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## NOTIFICATIONS

No. LAD/VC--31/83/Pt. III, the 10th August, 1983. In exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 (3) of the Lushai Hills District (Village Councils) Act, 1953 the Lt. Governor (Administrator) of Mizoram is pleased to accept resignation of Shri Saikalkhama from his membership of Phuaibuang Village Council with effect from 19. 6. 1983.

Further in exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 (3) of the Lushai Hills District Village Councils Act, 1953 the Lt. Governor (Administrator) of Mizoram is pleased to nominate Shri Chalthakunga as Village Council Member of Phuaibuang Village Council with effect from 19. 6. 1983 in place of Shri Saikalkhama since resigned.

S. Lianhrima Hauhmar,  
Under Secretary to the Govt. of Mizoram

No. DCA/R--15/83/P/Part/39, the 5th August, 1983. Whereas the Lt. Governor (Administrator) of the Union Territory of Mizoram is satisfied that circumstances exist for appointing a Commission to examine and report on certain matters relating to the administration of the Pawi District Council as specified in the terms of reference below :

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 14 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India, the Lt. Governor (Administrator) of the Union Territory of Mizoram is pleased to appoint a one man Inquiry Commission consisting of the Deputy Commissioner, Lunglei District, Lunglei to inquire into the said matters and to submit its report to the Lt. Governor (Administrator) within two months from the date of issue of this order.

The Commission shall follow the normal procedures of inquiry including examination of records and witness and acceptance and consideration of such memoranda or representations as may be submitted by any person or persons and also hold on the spot inspection and verification as may be required. In other respects the Commission is free to evolve and follow its own procedure.

The terms of reference to the Commission are as follows :—

- (a) Whether there have been irregularities in the preparation of electoral roll for the elections to the Village Councils in the Pawi District Council held during May to June, 1983.
- (b) Whether there have been irregularities in the conduct of the said elections.
- (c) Whether the said elections can be declared as null and void.
- (d) Remedial measures to be taken so as to avoid irregularities in future and in particular whether the preparation of electoral rolls and conduct of election to the Village Councils in the District Councils may be entrusted to an independent authority like the Deputy Commissioner.
- (e) Any other matter relevant to the above issues.

S. W. Sundara Raj,  
Secretary to the Govt. of Mizoram,  
District Council Affairs Deptt.

No. LAD/C—24/79/43, the 11th August, 1983. In exercise of the powers conferred by section 23 of the Lushai Hills District (Village Councils) Act, 1953 (Lushai Hills Act V of 1953), the Lt. Governor (Administrator) of the Union Territory of Mizoram is pleased to make the following rules, namely :—

1. Short title extent and commencement.—

- (1) These rules shall be called the Mizoram (Prevention and Control of Fire in the Village Ram) Rules 1983.
- (2) They shall extend to the whole of the Union territory of Mizoram except the areas under the jurisdiction of the Autonomous District Councils of Pawi, Lakher and Chakma.
- (3) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Mizoram Gazette.

2. Definition.— In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires,—

- (1) "Act" means the Lushai Hills District (Village Councils) Act, 1953 (Lushai Hills Act V of 1953);
- (2) "Hnatlang" means a Common Service for the common good of the Villagers which the residents of the village are to render;
- (3) "Huan" means a garden for any purpose;
- (4) "Jhum" means shifting cultivation;
- (5) "Leipui" means a subsidiary shifting jhum cultivation and includes small farm for crops;
- (6) "Lo bing" means one or more lone jhums amid a jungle not contiguous;
- (7) "Meilam" means clearance of jungle for a fire-belt to prevent spreading of fire;
- (8) "Ram" means all land within the jurisdiction of a village and includes vegetation thereof;
- (9) "Village Council" means a Village Council constituted under the provision of the Lushai Hills Autonomous District (Administration of Justice) Rules, 1953.
- (10) "Village Court" means the Village Court constituted under rule 6 of the Lushai Hills Autonomous District (Administration of Justice) Rules, 1953.

3. Prevention and control of fire in a jungle and jhum area.—

(1) Every year a Village Council shall fix period for cutting of jhum during which all villagers having jhum must start and finish it.

(2) A village Council shall fix a date for burning of jhum which will be made known to the villagers at least three days ahead of the fixed date, and on that fixed date burning of jhum shall be done.

(3) In a place where there is a danger of spreading of fire beyond jhum area, the villagers shall make Meilam as and when Village Council enforces a Hnatlang for the purposes and it shall be compulsory for all persons having jhum to participate in such a Hnatlang specially enforced for this purpose.

(4) In case of Leipui, Huan or Lo bing owned by one or more villagers other than jhums, the owners shall inform the village council of their intention to burn the cut area at least seven days ahead of

their tentative date, and the Village Council shall fix a date for the burning. If the village council considers it necessary, such owners shall make Meilam before burning.

(5) If jhum, Leipui, Huan or Lo bing to be burnt is close to a village, utmost care shall be taken by the village council to prevent outbreak or sparks of fire from catching houses or properties. For this purpose, the village council may make orders which the villagers or the concerned owners shall comply.

(6) Burning of anything in a jungle in a careless and negligent manner which may cause destruction of undergrowths, bushes, thatches, trees and bamboos, thus depriving the soil of its fertility and suitability for jhuming and other cultivation, shall be punishable under these Rules.

4. Prevention and control of fire in the areas other than jhum and jungle.—

(1) It shall be the general duty of every household to exercise care for control and prevention of spread of fire and flame.

(2) Burning of anything in a careless and negligent manner which may cause danger to life and property, or amount to nuisance and mischief, shall be punishable under these Rules.

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(3) Careless management of cooking even, fire-place and cooking implements and agents like fire-woods, charcoals, kerosine, frying pan, oil, torch, splinters etc. which may cause, or like-ly to cause, undue flames and fire shall be punishable under these Rules.

5. Powers of Village Councils.— It shall be the general duty of a village council to enforce these Rules within its jurisdiction in the most effective manner suitable to local condition.

6. Penalties.— Any person contravening any of the provisions of rule 3 or rule 4 shall be punishable with fine which may extend to 50 (fifty) Rupees.

7. Tribal of cases.— The Village Court shall try all cases under these rules in accordance with the provisions of the Lushai Hills District (Administration of Justice) Rules, 1953, and all the provisions of the said rules shall apply as they apply to the cases referred to in rule 14 of the said rules.

H. Raltawna,  
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of Mizoram,  
Local Administration Deptt.