

**THE MIZO MARRIAGE AND INHERITANCE OF PROPERTY
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2026**

**GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM
LAW & JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**

**THE MIZO MARRIAGE AND INHERITANCE OF PROPERTY
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**A
BILL**

*to amend the Mizo Marriage, Divorce and Inheritance of Property Act,
2014.*

Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of Mizoram in the Seventy-seventh year of the Republic of India as follows:-

Short title, extent and commencement.-

- 1) This Act may be called the Mizo Marriage and Inheritance of Property (Amendment) Act, 2026.
- 2) It shall have the like extent as the principal Act.
- 3) It shall come into force on the date of publication in the Official Gazette.

Amendment of section 1 .-

In section 1 of the Mizo Marriage, Divorce and Inheritance of Property Act, 2014 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act)

- 1) In sub-section (1), the word "Divorce" shall be omitted.
- 2) For sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

"It shall extend to the whole of Mizoram. It shall, however, not be applicable to persons residing within the three Autonomous District Councils having their own customary laws."

Amendment of section 2.-

For section 2 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

“ This Act applies to all marriages where both the parties belong to Mizo tribe or where the male member to the marriage belongs to any Mizo tribe.”

Amendment of section 3.-

In section 3 of the principal Act,

1) For clause (a) of section 3, the following clause shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

a) “ ‘Acquired property’ means any property acquired by the couple by any means from any income during the subsistence of their marriage irrespective of registration of ownership of such property.”

2) Clause (b) of section 3 shall be omitted.

3) After clause (i), the following clauses (ia), (ib) and (ic) shall be inserted as follows, namely:-

“(ia) ‘Indang’ means a legally wedded man who had established his own household separate and independent from that of his parents and acted as head of that family.”

“(ib) ‘Inherited property’ means any property inherited by or gifted to a person from their ancestors or family members or other relatives lawfully passed on to such person as per prevailing laws.”

“(ic) ‘Kawngka sula mak’ means when a man find a woman he prefers to his wife and divorces his wife and thereafter remarries that woman on the same day or shortly thereafter, the divorce is known as ‘kawngka sula mak’. The literal meaning of ‘kawngka sula mak’ is to marry another wife in which the old wife goes out the door and the new wife comes in.”

4) After clause (l), the following clause (la) shall be inserted as follows, namely:-

“(la) Ma’ / ‘mak’ means a wife divorced by her husband.”

5) For clause (m), the following clause shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

“(m) ‘Mizo’ means any individual who are Mizos by birth or whose father belongs to any Mizo tribe and includes a legally adopted child.”

6) For clause (r), the following clause shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

“(r) ‘Marriage’ means a wilful union between a man and a woman who are both majors at the time of marriage and lawfully solemnized as per procedure provided in the Act.”

7) In clause (u), after the words “possessed by a person” in the last sentence , the words “but does not include acquired property” shall be inserted.

8) After clause (w), a new clause (wa) shall be inserted as follows, namely:-

“(wa) ‘Sumchhuah’ means a married woman leaving her husband by returning her Man leh mual.”

Amendment of section 4.-

1) For section 4 of the principal Act, the following shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

“4. The marriage between a man and a woman shall be said to be lawfully solemnized upon happening of the following sequence of events;-

(i) A male suitor conveys a proposal for marriage of a woman through Palai to the head of the family of the woman he wants to marry;

(ii) If the woman’s family accepts the proposal after obtaining the consent of the woman, quantum of ‘man leh mual’ is fixed by the head of the bride’s family and the date and venue for payment of the Man leh mual and of solemnization of marriage are fixed;

(iii) The man pays the Man leh mual through Palai;

(iv) On the day marriage is solemnized and at the appointed time, the bride, under escort by Lawichal, leaves her home and family to live with the bridegroom;

(v) The Licenced Officer chosen by the parties to administer solemnization of marriage is informed of the intended marriage and is duly solemnized;

(vi) When the marriage has been solemnized in accordance with the customary rites and procedures as mentioned above and as per marriage solemnized by the Licensed Officer, the marriage becomes complete and binding;”

Insertion of section 4A.-

After section 4 of the principal Act, a new section 4A shall be inserted as follows, namely:-

“4A. Man leh mual : Man leh mual shall consist of ‘man pui’ which shall not be less than Rs. 420/-.”

Amendment of section 6.-

In section 6 of the principal Act, a proviso shall be inserted as follows, namely:-

“Provided that before solemnization of re-marriage of either the man or the woman, the Licensed Officer shall ensure that the party applying for re-marriage has obtained Divorce Certificate issued by a Competent Court.”

Amendment of section 11.-

In section 11 of the Principal Act, sub-section (3) shall be omitted.

Amendment of section 13.-

In clause (v) of sub-section (1) of section 13 of the principal Act, the words “leprosy or” shall be omitted.

Amendment of section 15.-

After section 15 of the principal Act, the following section 15A shall be inserted as follows, namely:-

“15A. Liberty of parties to marry again: Where a decree for dissolution or nullity of marriage has been passed and either the time for appeal has expired without an appeal having been presented to any court including the Supreme Court or, an appeal has been presented but has been dismissed and the decree or dismissal has become final, it shall be lawful for either party to the marriage to marry again, or when a person becomes single after the death of his or her spouse.”

Amendment of section 18.-

Section 18 of the principal Act shall be omitted.

Insertion of section 19A.-

After section 19 of the principal Act, a new section 19A shall be inserted as follows, namely:-

“19A. Jurisdiction of the court.-The civil court having original jurisdiction over the area where the legatee resides shall have the power -

(i) To grant probate of the original will produced before him by the executor regardless of the place where the property is situated.

(ii) To grant Heirship Certificate or Succession Certificate in respect of any property as per Schedule IV.

(iii) To adjudicate upon any dispute arising out of and within the scope of this Act.

Amendment of section 25.-

In section 25 of the principal Act,

1) In the proviso, after the words “the acquired property” the words “and shall be given a share not exceeding fifty percent of the acquired property” shall be inserted.

2) The explanation and its content shall be omitted.

Amendment of section 26.-

In section 26 of the principal Act,

1) In sub- section (1), the words “The personal property of the women shall not be disturbed” shall be omitted.

2) The explanation and its content shall be omitted.

Amendment of section 27.-

In section 27 of the principal Act, the explanation and its content shall be omitted.

Amendment of section 28.-

In section 28 of the principal Act, the explanation and its content shall be omitted.

Amendment of section 29.-

In section 29 of the principal Act, after sub-section (8), a new sub-section (9) shall be inserted as follows, namely:-

“(9) At the time of probate of a will, the Court shall also issue Heirship Certificate or Succession Certificate as the case may be on the basis of such probate.”

Amendment of section 30.-

Section 30 of the principal Act shall be omitted.

**Amendment of the words
“marriage price”:-**

In the principal Act, for the words “marriage price”, the words “Man leh mual” shall be substituted wherever they appear.

Amendment of Schedule II.-

In the principal Act, in Schedule II,

(1) For entry (7), the following shall be substituted as follows, namely:-

“ 7. Nu man is paid to the mother, who gave birth to the bride. It arises only when the father and mother of the bride are not married or divorced.”

(2) Entry (8) shall be omitted.

Amendment of Schedule IV.-

In the principal Act, in Schedule IV,

1) In the heading, for the words and figures “sec 30 of the Act”, the words and figures “sec 19A of the Act” shall be substituted.

2) For the words “Heirship Certificate”, the words “Heirship Certificate/ Succession Certificate” wherever they appear shall be substituted.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

1. The Mizo Marriage, Divorce and Inheritance of Property Act, 2014 was enacted to codify the Mizo Customary laws relating to marriages, divorce and inheritance between the Mizos or where the male partner to the marriage belongs to Mizo tribe.
2. Over the years, the Mizo Marriage, Divorce and Inheritance of Property Act, 2014 has been used for solemnization of marriages, distribution of inheritance and means and ways for seeking divorce.
3. The Act was enacted with the intention to bring about legality to several proceedings while simultaneously trying to preserve the customary laws that had been in practise in the State of Mizoram for many generations. Conserving of the Mizo traditions entails several difficulties in the legislation of the Act.
4. As a result, several suggestions for amendment for the provisions have been received from Mipa Upa Pawl (MUP), Mizoram Hmeichhe Insuihkhawm Pawl (MHIP), Mizoram Law Commission, Mizoram State Commission for Women and Central Young Mizo Association (CYMA).
5. The amendment is proposed based of the findings of the Review Committee comprising of NGO's, representatives of Churches, Experts in the field and Government Officials after having in depth discussion and examination of the provisions of the Act.
6. The amendment offers a solution to several problems prevailing in our society and is believed to be in the interest of the larger public.

Hence this Bill.

Place: Aizawl

Dated: 15.01.26



(LALDUHOMA)

Minister of Law & Judicial Deptt.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Mizo Marriage, and Inheritance of Property (Amendment) Act, 2026, if passed will not entail financial implication upon the State Government. Hence, Financial concurrence is not obtained.


(LALDUHOMA)

Minister
Law & Judicial Department
Government of Mizoram