.5 dated 10.01.2022 of the Andhra Pradesh Government Notification styled as "the Retired Chief Justices and Judges Domestic Help(s) and Other Benefits Rules, 2021";

NOW THEREFORE, the Government of Tripura, in compliance of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India given in Conmt. Petition (C) No.425-426/2015 in Writ Petition (C) 523/2002 dated 18.02.2025 and in supersession of this Department's previous Notifications issued in this regard, hereby notify the following Rules:

- 1. These Rules may be called the "Retired Chief Justices and Judges Domestic Help(s) and Other Benefits Rules, 2025".
- 2. These Rules shall come into force with immediate effect.

3. APPLICABILITY:

These Rules shall apply to a person who has held office either as a Chief Justice or as a Judge of the High Court of Tripura and after them to their spouses.

4. **DEFINITIONS**:

- (i) "High Court" means the High Court of Tripura.
- (ii) "Former Chief Justice" means a person who has held Office of the Chief Justice of the High Court and/or drawing pension and other benefits from the High Court and
- (iii) "Former Judges" means a person who has held Office of a Judge of the High Court and/or drawing pension and other benefits from the High Court.
- (iv) "Spouse" means the wife or, as the case may be, the husband surviving a former Chief Justice or former Judge upon his or her death while in Office or after retirement.
- (v) "Domestic Help" means the assistance of personnel to be provided to a retired Chief Justice or a retired Judge of the High Court, or to his or her spouse at the expenses to be borne by the High Court.

5. ELIGIBILITY:

A retired Chief Justice or a Judge of the High Court or their Spouse, as the case may be, shall be entitled to avail the services of Domestic Help(s), Driver(s), Secretarial Assistance, Security and Telephone facilities at the expenses of the High Court, subject to the following conditions.

- (i) The facility of Domestic Help(s), Driver(s), Secretarial Assistance, Security and Telephone facility shall be provided to the retired Chief Justice/Judge or their spouse, if he/she is not availing such or similar facility from any other High Court.
- (ii) The retired Chief Justice/Judge or their spouse, as the case may be, on his/her appointment to any Office, post or assignment shall not be entitled to the facility of Domestic Help(s), Driver(s), Secretarial Service and other benefits during the tenure of such appointment/assignment except where such appointment/assignment does not provide the facility of any Domestic Help(s), Driver(s) and Secretarial Service and benefits, respectively.

6. SELECTION OF DOMESTIC HELP(S):

The retired Chief Justice/Judge or their spouse, as the case may be, may at her or his discretion select persons to be engaged as Domestic Help(s)/Driver(s).

7. REIMBURSEMENT:

To enable the retired Chief Justice/Judge or their spouse, as the case may be, to engage domestic help(s) /Driver(s), a consolidated amount of Rs. 50,000/- per month to a retired Chief Justice or his/her spouse and Rs. 45,000/- per month to a retired Judge or his/her spouse, shall be paid.

8. SECONDMENT OF PERMANENT EMPLOYEES:

The retired Chief Justice/Judge or their spouse may (instead of availing of benefit as stated in para-7 above) request to avail the services of maximum of two employees working in Last Grade Service of the High Court, one of whom may be a Driver;

OR

If any employee working in last Grade Service of the High Court furnishes to the Registrar General of the High Court, a request in writing to serve a retired Chief Justice/Judge or their spouse, as the case may be, and the services of such employee(s) is/are acceptable to the retired Chief Justice/Judge or their spouse, as the case may be;

They may be seconded to work with the retired Chief Justice/Judge or their spouse until the employee(s) attain(s) the age of superannuation and/or so long as the retired Chief Justice/Judge or their spouse is entitled to this facility.

It is made clear that if employees of the High Court are seconded, the retired Chief Justice/Judge or their spouse, as the case may be, are not entitled to-full reimbursement as stipulated in Rule-7 if two employees are provided by the High Court, or 50% of the reimbursement mentioned in Rule-7 if only one employee of the High Court is provided.

The said secondment shall be at the discretion of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court and subject to availability of staff.

9. <u>CELL PHONE/LANDLINE EXPENSES/INTERNET CHARGES, SECRETARIAL SERVICES AND SECURITY SERVICES:</u>

The retired Chief Justice /Judge or their spouse, as the case may be, shall also be paid Rs. 15,000/- per month towards expenses of rental and calls of Mobiles and/or Landline, internet service, secretarial services and security service. However, the facility shall not be available if the retired Chief Justice/Judge or their spouse, as the case may be, has accepted some assignment and has been provided the same facilities under that assignment, during the continuation of such assignment.

- 10. The amounts mentioned in Rule-7 & 9 shall be increased by 5% every one year.
- 11. Pension Disbursing Officers shall draw and pay the sanctioned amount of Rs. 50,000/-(Rupees fifty thousand) only and Rs.45,000/- (Rupees forty-five thousand) only per month to a retired Chief Justice or his/her spouse and to a retired Judge or his/her spouse respectively as referred to in para-7 above along with his/her pension or family pension. They also allow a lump-sum amount of Rs.15,000/-(Rupees fifteen thousand) only per month to a Retired Chief Justice or a Judge of the High Court of Tripura as reimbursement of landline telephone/mobile phone bill, internet service, Secretarial Services and Security Service as referred to in para-9 above along with his/her pension or family pension.
- 12. These Rules shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other benefits, which may be made available to retired Chief Justice(s) /Judge(s) and /or their spouse(s), under any other arrangement/provisions.

13. This order issues with the concurrence of the Finance Department, Government of Tripura vide their U.O.No. 02 Fin(Est-II)/2025 dated 01.04.2025 and also approval of the State Government vide U.O.No.95-CS/2025 dated 03.04,2025.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Tripura,

(SANJOY BHATTACHARJEE) L.R. & SECRETARY, LAW,

GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA