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After the 1995 Assembly Election in Manipur, the Manipur People's Party had been in the opposition. Six MLAs of the party could not remain longer as opposition members and as a result of it, they left the party and joined the Congress in a period of six months.¹ Later, four other MLAs namely Sapam Dhananjoy Singh, D. Dongel, Tangmiliyan and Ksh. Biren formed a break-away MPP (Democratic) within a period of 2(two) years. Again the MPP MLA from Khundrakpam Constituency, K. Binoy expired. Thus, out of its 18 MLAs, 11 left the party in a period of 2(two) years and it weakened the party strength.

In the 2000 Manipur State Assembly Election, four candidates of the MPP could return. But, three party MLAs namely, L. Jatra of Khangabok Constituency, K. Tomba of Khundrakpam Constituency and S. Chandra of Andro Constituency left the party on the same day of the declaration of the election result.² O. Joy was lone MPP MLA in the Legislative Assembly of Manipur after that. Since the 2002 State Assembly Election, O. Joy Singh and Nimaichand Luwang have been two prominent MPP MLAs.

As a result of the departure of many MLAs of the party after the elections, the party suffered set-backs. It was mainly due to lack of committed party members.³ The President stated that 'regionalism' means self-reliance, self-service and commitment. It will not be an exaggeration to note that O. Joy Singh, the present President, has been the backbone of the MPP till date. He shows his maturity and firm commitment to the ideology and principle of regionalism. As a member of the opposition in the State Legislature, he

² ibid. p. 17.
³ Interview: O. Joy Singh, the present President, MPP. 10.9.2002.
demonstrates the excellence. Thus, though there have been smaller numbers of the MPP in the State Legislature, his maturity, debating skill and strength provides much strength to the MPP inside the legislature.

The Kuki National Assembly, on the other hand, reduced its strength tremendously. In the 2000 State Assembly Election, no KNA candidate was elected. Similarly, there has not been any KNA MLA after the 2002 State Legislative Assembly Elections. Thus, the party remains as a very small and weak party. At present, Demkhoon Haokip from Churachandpur, has been the President of the party since December, 1999.  

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4 Interview: Jainson Haokip, the former President of the KNA. 01.10.2003.