CHAPTER V
WOMEN AND POLITICS OF MIZORAM – II

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CHAPTER V
WOMEN AND POLITICS OF MIZORAM – II

5.0. INTRODUCTION:
When the Constitution of India came into force, the Lushai Hills were
made an Autonomous District (of Assam) under the Sixth Schedule of the
Constitution, and a District Council was formed on 25.4.1952 for the area
covered by Aizawl and Lungleh Sub-Divisions, while a Regional Council
was started on 23.4.1953 of the remaining region inhabited by the Pawis,
Lakhers and the Chakmas. In 1954, the Lushai Hills District was re-
named Mizo District by an Act of Parliament called the Lushai Hills
District (Change of name) Act, 1954.¹

5.1. LUSHAI HILLS DISTRICT COUNCIL (MIZO DISTRICT
COUNCIL):
As per the Notification of the Government of Assam, No. TAD/R/51/1
dated 8th November, 1951, the first General Election to the Lushai Hills
District was held on January 4, 1952.² For the first time in the history of
Mizo people, the first election to the Lushai Hills District Council on the
basis of adult franchise was held. The total strength of the District
Council was 24. Of them, 18 were elected from the single member
constituencies and 6 were nominated by the government of Assam on the
advice of the Chief Executive Member for a term of 5 years.³ There were
only two political parties namely Mizo Union (MU) and United Mizo
Freedom Organisation (UMFO) contesting. Two also contested as

¹ L. N. Das, A Study of the Land System of Mizoram (Shillong: The North Eastern Council,
1990), p. 3.
independent. No women were allotted seats as candidates by the two big parties and only one woman, Ms. Lalziki Sailo, was put in the nominated seat. This clearly shows marginalization of women politically in the first election to the Lushai Hills District Council.

There was also no woman candidate in the 2nd General Election to the Mizo District Council. MU, UMFO, Right Wing and one independent contested the election. Rosiama was re-nominated for a second term but died while in office in June 1959. Ms. Lalziki, nominated to the first District Council in 1952, was replaced by Ms. Hmingliani (Mrs. R. Thanhlira) by fresh nomination.5

4 Ms. Lalziki was an enterprising woman, well acquainted with the Governor and other Ministers of the Assam Government, to the extent of being guest to the Governor on her trips to Shillong. She often graciously received visitors like the Assam Chief Minister and the Prime Minister, Pandit Dr. Jawaharlal Nehru. She was believed to have been recommended by the Assam Government for nominated seat of Member in the Rajya Sabha, but it remained unrealized because of objections from the leaders of the Mizos District Council. She was a member of the Guwahati University Court for 9 years (a period of 3 terms). She was also an examiner for Mizo language, when the Assam Public Service Commission introduced the subject in the Assam Civil Service Exams. During the MNA Movement, there were proposals in the Assam Government to group villages together around Hlimra into the protected village (in the concentration camp model). She worked tirelessly against this and the proposal was not carried out probably as a result of her efforts. J. V. Huma, "Role of Women in the Politics of Mizoram through the ages", paper presented at a Seminar organized by Mizoram Historical Association, on 27th Sept, 2001, Aizaw., p. 2 (Unpublished).

5 Ms. Hmingliani was the wife of the famous politician, R. Thanhlira who was elected in the District advisory Council, 1948, the first election to the Lushai Hills District Council, 1952 and in the State Assembly of Assam, 1952. She was a woman with vision, being greatly concerned by the clause in Mizo Customary Law which barred females from inheriting estate. She worked hard to rectify this. Her proposal that if the beneficiary was willing, women should be permitted to be beneficiaries was accepted and she is to be credited for the change in the law, which is practised till date. When it was practiced, practical problems cropped up owing to objections raised by males. Thus court cases became common and as a result, the District Council authorities thought of revoking the decision. This agitated the women functionaries. Here the presence of Hmingliani as a member was very significant. She tried her best to convince the authorities not to go back to the old system. Because of her utmost effort, no change was made regarding inheritance. As a result of this, women have a right to inherit family property. This they can achieve through a Will. She also advised the Union leaders to allow women to contest for Village Councils and was successful on this issue. Land for the Khattachal Tamlukxa Paul Headquarter was allotted by the Deputy Commissioner Mr. Berinlathi,
There were no women in the nominated and elected seats in the third election to the Mizo District Council. No election could be held in 1967 due to the outbreak of insurgency in the Mizo Hills. So the tenure of the District Council was extended up to 1970. But the long overdue fourth election to the District Council was held on the 23rd April 1970. Women were unrepresented again in the fourth election to the Mizo District Council in the elected and nominated seats.

We can say that women were very much marginalized right from the first to the fourth Mizo District Council, with no women candidates for the elected posts and the nominated seats were given only in the first and second elections.

during her Presidency and was accompanied with Pass issued by the District Council with the assistance of Mr. Lalbina, Executive member. On Nekhu’s visit, she requested Rs. 10,000/- for setting up a Maternity Centre for which Rs. 6500/- was granted. With this, the proposed Centre and a Bhai Training Centre was successfully set up in April, 1953. The efforts of Selhunson and some well-meaning nurses produced several Dinais and were sent out to villages with a pay of Rs. 15/- The Assam Chief Minister, Mr. B. P. Chakha also gave the organisation 2 sewing machines, cloth for sewing and Rs. 3000/- as capital for required materials, at Ms. Hminglian’s behest.

Another noteworthy contribution of Ms. Hminglian was the successful dealing with the Assam P.W.D Minister B. N. Mukherjee who visited in 1954. While the District Council leaders requested the black-topping of the Aizawl to Silchar Road, she asked that the Aizawl local road from Chamain to Kolhawm be black-topped, on account of the adverse effects of the dusty town roads. The Minister laid great importance on this request and issued an order. Aizawl road was black-topped for the first time, only due to her pioneering efforts. When the Assam Chief Minister visited Mizoram during the 1960 famine, she requested supplies of essential commodities like milk powder, vitamins, hot water bags, etc., for mothers who could not feed their babies due to lack of proper nutrition, apart from the existing request made for the supply of rice. The Women’s Organisation was supplied with such commodities which were in turn distributed in the villages. J. V. Hluma, Cq. Cit, pp. 2, 3.

5.2. LOK SABHA AND STATE ASSEMBLY OF ASSAM:
The first General Election under the Constitution of India for the House of People and for the State Assembly of Assam (during which the Lushai Hills were under the Assam government) were held simultaneously on January 5, 1952. Due to more population in Assam, 2 parliamentary seats were left free for Cachar people. As for the three seats allotted to Mizoram, it was a straight fight between the Mizo Union and the United Mizo Freedom Organisation parties (all 3 seats were captured by Mizo Union with overwhelming majority, in which no woman contested). 1935 Government of India Act provided for representation of women by reservation of seat from Shillong Constituency in the Assam Legislative Assembly. This was known as Shillong Women Seat. The Act also permitted women to contest for general seats. In 1937 election, two women, Berlina Lyngdoh and Mavis Dunn Lyngdoh, contested in the Shillong reserved seat. The latter was elected and for the first time a woman became a member of the Legislative Assembly. She was inducted in the Md. Sadulla Ministry in 1939-41 and again in 1942-45. She was the first woman in North East to become a minister. In the 1952 first parliamentary election to the Lok Sabha, three women candidates, that is, B. Khongmen, Wilson Reade and L. L. D. Basan from Autonomous District Constituency of the then undivided Assam contested for the Lok Sabha seat. B. Khongmen was elected and became the first and only woman from Assam to represent the Lok Sabha in 1952.\(^7\) This shows that Meghalaya women’s active participation in the formal higher decision making processes of the country was much earlier than that of the Mizo women.

\(^7\) *The Shillong Times (Assam)*, May 8, 2002, p. 4.
In the second (1957), third (1962), fourth (1967) general elections and 1968 bye election, there were no female candidates.

5.3. PAWI-LAKHER REGIONAL COUNCIL:
On 23rd April, 1953, an autonomous Regional Council called the Pawi-Lakher Regional Council was created in the Pawi-Lakher Region of the South Mizo. The Pawis, Lakhers and the Chakmas were the inhabitants falling within its jurisdiction. Out of the total of 8143 sq.miles area of the Lushai Hills District Council, 6743 sq. miles fell within the jurisdiction of the Lushai Hills District Council and the rest in the South Lushai Hills District of Mizoram came under the Pawi-Lakher Regional Council. In 1953, the Advisory Council of the Pawi-Lakher Regional Council was constituted by the government of Assam under the chairmanship of the then Lunglei S. D. O, B. W. Roy with other six members. The Advisory Council subsequently prepared the first constitution of the Pawi-Lakher Regional Council and the Constituencies were drawn up for the purpose of election. According to the first Constitution of the said Council, the then Sub-divisional Officer of Lunglei, B. W. Roy was to hold both the posts of Chairman and Chief Executive Member.

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11 Ibid., p. 61.
In its first term, the Pawi-Lakher Regional Council had the strength of 9 elected members and 3 Nominated members. Unfortunately there was no female. In the beginning, its headquarters was in Lunglei and later on they shifted it to Lawngtlai. The Tribal Union won all the 9 seats and 3 nominated seats. The 2nd election was held in 1958 in which the general seats were increased from 9 to 10 and the nominated seats reduced from 3 to 2. Here too women were absent.

The 3rd election was held in 1964 but the Mara Freedom Party boycotted it and so only 6 seats were filled up which were all won by the Tribal Union. The last general election was held in 1970. During the period from 1953 to 1972, 35 members were elected to the Regional Council, all of which were males. Women had no part in the politics of Pawi-Lakher Regional Council.

With the implementation of the North-Eastern Areas (Re-Organisation) Act, 1971, the Mizoram Hills District was upgraded to the status of a Union Territory as per para 6 of the Act and the Government of the Union Territories (Amendment) Act 1971.\footnote{S. N. Singh, Mizoram (New Delhi: Mittal Publications, 1994), p. 154.} On the 30th March, 1971, the Mizo District Council was abolished by the government of India. When the Mizos attained the Union Territory of Mizoram with Legislative Assembly to protect their own way of life with suitable legislations passed by the Assembly, the Pawis, the Lakhers and the Chakmas wanted to take the benefit of the new political status. They submitted a memorandum to the Government of India on 7th September 1971 demanding creation of a separate Union Territory for their areas. The Government could not accept their demands. They finally agreed to the
demand for the creation of the District Councils for their respective areas. After the Union Territory of Mizoram was set up, the Administrator of Mizoram passed an order as per the Provisions of the North-Eastern Areas (Re-Organisation) Mizoram Adaptation of Laws Order, 1972 and the Government of Union Territories (Amendment) Act, 1971, creating three autonomous regions of three Regional Councils, one each for the Pawis, the Lakhers and the Chakmas on 2\textsuperscript{nd} April, 1972. These Regional Councils were converted into District Councils on 29\textsuperscript{nd} April, 1972. Their headquarters are at Lawngtlai, Saiha and Borapansuri (now Chawngte) respectively.

5.4. **LAI AUTONOMOUS DISTRICT COUNCIL (LADC):**

Women were absent from the first (1972) to the fourth (1988) elections to the Lai Autonomous District Council. In the 5\textsuperscript{th} Lai District Council election (1992), out of the 19 elected and 4 nominated posts, one female, Ms. K. Zapari got the nominated seat. This is the beginning of the appearance of women in the Lai Autonomous District Council but it is still sad that no women got the elected seats. Ms. K. Zapari contributed a lot for the development of her community. Due to her initiative, certain achievements were made- (1) Hostel for the members of the LADC was constructed at College Veng, Lawngtlai, in 1994. (2) Lai Customary Law (Pawi-Lakher Customary Law) was made in 1996. (3) Construction of Working Girls hostel at Electric Veng, Lawngtlai, in 1998.\textsuperscript{13} She was re-nominated in the 6\textsuperscript{th} election to the District Council, and here too, no women occupied the elected seat.

\textsuperscript{13} An interview with Ms. K. Zapari, Lawngtlai, on 13\textsuperscript{th} December, 2007.
One female, Ms. H. Remhnuni, occupied one seat out of the 4 nominated seats and 23 elected seats in the 7th election to the Lai Autonomous District Council. In 1999-2000, she was a General Secretary of the MNF Women Front. In 2001-2002, she was a Vice President and later an advisor of the MNF Women Front. From 2005, she has not been holding any important office even though she is still a member of the MNF party. While she was an MDC, she was a member of the Housing Loan Board and she had given loan to many people. She said that there have never been women candidates for MDC and that women became MDC only through nomination, there have been fights for candidates among men and women generally do not think that they will get candidature. Moreover, they are not interested in politics while all men are interested. Public do not have confidence in women and look at them in somewhat different eyes and also criticize women who go out for political reasons. There are also very few women candidates for Village Council. She said that right from the time of existence of MNF party, she was its supporter and therefore is in her blood. She entered politics as females who could lead the Women Front was sought and was therefore chosen to become the General Secretary.\textsuperscript{1c}

There was absence of women in the elected posts of the 8th election to the Lai Autonomous District Council. Only one woman, Ms. Rinchhungi got the nominated seat. A Town Committee was constructed on 11\textsuperscript{th} July, 2007 to make Rules for the LADC, in which Ms. Rinchhungi was given the post of its Chairman. It is an Executive Member rank with a vehicle and Personal Assistant. In fact, she was the first among women to occupy such an important position in the LADC.\textsuperscript{15} Unfortunately, she held the

\textsuperscript{14} An interview with Ms. H. Remhnuni, Lawngdla, on 9th February, 2009.

\textsuperscript{15} An interview with Ms. Rinchhungi, Lawnglai, on 15th December, 2007.
post only for 2 years as the LADC term ended on 13\textsuperscript{th} January, 2009, and the Congress started ruling.

Table No. 5.0: Overall result of the General Election to the Lai Autonomous District Council:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Seats</th>
<th>Elected Seats</th>
<th>Nominated Seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elected - Nominated</td>
<td>Male - Female</td>
<td>Male - Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11 N1</td>
<td>3 N1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12 N1</td>
<td>3 N1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>19 N1</td>
<td>19 N1</td>
<td>N1 N1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18 N1</td>
<td>3 N1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>19 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>23 4</td>
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<td>1997</td>
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<td>3 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23 N1</td>
<td>3 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23 N1</td>
<td>3 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Office of the District Council Affairs, Aizawl, Mizoram.

In all the elections, women never got the elected post and never occupied the posts of CEM, EM, Chairman and Deputy Chairman of LADC, which clearly depicts that women are very much marginalized in the politics of Lai District.
5.5. MARA AUTONOMOUS DISTRICT COUNCIL (MADC):
Let us now examine the political position of women in the Maraland.

The presence of one woman, Ms. Ngony, in the elected post in the 1st election to the Mara Autonomous District Council shows that it is comparatively better than the Lai Autonomous District Council, though it is not at all good. Daughter of Serkawr chief, Chhothmo, she was interested in politics. Though she occupied the MDC seat for the full term, she could not do much to improve the status of females, as she was a royal blood which was an enemy of the commoners. Since women were marginalized even in the churches, she thought that by joining politics, she would make way for other females. At that time, people were amazed that females entered politics and she was mocked by both males and females. No females were involved in politics. She said that it was painful and the situation is still almost the same even now. She also said that just as different colours comprising flowers look beautiful, so is the case in the administration of the state, God created both men and women equally and therefore should both be involved. Just like flowers, they will look more beautiful. Out of embarrassment, she left politics as her husband had also decided to contest and people were laughing at them. She thinks that the reason for non-participation of women in politics is the unawareness that God created men and women equal. She feels that she can do all things that men can and that she does not have any inferiority complex.

We find the absence of women from the 2nd (1978) to the 5th (1990) election to the Mara Autonomous District Council.

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16 An interview with Ms. Ngony, Saihe, on 9th February, 2009.
There is one woman, Ms. J. Maki in the nominated seat of the 6<sup>th</sup> election to the Mara Autonomous District Council but not in the elected seat. She occupied the seat for a full term. Her uncle, the then CEM K. Paichho nominated her to the MDC post.

One woman, Ms. Lalbiaktluangi V. Hlychho, got the nominated seat in the 7<sup>th</sup> election to the Mara Autonomous District Council. She was born on 15 June, 1949 at Rotlang. Her husband, Vanluiaia Hlychho was one of the founders of Maraland and the first President of the Mara Freedom party and later in 1989 an MNF party President in Maraland. Unfortunately he died on 10 Feb., 1995. To her surprise, she was given the nominated seat in the MADC on 19<sup>th</sup> Aug., 2000. On 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2003, she was upgraded as a Deputy Chairman. She feels that in Maraland, there is a feeling that women consider themselves as inferior to men.<sup>17</sup>

There was only one female, Ms. Ngothlua as a nominated member in the 8<sup>th</sup> election to the Mara Autonomous District Council. Nominated by MNF party, she held the post only for one year and two months, as the ruling MNF was overthrown by MDF and Congress. Her husband, S. Lalthansanga, was a Secretary of the MNF party and for two terms, he was the main helper of the CEM, Viakhu. So she was chosen to represent the females in the nominated seats. She said that it is very difficult for women to enter politics as their duties are more in the household.<sup>18</sup>

In the 9<sup>th</sup> election to the Mara Autonomous District Council, only one woman (Ms. N. Naphie) was elected and another one (A. Dawzu) got the nominated seat. Ms. N. Naphie entered politics in 2007, leaving her job in

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<sup>17</sup> An interview with Ms. Lalbiaktluangi V. Hlychho, Saihe, on 9th February, 2009.

<sup>18</sup> An interview with Ms. Ngothlua, Saihe, on 9th February, 2009.
the Deputy Commissioner’s office as an Upper Divisional Clerk. Her bother, N. Chosa, was an EM and her father, N. Laihroa was the Congress Block President in Tuipang. Her uncle-in-law, Paichho was also a CEM. So, right from childhood, she had been interested in politics. She feels that the government job cannot cover the whole state. She thinks women are very much capable to run the administration. She wants more women to enter politics and therefore had even met leaders of the women organisitons in Aizawl to take steps for more involvement of women in politics. She says the public in general do not approve women to enter politics and look down upon them. She is one of the church leaders and is engaged in social work as well. The MADC three-day monsoon session was concluded on July 29, 2008 which elected MNF MDC Ms. N. Naphie from Tuipang-II a new Deputy Chairperson. In January 2009, she along with the other 4 MNF MDCs, Mr. IP Junior, Mr. Lengduna and Mr. L. Khaichyu left their party to join the Congress party. She is now an EM with porfolios of PHE, Social Welfare and Library. She has been the only woman in MADC to hold the post of an EM.

A. Dawzu entered politics (Congress party) in 1994. She was elected as V. C member for 3 terms in Congress ticket and was even V. C President in Meisatla. But she could not do much as they were almost always in opposition. Since July 2008, she has been the Maraland Congress Mahila President. Her father was a businessman politician and had contributed Rs. 400/- for the constitution of the Mara Regional Council, which was a large sum of money at that time. She feels that non-participation of

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19 An interview with Ms. N. Naphie, Saiha, on 6th February, 2009.
22 Office of the Mara Autonomous District Council, Saiha.
women in politics is due to lack of interest on the part of males for their participation, not allowing them to get out of the house and also women feel inferior and therefore hesitate to mix with others. The public’s perspective of women candidates has improved but is still low.23

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Seats</th>
<th>Elected Seats</th>
<th>Nominated Seats</th>
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<td>Elected-Nominated</td>
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<td>Male-Female</td>
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<td>1973</td>
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<td>N1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. 5.1: Overall result of the General Election in the Mara Autonomous District Council.

Source: Office of the District Council Affairs, Afzawi, Mision.

There is also marginalization of women in the field of politics in the Mara Autonomous District Council, right from the time of its inception till date. One woman, Ms. Ngony, surprisingly got the elected post in the 1st election. But the 2nd till the 5th witnessed absence of women in the elected and nominated posts. The 6th election had Ms. Z. Maki and the 7th, Ms. Lalbiaktluangi in the nominated seat, holding the post of Deputy Chairman. In the 8th election, Ms. Ngothlua got the nominated seat. In the

23 An interview with Ms. A. Dawza, Saiha, on 9th February, 2009.
9\textsuperscript{th} election, Ms. N. Naphie was elected, holding the post of Deputy Chairman and later EM. Here, Ms. A. Dawzu got the nominated seat. Women had never held the posts of CEM and Chairman in the Mara Autonomous District Council.

5.6. CHAKMA AUTONOMOUS DISTRICT COUNCIL:
Now let us look at Chakma Autonomous District Council.

Only men were present from the 1\textsuperscript{st} (1972) to the 5\textsuperscript{th} (1993) Chakma Autonomous District Council.

In the 6\textsuperscript{th} election, two women, Ms. Snehadini Talukdar and Ms. Arati Chakma for the first time in the history of the Chakma District got the elected and nominated posts respectively. Ms. Snehadini Talukdar was a Chief Whip but it was just in name as she was in opposition and was not provided with any facilities like vehicle, room, etc. She was elected in BJP ticket and the Congress was in power. She does not have connection with male politicians and is therefore difficult for her to be re-elected. She entered politics to help the poor people and give them education, unfortunately is not in a position to do so. She said with less money, she cannot be elected. She also said that education is less among women—their husbands do not allow them to contest as they are very poor and they also work very hard.\textsuperscript{24}

Ms. Arati Chakma was given the Chairperson post in the 6\textsuperscript{th} CADC. In the 8\textsuperscript{th} CADC, she became an EM with portfolios of LAD, Social Welfare, Animal Husbandary and Veterinary. She feels that women do

\textsuperscript{24} An interview with Ms. Snehadini Talukdar, Chewagte, on 5\textsuperscript{th} February, 2009.
not contest as they are satisfied with just being housewives, etc. Her father was an ex-EM, Bimal Kumar and her cousin brother, Nirupam Chakma, has been an MLA for many terms.\textsuperscript{25}

One female, Ms. Champa Chakma got the nominated seat in the 7\textsuperscript{th} election to the Chakma District Council. Another female, Ms. Arati Chakma contested in the MNF ticket but lost. Ms. Champa Chakma worked hard for the upliftment of women. Girls’ hostel under the SSA (government) was constructed on her initiative. She has been teaching women to take up the art of flowering and weaving their traditional dress (cloth worn round their waist like a skirt), and also taught them how to decorate houses. She had talked to many parents to educate their girl child as many parents do not think it necessary. Her brother-in-law, A. B. Chakma was an MLA and also is a cousin of the Minister of State, Nihar Kanti.\textsuperscript{25}

Only one woman, Ms. Arati Chakma from Congress was elected in the last CADC election (2008).

\textsuperscript{25} An interview with Ms. Arati Chakma, Chawmote, on 5\textsuperscript{th} February, 2009.

\textsuperscript{26} An interview by Biskhamsanga, Principal, Chawmote Baptist Boarding school, related to the scholar on 8\textsuperscript{th} February, 2009.
Table No. 5.2: Overall result of the General Election to the Chakma Autonomous District Council:

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Seats</th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elected - Nominated</td>
<td>Male - Female</td>
<td>Male - Female</td>
<td>Nominated seats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>N1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>N1</td>
<td>1</td>
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Source: Office of the District Council Affairs, Azawl, Mizoram.

In the Chakma Autonomous District Council, there was absence of women from the 1st till the 5th. In the 6th election Ms. Snehadini Talukdar and Ms. Arati Chakma for the first time in its history got the elected and nominated posts respectively. Ms. Arati Chakma was given the Deputy Chairman post. In the 7th election, one woman, Ms. Champa Chakma was allotted a nominated seat. In the 8th election, only one woman, Ms. Arati Chakma of Congress was elected from among the other female contestants like Ms. Snehadini Talukdar (BJP) and Ms. Champa Chakma (MNF). She holds the post of EM. Here, we see a bigger number of females contesting though it is still very less compared to men contestants. No woman ever held the posts of CEM and Deputy Chairmanship.
5.7. CONCLUSION:
The 1st and 2nd elections to the Lushai Hills District Council allotted one nominated seat each to women, Ms. Lalziki and Ms. Hmingliani (Mrs. R. Thanhlira), respectively. The 3rd and 4th elections denied the elected and nominated posts to women.

In the Assam Assembly and Lok Sabha, Mizo women remained absentees in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th elections.

In the Pawi-Lakher Council, only males once again played parts from the 1st to 4th elections, indicating marginalization of women politically.

Women within the areas of the three Autonomous District Councils entered the formal decision making bodies very late and that too very minimal- in LADC, only in the 5th election (1992); CADC in the 6th election (1998) although one contested in the 5th election but unfortunately lost; and MADC one female was elected surprisingly in the 1st election (1973) and reappeared only in the 6th election (1995) as one occupying a nominated seat. Mostly all the female MDCs had close connections with male politicians and therefore entered politics through their influence. Patriarchy dominates the life of the people of the District Councils.