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NOTIFICATIONS

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

New Delhi Dated 24th April, 1978.

S.O. :—WHEREAS the Manipur Hills Union was a recognised State Party in the State of Manipur for the purpose of the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968 and the symbol 'Lion' was reserved for that party;

AND WHEREAS the name of that Party was subsequently changed as the Manipur Hills-Plain Union;

AND WHEREAS it was represented to the Election Commission by a section or group of the party led by S/Shri Victor W. Kaping, N. Pauheu and Y. Shaiza that all the 12 members of the existing Manipur Legislative Assembly who were returned to the said Assembly on the ticket of the Manipur Hills Union i. e. the originally recognised party, had joined the Indian National Congress, that the Manipur Hills Union had at no time merged with the Manipur Hills Plain Union, and as such the party had ceased to exist;

AND WHEREAS another rival group or section of the party led by S/Shri A. Daiho, and L. Solomon had set up a counter-claim that the party continued to exist as a separate party and maintain its independent entity and not merged with the Indian National Congress;

AND WHEREAS the Commission was satisfied on information in its possession that there were two rival groups or sections of the party each of whom claimed to be that party and that a dispute had arisen in terms of paragraph 15 of the Election Symbols (Reservation and Atlotment) Order, 1968 for determination by the Commission;

AND WHEREAS the Commission, by it notification No 56/77—Vol. III dated 10 Feb., 1977 published in the Gazette of India and Manipur Gazette, withdrew the symbol 'Lion' reserved for the Party, pending decision in the matter;

AND WHEREAS the Com-aission, in order to decide the matter, directed both the parties to the dispute by its registered letters dated 15th. Sept. 1977 to submit their statements of case and other documents on which they proposed to rely in support of their respective claims, within 20 days of the receipt of the said letter by them;

AND WHEREAS both the parties to the dispute did not respond to the Commission's aforesaid letters dated 15th September, 1977 nor did they submit any such statements and documents and the Commission in order to do full justice to the case granted a further apportunity to both the groups in the matter by its registered letters dated 11/12 January, 1978;

AND WHEREAS both the groups have again not responded to the said letters of 11/12 January, 1978 and have not filed or submitted any statements or documents to substantiate their respective claims, until now,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Commission after taking into account all the available facts and circumstances of the case, hereby decides that the dispute not/being in existence at present the Manipur Hills - Plain Union has since ceased to exist, and is not functioning, as a separate party and in exercise of its powers under Article 324 of the Constitution read with paragraps 15, 17 and 18 of the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968 and all other power enabling it in this behalf, the Commission directs that the following amendment shall be made to its Notification No. 56/78, dated 25 January, 1978 published as S.O. 40(E) in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, Section 3(ii), dated 25 January, 1978 namely:—

IN Table 2 appended to the said Notification, in column 2, the entry "2 Manipur Hills-Plain Union" against the State of Manipur in column 1, shall be deleted.

By order (No. 56/11/76)

K. Ganesan
Under Secretary to the Election
Commission of India.