**Women Participation in Aizawl Municipal Corporation**

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*Paper presented in a 'Two-Day National Seminar on Participation of Women in Governance and Politics at Local and State Levels' organised by Indian Institute of Public Administration-Mizoram Regional Branch, UGC-Women Studies Centre & Department of Public Administration, MZU on 9th - 10th Aug., 2018.*

*The Aizawl Municipal Corporation is the first local self-government in Mizoram which has reservation of seats for women. After a long journey and untiring effort of the women organisations and their supporters, the provision of women reservation has been introduced and fulfilled for the first time in the state in 2010. The second term of the Corporation is going on and the practice of women reservation has also completed its eighth year now. During this near a decade journey, there have been some political changes in the forms of more inclusive representation and participation at various levels of decision making. With these development and new experiences, it is apt to have a discussion on whether reservation of seats for women in Mizoram in general and in Aizawl Municipal Corporation in particular, is up to the expectation or not. This paper examines and discusses some efforts that led to the reservation of seats for women, election, performance and contribution of women members in the Aizawl Municipal Corporation and gives concluding observations for further development.*

The office of Aizawl Municipal Corporation (AMC) started functioning on 1st July, 2008 as Aizawl Municipal Council in Central YMA building, Tuikhuahtlang and shortly shifted to its office at Thuampui locality, Aizawl under the guidance of a Chief Executive Officer. After two years of existence without elected bodies, the first election to the 19 members of AMC was held on 3rd November, 2010. The Indian National Congress and Zoram Nationalist Party alliance formed the first Council (INC - 5, ZNP - 5) and the opposition alliance Mizo National Front and the Mizoram People Conference trailing by just one seat (MNF - 5, MPC - 4) in this election. General election to the second council of Aizawl Municipality was conducted on 26th November, 2015. The Mizo National Front party won the election and formed the second Council with eleven seats. The Indian National Congress got seven seats while the Mizoram People Conference acquired one seat. The nomenclature ‘council’ was changed and replaced with ‘corporation’ thus becoming Aizawl Municipal Corporation from October 15, 2015 that also required the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer to be known as Mayor and Commissioner respectively. The Municipal authorities charged with the responsibility of carrying out the provisions given in the MunicipalitiesAct of Mizoram are the Board of Councillors, the Chairman, and the Chief Executive Officer[[1]](#endnote-1).

The AMC consists of 19 elected members representing 19 Wards of the city of Aizawl and other 12 members (11 MLAs and 1 Lok Sabha MP whos constituencies fall with the area of AMC) appointed by the Governor of Mizoram[[2]](#endnote-2). One-third of the total membership, i.e. six seats, is reserved for women[[3]](#endnote-3). These six seats would be rotated after every five years with the expiry of each term of the Corporation. One seat, Ward IX is declared to be an Open or General seat in which both Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes, even non-Mizo could contest[[4]](#endnote-4). There is a Ward Committee in each ward that consists of a Chairman, who is an elected councillor of that ward, and two members each from all the local councils within the ward. There are 83 local councils with a term of five years in the Aizawl municipality. Besides, there are, at present, seven Special Committees under Aizawl Municipal Council formed as per provisions under Section 24 of the Mizoram Municipalities Act, 2017 namely, Committee on Control of Parking and Collection of Parking Fees[[5]](#endnote-5); Committee on AMC Market, Ch.Chhunga Bus Terminal and Ch.Saprawnga Truck Terminal[[6]](#endnote-6); Committee on Central Mission for Aizawl (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, Swachh Bharat, Smart Cities, Housing for All)[[7]](#endnote-7); Committee on Sanitation, Solid Waste & Dumping Ground[[8]](#endnote-8); Committee on Street Light & Display of Advertisement & Hoarding[[9]](#endnote-9); Committee on Naming of Street & Numbering[[10]](#endnote-10); and Committee on Anti Littering[[11]](#endnote-11).

**Women journey to reserved seats**

As a result of a long and untiring effort of the women organisations and their supporters, the government of Mizoram finally included the provision of women reservation in the Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2009. Section 13 (8) of the Mizoram Municipalities Act (as amended from time to time) provides that ‘not less than one-third of the total number of seats reserved under clause (1) of Article 243T of the Constitution shall be reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes or, as the case may be, the Scheduled Tribes’. Section 13 (9) also reads as not less than one-third (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in every Municipality shall be reserved for women and such seats may be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in a Municipality. Clause (10) of the said section further reserves the office of Chairman in the Municipalities for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and women in such manner as the Legislature of a State may, by law, provide.

Women federations and organisations such as Mizo Hmeichhe Insuihkhawm Pawl (MHIP), Panchayat Mahila Shakti Abhiyan (PMSA), All Mizoram Women Federation and individual activists gave lots of efforts for the introduction of women reservation at different levels of governance in the state of Mizoram. Without undermining the contributions made by other agencies and individuals, let us make a brief account on the contributions of the Panchayat Mahila Shakti Abhiyan for the inclusion of women reservation in the Mizoram Municipalities Act of 2007.

In pursuance of the instruction from the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India[[12]](#endnote-12), the Government of Mizoram constituted the Panchayat Mahila Shakti Abhiyan to be a core committee for women empowerment at the state level[[13]](#endnote-13). The PMSA Core Committee prepared a Mizoram State Charter of Demand in October 2008 for the inclusion and participation of women at various levels of governance and submitted it to the authorities of the state and the central governments. Copies of the Charter of Demand were also sent to some officials of centre and state, NGOs and libraries of different institutions. This Charter comprises of nine major points and a number of sub-points of demands. Sub-number four of point number five is meant for Aizawl Municipal Corporation that calls for reservation of seats for women in municipalities. When the PMSA learnt that the Mizoram Municipalities Act of 2007 passed by the Mizo National Front (MNF) government did not provide reservation of seats for women, they took steps to include reservation and demanded amendment for it[[14]](#endnote-14).

With change in the state government, the Panchayat Mahila Shakti Abhiyan Core Committee carry on their demands and met Chief Minister, Pu Lal Thanhawla on 21st January, 2009 and submitted a letter of Representation demanding ‘provision of reservation clause for women in Mizoram Municipalities Act as per the 74th Constitutional Amendment i.e., Part IX-A of Article 243-T, according to which reservation of seats clause should be inserted in the Mizoram Municipalities Act by amending the Act’. The PMSA Core Committee also met Pu Zodintluanga, Minister in charge of Urban Development & Poverty Elevation, Municipalities, etc. and Pu R. Romawia, Mizoram Assembly Speaker and had thorough discussion and briefing on the issues of women reservation. As a result of the efforts given by the MPSA and supports from other women bodies, the Mizoram Assembly Session passed the Mizoram Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, 2009 on 29th October, 2009 which incorporated reservation of not less than one-third of the total number of seats for women under Section 13 of the Act.

Members of the PMSA Core Committee were invited and participated in the programme of ‘Preview of General Election to Aizawl Municipal Council & Determination of Seats for Women’ convened by the State Election Commission on 20th August, 2010 at Chanmari YMA Hall[[15]](#endnote-15) in which Chairman of PMSA Core Committee Prof. Lalneihzovi took part as member of Panel of Experts responding queries on women reservation. Prof. T. Vanlaltlani, member, also represented the Committee and took part in the draw of lots to decide seats to be reserved for women. After this, the State Election Commissioner declared six wards selected by draw of lots on 23rd August, 2010 as the women reserve seats for the General Election to the first Council of Aizawl Municipality. Following the declaration of women seats, the PMSA Core Committee organised ‘Pre-Municipal Election Sensitization Cum Training Programme’ on 17th September, 2010 for members of Village Councils, and leaders of prominent organisations such as Young Mizo Association, Mizo Hmeichhe Insuihkhawm Pawl and Mizoram Upa Pawl from the wards reserved for women. This sensitization programme gave awareness and prepared the local leaders for the coming AMC election. When 14 women filed nomination to contest for six reserved seats, the PMSA invited and convened a meeting for them at Aizawl Press Club on 19th October, 2010. Contestants were encouraged, advised and prepared in different ways and strategies to be fit for election as well as members of municipality[[16]](#endnote-16).

**Analysis of the elections of Aizawl Municipality**

In the first Council of Aizawl Municipality, six wards such as Ward No.II (Chaltlang, Bawngkawn, Bawngkawn South), Ward No.IV (Ramhlun South, Ramthar North, Ramthar Veng, Aizawl Venglai), Ward No.VI (Chammari West, Edenthar, Hunthar), Ward No.XI (Luangmual, Chawlhhmun, Sakawrtuichhun, Tanhril, Rangvamual, Phunchawng, Police Training Centre, Tuivamit), Ward No.XII (Tuikual North, Tuikual South, Dinthar), and Ward No.XVII (Venghlui, Republic, Upper Republic, Republic Vengthlang) as decided by draw of lots, were reserved for women. As much as 14 candidates contested for these wards as given in Table No. 1 below.

Table No.1

Details of votes polled in the six women reserved seats of the first AMC.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sl.**  **No.** | **Ward No.** | **Name of candidates** | **Name of the party** | **No. of votes** | **Remarks** |
| 1 | II | **Hmingthanzami** | Zoram Nationalist Party | **3124** | Elected |
| C. Sangzuali | Mizoram Peoples Conference | 2627 |  |
| C. Lalnunziri | Bharatya Janata Party | 240 |  |
| 2 | IV | **Lalmalsawmi** | Mizo National Front | **3486** | Elected |
| Lalzampuii | Indian National Congress | 2985 |  |
| 3 | VI | **Zamanthangi** | Mizo National Front | **2178** | Elected |
| Biakhluni | Indian National Congress | 1980 |  |
| 4 | XI | **Lalchhuanmawii** | Zoram Nationalist Party | **2918** | Elected |
| Helen Vanlalduhi | Mizo National Front | 2819 |  |
| Hmingthankhumi | Independent | 372 |  |
| 5 | XII | **Laldinsangi** | Indian National Congress | **3187** | Elected |
| Rohmingliani | Mizo National Front | 2729 |  |
| 6 | XVI | **F.Lalhuthangi** | Indian National Congress | **2825** | Elected |
| Rita Lalnunsangi | Mizo National Front | 2652 |  |

Source: Compendium of 1st General Election to Aizawl Municipal Council 2010, State Election Commission, Mizoram, Aizawl.

General election to the second Aizawl Municipality was held on 26th November, 2015. Six wards to be reserved for women were decided afresh by means of draw of lots from the remaining 13 wards after omitting the first six reserved wards[[17]](#endnote-17). In the second AMC, the wards fell under reservation are Ward No.I (Selesih, Durtlang North, Durtlang, Durtlang Leitan, Zuangtui, Muanna Veng), Ward No.VII (Zemabawk, Zemabawk North, Falkland, Thuampui), Ward No.IX (Dawrpui, Saron, Chhinga Veng, Tuithiang), Ward No.XIII (Dawrpui Vengthar, Vaivakawn, Kanan), Ward No.XV (Bungkawn, Bungkawn Vengthar, Maubawk, Lawipu, Nursery), and Ward No.XVIII (Mission Veng, Salem Veng, Dam Veng, Venghnuai, Thakthing, I.T.I). There were 18 candidates for these reserved seats details of which are given in the Table No.2 below.

Table No.2

Detail of votes got by the six women contestants in the second AMC.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sl.**  **No.** | **Ward No.** | **Name of candidates** | **Name of the party** | **No. of votes** | **Remarks** |
| 1 | I | **R. Zomuanpuii** | Indian National Congress | **3433** | Elected |
| M.S Dawngkimi | Zoram Nationalist Party | 435 |  |
| C. Lalrinsangi | Mizo National Front | 2944 |  |
| 2 | VII | **K. Lalhmingliani** | Indian National Congress | **3486** | Elected |
| Julie Zothanpuii | Zoram Nationalist Party | 1013 |  |
| Lalrinzuali | Mizo National Front | 2455 |  |
| 3 | IX | **B. Lalawmpuii** | Mizo National Front | **3466** | Elected |
| Lalchhuanawmi | Bharatya Janata Party | 62 |  |
| Laldinpuii | Indian National Congress | 2551 |  |
| 4 | XIII | **Zonunsangi** | Indian National Congress | **2410** | Elected |
| Saithantluangi Zote | Mizo National Front | 2213 |  |
| Lalthazuali | Zoram Nationalist Party | 249 |  |
| 5 | XV | **Zodingpuii** | Indian National Congress | **2706** | Elected |
| C. Laltlanmawii | Zoram Nationalist Party | 2729 |  |
| Lalvulliani | Mizo National Front | 1255 |  |
| 6 | XVIII | **M. Zohmingthangi** | Indian National Congress | **4790** | Elected |
| Christina S. Lalrinpuii | Bharatya Janata Party | 344 |  |
| Vanlalrengpuii | Mizo National Front | 4412 |  |

Source: General Election to Aizawl Municipal Corporation, 2015 Compendium. November 26, 2015. State Election Commission, Mizoram, Aizawl.

There were 14 women candidates in the first AMC election of which, one was independent candidate while other 13 candidates had party affiliations. We found a little increase of women candidates in the second AMC with 18 in number and no independent contestant this time. One remarkable thing is that, not a single woman contested from general and unreserved seats in the first and second elections of AMC.

There was a speculation that some of the male voters might not support and have no interest in the women candidates. They may be reluctant to cast their votes in the election resulting lower percentage of men voters turn out in the reserved seats. But, this was not the trend in actual statistics. The average percentage of male voters turn out in the six reserved seats was 61.37% while that of women was 60.73 % excluding 195 ballot votes. This shows that reservation of seats does not have that much influence in the voting behaviour of male and female voters. Total number of women voters was more than that of male by a margin of 7,869 in the first election of AMC. Total number of male and female voters and detail of votes polled in the Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) and percentage of votes in the six reserved seats are given in Table No. 3.

Table No. 3

Detail of votes polled in EVM of the Six Women Reserved Seats

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sex** | **No. of Voters in Reserved Seats** | **No. Votes polled in EVM** | **Percentage of Votes Polled** |
| Male | 26,572 | 16,308 | **61.37 %** |
| Female | 29,013 | 17,621 | 60.73 % |
| Total | 55,585 | 33,929 | 61.03 (Average %) |

Source: Compendium of 1st General Election to Aizawl Municipal Council 2010, State Election Commission, Mizoram, Aizawl.

Out of the total 1,68,649 number of voters, 1,07,755 (63.89 %) cast their votes in the first election of AMC of which 1,07,057 were through EVMs and 698 ballot paper. There were 45 candidates contesting in the 19 wards and out of this, 14 (31.11 %) were women candidates.

There was a sharp decrease in the percentage of votes polled in the second general election from that of the first AMC. As stated above, the first election recorded 63.89 per cent of votes cast, while the second election recorded only 36.04 per cent. A large number of voters seem to have lost interest in electing the councillors. Rate of voters turn out in the reserved and unreserved seats was almost the same as given in Table No. 4 below.

Table No. 4

Detail of votes polled in the reserved and unreserved Seats of second AMC

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Seats** | **No. of Voters** | **No. of Votes polled** | **Percentage of Votes Polled** |
| Women Reserved Seats | 64,440 | 23,336 | 36.21 % |
| Unreserved 13 Seats | 1,27,923 | 45,998 | 35.95 **%** |
| Total | 1,92,363 | 69,334 | 36.04 (Average %) |

Source: General Election to Aizawl Municipal Corporation, 2015 Compendium. November 26, 2015. State Election Commission, Mizoram, Aizawl.

Although one is free to contest election from any ward or seat within the area of AMC, all the candidates, male and female, contested in the Wards where they belonged to except Pi M.Zohmingthangi of Chawlhhmun who contested from Ward No. XVIII which comprises of her old locality Mission Veng, etc. No woman member of the first AMC contested again for the second AMC and even though female voters are more than male voters in all the Wards, no woman has the courage to contest from the unreserved seats. Number of voters in the second election of Aizawl Municipality is given in Table No. 5 below.

Table No. 5

Number of voters in the election of second AMC

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sl.No.** | **No. of Wards** | **Male Voters** | **Female Voters** | **Total** |
| 1 | Ward I | 4948 | 5450 | 10398 |
| 2 | Ward II | 6256 | 7216 | 13472 |
| 3 | Ward III | 4938 | 5758 | 10696 |
| 4 | Ward IV | 4951 | 5521 | 10472 |
| 5 | Ward V | 4201 | 5079 | 9280 |
| 6 | Ward VI | 3786 | 4225 | 8011 |
| 7 | Ward VII | 5727 | 6041 | 11768 |
| 8 | Ward VIII | 3048 | 3420 | 6468 |
| 9 | Ward IX | 4535 | 5364 | 9899 |
| 10 | Ward X | 3927 | 4396 | 8323 |
| 11 | Ward XI | 4903 | 5355 | 10258 |
| 12 | Ward XII | 5211 | 5856 | 11067 |
| 13 | Ward XIII | 3573 | 4072 | 7645 |
| 14 | Ward XIV | 4544 | 5116 | 9660 |
| 15 | Ward XV | 4427 | 5106 | 9533 |
| 16 | Ward XVI | 4897 | 5609 | 10506 |
| 17 | Ward XVII | 4406 | 5181 | 9587 |
| 18 | Ward XVIII | 7003 | 8194 | 15197 |
| 19 | Ward XIX | 4856 | 5269 | 10125 |
| **Grand Total** | | **90137** | **102228** | **192365** |

Source:General Election to Aizawl Municipal Corporation, 2015 Compendium. November 26, 2015. State Election Commission, Mizoram, Aizawl.

**Performance of women members in Aizawl Municipal Corporation**

Just occupying reserved seats and being an elected member is not the objective of reservation. Seats are reserved because women are not adequately represented in the elected bodies. They need a channel to prove themselves worthy of being representatives of the people. To sit in the reserved seats in one way means to represent the community for whom reservation is done. So, elected members are expected to perform their duties and responsibilities actively through various forums in the municipality as well as to set examples even outside their formal activities.

Examining the performance and contribution of women members both of the first and the second Councils of Aizawl Municipality through observation and limited data available for analysis, some of them have performed well, while majority of them seem to be below expectation. In the first council and before the Executive Council was abolished, there were five members of Executive Council including the Chairman, Vice Chairman and other three executive members. There were two women Executive Councillors namely, Pi Hmingthanzami taking the charge of Revenue, Education, Naming of Street and Numbering, etc. and Pi F. Lalhuthangi who looked after the subjects of Water Supply, Lighting and Electricity, Control of Parking and Collection of Parking Fees, etc. Being the executive authority of the municipality, the executive councillors need to be much more active and busy than other councillors. In this regard, the two women Executive Councillors could perform their duties well.

When there was a change in Municipal government from Congress and Zoram Nationalist Party (ZNP) coalition to Mizo National Front (MNF) and ZNP led government, the first two women Executive Councillors had to leave their offices. But, Pi Lalmalsawmi was appointed as a new Executive Councillor in the new AMC government. Women were also included in the membership of different committees under AMC. For instance, Pi Zamanthangi and Pi Lalchhuanmawii were among the five members of the Municipal Accounts Committee of 2015[[18]](#endnote-18) and Pi Lalmalsawmi as one of the five members of Sub-Committee on Remuneration, Facilities and Status of the Elected Councillors[[19]](#endnote-19). In the Board of Councillors meetings or sessions, women are reported to be more reluctant to stand up and participate in the debates and discussions than their male counterparts.

The Mizoram Municipalities (Fourth Amendment) Act of 2015 deleted the provisions for the Executive Council and introduces the Board of Councillors (BoCs) in place of it. So, there is no more chance of becoming an executive member in the second council of Aizawl municipality for both male and female members. Attendance in the Board of Councillors meetings shows that male councillors seem to be more regular than the female councillors. Though it may not be so bad, the average attendance of the female councillors in the eight BoCs meeting was 81.25 per cent, while that of male councillors was 88.47 per cent. Since there are no records of the meeting proceedings and debates, it is difficult to have a comment on the performance of women members in the deliberations of the BoCs meetings. It is observed, from the comments of the concerned officials that half of them are doing well. Two are actively participating in the meetings and take part in the debates as well.

In terms of membership in the committees of municipality, women councillors are included in all the committees. To take the member appointments of the seven Special Committees set up under Section 24 of the Mizoram Municipalities Act of 2007, membership distribution and percentage are given in Table No. 6 below.

Table No. 6

Membership distribution in Special Committees of AMC

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sl.** | **Name of Committee** | **No. of Councillor members** | **No. of Male members** | **No. of Female members** | **Female membership percentage** |
| 1 | Control of Parking and Collection of Parking Fees | 9 | 6 | 3 | 33 % |
| 2 | AMC Market, CCBT and CSTT | 10 | 7 | 3 | 30 % |
| 3 | Central Mission for Aizawl (AMRUT, Swachh Bharat, Smart Cities, Housing for All) | 10 | 7 | 3 | 30 % |
| 4 | Sanitation, Solid Waste & Dumping Ground | 10 | 7 | 3 | 30 % |
| 5 | Street Light & Display of Advertisement & Hoarding | 9 | 6 | 3 | 33 % |
| 6 | Naming of Street & Numbering | 9 | 6 | 3 | 33 % |
| 7 | Committee on Anti Littering | 9 | 7 | 2 | 22 % |

Source: Office orders of Aizawl Municipal Corporation, 2016

**Concluding observation**

Reservation of seats for women in Aizawl municipality itself is an important milestone in the field of political representation of Mizoram. It legally provides not less than six councillors in every Council or Corporation. Following Aizawl municipality, women reservation was introduced in the Local Councils of Aizawl city and Village Councils also by the government of Mizoram. Women reservation at the grassroots level of governance would pave the way for further political participations in higher levels of government.

There is a high possibility of having all women Aizawl Municipal Corporation as they can contest even from the unreserved seats. There were 1,92,365 voters in the 2015 electoral roll of AMC and women outnumbered men by 12,091 voters. Women voters were more than that of men in every Ward and if they contest in all the Wards and the female voters favour for female candidates only, they would win all the seats to make all women AMC. But, as of today, ‘all women AMC’ is just a utopia.

As much as six male councillors of the first AMC contested for the second AMC and three of them got elected for their second term. On the other hand, not a single woman member of the first AMC contested for the second term. This may be because of their party decisions or their personal choices. Anyhow, it shows that women need to go further and be prepared mentally and physically fit as their male counterparts.

As they contested only from reserved seats in the first and second AMC, women need to be encouraged and motivated to contest not only from the reserved seats. They should go out of their comfort zone and fight election from unreserved seats of Aizawl municipality. They must prove themselves that they are capable of competing men even in political leadership.

It can be observed in AMC so far that prior experience in politics, party activities and government services mattered a lot in their performance. When deciding official candidature, political parties always faced problems of lack of experienced women politicians. They rather resorted to persons with good characters and popularity in other areas such as media, NGOs and Church Leadership, who never got involved in politics. Women in general, need to get involved more and more in politics so as to provide good leadership in the municipality. As a training ground for higher level of governance, one female member of the first AMC Pi Lalmalsawmi contested for the post of member of Legislative Assembly but, unluckily, she could not make it. Likewise, more and more women should come forward to make reservation of seats a success in different ways.

References:

1. Section 11 of the *Mizoram Municipalities (Fourth Amendment) Act*, 2015 (Act No. 14 of 2015), p. 2-3. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. Section 12 of *the Mizoram Municipalities Act,* 2007 (as amended from time to time). p.10. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
3. *Ibid.* Section 13 (8)-(10). p.12. [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
4. Govt. of Mizoram, UD&PA Notification No.B.13017/38/2010-UD&PA dt. 19th August, 2010. [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
5. AMC office order No.M.12050/1/2016-AMC of 18th October, 2016. [↑](#endnote-ref-5)
6. *Ibid.* No.M.12049/1/2016-AMC of 18th October, 2016. [↑](#endnote-ref-6)
7. *Ibid.* No.M.12050/1/2016-AMC of 18th October, 2016. [↑](#endnote-ref-7)
8. *Ibid.* No.M.12051/1/2016-AMC of 18th October, 2016. [↑](#endnote-ref-8)
9. *Ibid.* No.M.12052/1/2016-AMC of 18th October, 2016. [↑](#endnote-ref-9)
10. *Ibid.* No.M.12053/1/2016-AMC of 18th October, 2016. [↑](#endnote-ref-10)
11. *Ibid.* No.M.12043/1/2014-AMC of 24th November, 2017. [↑](#endnote-ref-11)
12. D.O. letter No.R-12012/31/2007-P&J of January 21, 2008. [↑](#endnote-ref-12)
13. Letter No.B-13015/37/07-LAD/VC, dated 11.2.2008. [↑](#endnote-ref-13)
14. Lalneihzovi, *Role of Panchayat Mahila Shakti Abhiyan – Core Committee in Women Political Empowerment in Mizoram,* Lalneihzovi & T. Vanlaltlani (eds). Hmeichhiate Lamtluang. All Mizoram Women Federation, Aizawl. 2013. pp.168,169. [↑](#endnote-ref-14)
15. Press Note of State Election Commission Memo No.B.14015/7/2009-SEC/MC/70 of 11th August, 2010. [↑](#endnote-ref-15)
16. Lalneihzovi, *op. cit*. pp.174,175. [↑](#endnote-ref-16)
17. State Election Commission, Notification No. B.1405/10/2015-SEC/AMC of 25th August, 2015. [↑](#endnote-ref-17)
18. Memo No.M.33023/1/2014- AMC of 2nd June, 2015. [↑](#endnote-ref-18)
19. Memo No.M.26019/1/2010 – AMC of 4th February, 2011. [↑](#endnote-ref-19)