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NOTIFICATION

No. D. 32019/2/2012-SEC, the 22nd February, 2012. WHEREAS, the State Election Commission vide its Notification No. B. 12011/13/2011-SEC/VC, Dt. 24.1.2012 has issued the Schedule for General Elections to 509 Village Councils of 6 (six) Districts in the State of Mizoram. Subsequently, General Elections to Village Councils in Kolasib District and Aizawl District will also be held on 23rd February, 2012;

AND WHEREAS, as per special reports received from various sources, leaders of all political parties in some villages of Sinlung Hill Development Council (SHDC) area are summoned by one insurgent group at Dholakhal (Assam) and Thingpuikual, (Manipur) on the bank of Tuiruang river adjacent to Zokhawthiang village wherein the cadres of the insurgent group armed with sophisticated weapons told the leaders of different political parties to help win all candidates of a particular party in the ensuing General Elections to some Village Councils within SHDC area. The reports further suggest that free and fair elections may not be possible even if fool-proof security is provided;

AND WHEREAS, it is a fact that for ensuring free and fair elections, it is of paramount importance that peaceful atmosphere prevails, enabling electors to cast their votes at the polling stations without fear. In the meantime, the said reports further reveal that there will be a sense of insecurity or fear psychosis pervading the minds of candidates belonging to other parties and the voters in the said villages and it is evident that under such a fear psychosis, they could not be expected to exercise their franchise in a free and fair manner. Under the circumstances, it appears that the situation is indeed bad and not conducive for holding free and fair elections;

NOW, THEREFORE, the State Election Commission, after taking all intelligence inputs and various reports received from District Authorities into consideration, is of the opinion that it would not be possible to hold General Elections to some Village Councils in Kolasib and Aizawl District on 23rd February, 2012 in a peaceful, free and fair manner. Accordingly, in exercise of the powers conferred under Rule 3 (1) of the Mizoram (Constitution of State Election Commission) Rules, 2008 and as per authority delegated to the State Election Commission, Mizoram for the conduct of Elections to the Village Councils vide Notification No. B. 14016/1/07-LAD/VC, dt. 15.01.2009, **the State Election Commission hereby orders to postpone the General Elections to 2 (two) Village Councils viz, Saipum and Saiphai in Kolasib District and 13 (thirteen) Village Councils viz, Zokhawthiang, North Tinghmun, Mauchar, Zohmun, Palsang, Sakawrdai, Khawpuar, Vaitin, North Khawdungsei, Thingsat, New Vervek, Damdai and Lungsum in Aizawl District for an indefinite period of time until further orders.** The Commission further advises that either a separate

Notification for extension of the term of the existing Village Councils as provided under Section 5 of the Lushai Hills District (Village Councils) Act, 1953 as amended or alternative administrative stop-gap arrangement may be issued or made by the State Government **on or before 27th February, 2012** by which date the term of the existing Village Councils shall expire.

C. Ropianga
State Election Commission,
Mizoram.