The Manipur Municipality Community Participation Act, 2010

Act 7 of 2010

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Budget Year, Municipality, Ward, Ward Infrastructure Index, Ward Development Committee
GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR
SECRETARIAT: LAW & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION
Imphal, the 14th September, 2010

No. 2/29/2010-Leg/L: The following Act of the Legislature, Manipur which received assent of the Governor of Manipur on 8-9-2010 is hereby published in the Manipur Gazette.

THE MANIPUR MUNICIPALITY COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION ACT, 2010
(Manipur Act No. 7 of 2010)

An Act to institutionalise citizens' participation in municipal functions, e.g. setting priorities, budgeting provisions, etc. by setting up of Ward Development Committee and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Manipur in the Sixty-first Year of the Republic of India as follows:

CHAPTER-I

1. Short title, extent and commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the Manipur Municipality Community Participation Act, 2010.

(2) It extends to the whole of the State of Manipur where the Manipur Municipalities Act, 1994 (No. 43 of 1994) extends.

(3) It shall come into force on such date as the State Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint.

2. Definitions.- In this Act, unless there is anything, repugnant in the subject or context -

(a) "Budget year" means the period for which the State Government lays down the annual financial statement;
(b) "Chairperson" means the Chairperson of the Ward Development Committee;
(c) "Councillor" means the Councillor of the Municipality;
(d) "Executive Officer" means the Executive Officer of the Municipality;
(e) "member" means the member of the Ward Development Committee;
(f) "Municipality" means the Municipality constituted under the Manipur Municipalities Act, 1994 (No. 43 of 1994);
(g) "State Election Commission" means the State Election Commission constituted under section 98 of the Manipur Panchayati Raj Act, 1994 (No. 26 of 1994);
(h) "Ward" means a municipal ward constituted under section 18 of the Manipur Municipalities Act, 1994;
(i) "Ward Infrastructure Index" means a composite index generated by taking into account the condition of all public infrastructure elements in that Ward;
(j) "Ward Development Committee" means the Ward Development Committee constituted under section 3;
(k) the words and expressions used in the Act but not defined herein shall have the same meanings assigned to them in the Manipur Municipalities Act, 1994.
Chapter-II
WARD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
Constitution and Governance of Ward Development Committee

3. (1) There shall be a Ward Development Committee for each Ward in a Municipality to be constituted by the State Government immediately after the constitution of the Municipality.

(2) Each Ward Development Committee shall consist of —

(a) the Councillor of the Ward, who shall be the Chairperson of the Ward Development Committee;

(b) two persons to be elected from the Ward;

(c) two persons representing the civil society from the Ward, nominated by the State Government.

Explanation. - For the purposes of this section, 'civil society' means any non-government organisation or association or persons, established, constituted, or registered under any law for the time being in force and working for social welfare, and includes any community-based organization, professional institution and civic, health, educational, social or cultural body or any trade or industrial organization and such other association or body as the State Government may decide.

(3) A person shall be disqualified to continue as such member, if under the provisions of this Act or any other law for the time being in force, he would be disqualified for being elected as a member of a Municipality.

(4) The Executive Officer shall be entitled to take part in the meetings and deliberations of the Ward Development Committee. The Chairman of the Ward Development Committee may request the representatives of concerned municipal departments as special invitees to participate in the meetings whenever problems respecting their departments are to be discussed.

(5) Any official of the Municipality nominated by the Executive Officer of the Municipality shall be the Secretary of the Ward Development Committee. All minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Ward Development Committee shall be recorded by the Secretary and copy of minutes of the proceedings of each meeting shall be forwarded by him to the Municipality.

(6) The term of office of the Ward Development Committee shall be co-extensive with the duration of the Municipality.

4. (1) A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being a member of the Ward Development Committee if he is so disqualified for the purpose of election to the Municipality:

Provided that no person shall be disqualified on the ground that he is less than twenty five years of age, if he has attained the age of eighteen years.
(2) If any question arises as to whether a person has become subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned in sub-section (1), the question shall be referred for the decision of the Election Tribunal in such manner as may be prescribed.

5. (1) Election to the office of the members of the Ward Development Committee shall be held in accordance with the rules made by the State Government in this behalf. The elections to the office of the members of the Ward Development Committee shall be held simultaneously with the election to the Municipality.

(2) The election to the office of the Ward Development Committee shall be conducted under the aegis of the State Election Commission.

6. The member of the Ward Development Committee shall ordinarily hold office for a duration that is co-terminus with that of the Municipality concerned:

Provided that no person shall continue to hold office as a member of the Ward Development Committee if, at any time during his tenure, he incurs any of the disqualifications prescribed by or under any law for the time being in force for the purpose of elections to the Legislature of the State concerned:

Provided further that no person shall be entitled, or continue to be entitled, to hold office as a member of the Ward Development Committee of the Ward in which he is not ordinarily resident.

Chapter-III

Rights and Duties of Ward Development Committee

7. The Ward Development Committee shall discharge the following functions, namely:-

(a) to provide assistance in solid waste management in the Ward;

(b) to supervise sanitation work in the Ward;

(c) to provide assistance for the preparation and encouragement of the development scheme for the Ward;

(d) to encourage harmony and unity among various groups of people in the Ward;

(e) to mobilize voluntary labour and donation by way of goods or money for social welfare programs;

(f) to provide assistance in the implementation of development schemes relating to the Ward;

(g) to provide assistance for identification of beneficiaries for the implementation of development and welfare schemes;

(h) to encourage art and cultural activities and activities of sports and games;
(i) to ensure people's participation in the voluntary activities necessary for successful Implementation of the developmental activities of the Municipality;

(j) to assist in the timely collection of taxes, fees and other sums due to the Municipality;

(k) to ensure maintenance of parks in the Ward;

(l) to ensure maintenance of street lighting in the Ward;

(m) to perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by the Municipality.

8. (1) The Chairperson and the members of the Ward Development Committee shall have the right to seek information from the Executive Officer regarding any matter relating to the Ward.

(2) Every Ward Development Committee shall have the right to:

(a) obtain full information about Municipal Plans;

(b) obtain the full Municipal Budget, within such time as may be reasonable, to verify, seek clarifications and suggest changes that need to be incorporated;

(c) obtain the requisite financial and administrative support from the Municipality in managing Bank accounts;

(d) be consulted in the development of land use and zoning regulations within its jurisdiction;

(e) obtain full details on all revenue items including taxes and budgetary allocations which should be presented in a simplified manner which is manageable by the Ward Development Committee;

(f) retain up to 50% of the Ward Revenues for local development, until a predefined minimum level of Ward Infrastructure Index, which shall be notified by the State Government, has been created in the Ward;

(g) have a proportionate claim on Municipal Development expenditures, based on the Ward Infrastructure Index of that Ward compared to the other Wards in the Municipality.

9. Every Ward Development Committee shall have the duty to:

(i) produce the Ward Plans in a manner consistent with the Municipal Plans within the time specified by the State Government;

(ii) prepare the Ward Budget in accordance with the Ward Plans and complete this exercise within the time specified by the Municipality;

(iii) encourage local-level alternatives for implementation in all the areas that the Ward Development Committee has responsibility for;
(iv) ensure optimal collection of all revenue sources;
(v) map the Ward Infrastructure Index for that Ward.

Chapter-IV
Activities of the Ward Development Committee

10. The activities of the Ward development Committee are as follows:

(a) Preparation of a Calendar: At the first meeting of the Ward Development Committee for each budget year, the Ward Development Committee shall decide upon specific obligatory agenda for each of the monthly meetings of the Ward Development Committee, remaining in that calendar year, in addition to the specific obligatory agenda for the first meeting of the following budget year.

Nothing in sub-section (a) shall prevent:

(1) the convenor of a Ward Development Committee from adding additional agenda for any meeting of the Ward Development Committee;

(2) any other member of the Ward Development Committee may, at a meeting of the Ward Development Committee, move a resolution to add to the specific obligatory agenda decided upon for the meeting in question or any subsequent meeting.

(b) Preparation and compilation of plans: The Ward Development committee shall prepare the Annual Ward Plan and forward the same to the concerned Municipality for its integration with the Annual Municipal Plan.

(c) Preparation of Ward budget:

(1) A Ward level budget calendar shall be prepared annually in accordance with Schedule appended to this Act. The Ward Development Committee shall ensure that the budget calendar is strictly adhered to and prepare the budget for their Ward six weeks before the Municipal Budget. The Municipality may suggest changes that may be effected into the Ward level Budget after discussion with the Ward Development Committee.

(2) The Municipality Budget shall -

(i) aggregate all the Ward Budgets which have been prepared in accordance with sub-section (1) of this section;

(ii) have additional account heads for specific receipts and expenditures at the Municipality level.

(d) Maintenance of Accounts:

(1) Constitution of the Ward Finance Committee - A committee of three persons shall be constituted in every Ward as the Ward Finance Committee.
(i) The constitution of the Ward Finance Committee shall be through nomination held within one month of the constitution of the Ward Development Committee. The Chairperson shall nominate the Ward Finance Committee members.

(ii) The Ward Finance Committee shall also appoint from amongst themselves, one person as the Chairperson, who shall be the authorized signatory for maintenance and use of accounts.

(2) Functions and Duties of the Ward Finance Committee -

(i) The Ward Finance Committee shall prepare the annual budget for the Ward and place it before the meeting of the Ward Development Committee which will deliberate upon, and approve the budget. The approved Budget shall be presented by the Ward Finance Committee to the Municipality within seven months from the closure of the previous financial year.

(ii) The Ward Finance Committee shall also maintain Ward-level bank accounts for all the receipts and expenditure activities of the Ward.

(iii) The Ward Finance Committee shall ensure that all fund transfers shall be made out of this account to appropriate account heads of the Municipality.

(iv) The Ward Finance Committee shall present accounts every three months at the meeting of the Ward Development Committee.

(v) The Ward Finance Committee shall prepare a quarterly report of the financial transactions of the Ward Development Committee, which shall include details of its receipts and expenditures and also its projections and suggestions for the next quarter. This report shall be made available to every member of the Ward Development Committee one week before the date fixed for meeting of the Ward Development Committee for discussion of the report.

(vi) The report of the Ward Finance Committee shall be made available for public scrutiny.

(e) Supervisory Mechanism:

(1) The Municipality shall take up the responsibility of providing administrative and infrastructure support to the Ward Development Committee for its proper functioning.

(2) The Ward Development Committee shall create mechanisms for checks and balances over the Government personnel in their Ward. The Ward Development Committees shall have the power to recommend to the competent authority for imposition of penalties in respect of a Government employee for misconduct and negligence of duties.
(f) Ward Development:

There shall be a Ward information and Statistics Committee which shall be formed for various developmental and planning works. The constitution and functions of the Committee are given below:

1) Constitution of the Ward Information and Statistics Committee:

(i) A committee of three persons shall be constituted in every Ward as the Ward Information and Statistics Committee.

(ii) The constitution of the Ward Information and Statistics Committee shall be through nominations by the Chairperson held within one month of the constitution of the Ward Development Committee:

Provided that members of the Ward Finance Committee shall not be members of the Ward Information and Statistics Committee:

Provided further that the members of the Ward Information and Statistics Committee shall also appoint from amongst themselves, one person as the presiding member who will preside over the meetings of the Ward Information and Statistics Committee.

2) Duties of the Ward Information and Statistics Committee:

(i) It shall be the duty of the Ward Information and Statistics Committee to compile, maintain and update annually the following information about the Ward in the format prescribed by the concerned Municipality for this purpose. Such information shall include:

(A) Economic Information: including the number and nature of commercial establishments in the Ward and employment data in these establishments;

(B) Information relating to Land Use: includes the changes in patterns of land use, data relating public spaces and civic amenity sites, traffic patterns and public transportation hubs and preservation and restoration of environment, natural resources and heritage sites.

(C) Infrastructure Index including the extent of infrastructural development, current and pending projects, and the infrastructural requirements of the Ward.

(ii) The report prepared in accordance with sub-clause (B) of clause (f)(2) shall be used by the Ward Development Committee in determining and enforcing the Zoning provisions. It shall be made available on a quarterly basis to the meetings of the Ward Development Committee, reflecting changes since the presentation of the previous report.
(iii) The report prepared in accordance with sub-clause (C) of clause (f)(2) above shall be used by the Ward Development Committee in allocation of development expenditure by the Ward Finance Committee. It shall be made available on a quarterly basis to the meetings of the Ward Development Committee, reflecting changes since the presentation of the previous report.

(iv) Spatial Planning: The Ward Development Committee shall:

(A) participate in all development plans of the city;
(B) enforce zoning and land use regulations;
(C) participate in the creation and enforcement of new instruments like transferable development rights, etc.

(g) Comprehensive intervention for urban poor activities:

The Ward Development Committee shall be responsible for:

(i) Integrating all existing activities undertaken by the State Government;
(ii) preparing and maintaining beneficiary list for all the programmes and schemes undertaken by the State Government in co-ordination with the relevant Government agencies;
(iii) preparing a report on the housing and public distribution system in each Ward.

(h) Ensure Universal access for selected public services:

The Ward Development Committee shall be responsible in ensuring universal access in selected public services like education, health care, water supply and sanitation.

(i) Alternative Options:

Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provision,

(a) The Ward Development Committee shall be responsible for decentralized management of the following functions:

(i) primary collection of Solid Waste Management and decentralized management of solid waste;
(ii) desilting of drains;
(iii) maintenance of street-lights;
(iv) maintenance of parks;
(v) deweeding of paths;
(vi) road works including construction maintenance and restoration thereof; and
(vii) general beautification of the locality.

(b) the Ward Development Committee shall be specifically empowered to examine various alternative implementation options in the above mentioned areas;
(c) the proposal with respect to the alternative implementation option by the local communities shall be submitted to the Ward Development Committee and shall be taken up for discussion at the next meeting of the Ward Development Committee.

Chapter-VI

Functioning of Ward Development Committee,

11. It shall be the duty of the Chairperson of the Ward Development Committee to conduct the Ward Development Committee meeting for discussion of the following matters:-

(i) Preparation of Ward Plan;

(ii) Preparation of Ward Budget;

(iii) Preparation of Ward maps, Ward Infrastructure Index and other alternate functions.

12. The Chairperson shall set the agenda for each Ward Development Committee meeting.

13. To facilitate the proper preparation of the budget, a Ward Development Committee meeting shall compulsorily be held at least three weeks before the preparation of the Ward Budget. All reports presented by the Ward Finance Committee for the past year shall be discussed.

14. Following procedure shall be followed while conducting meetings of the Ward Development Committee:

(i) Reasonable notice of the Ward Development Committee meetings should be given at least one week in advance and placed in the notice boards of all municipality offices in the Ward.

(ii) All residents of the Ward shall be entitled to participate in the Ward Development Committee meetings. The media will be encouraged to actively participate in the proceedings.

(iii) Minutes of the Ward Development Committee meetings shall be maintained. These minutes shall be made available to the general public for perusal. They shall be kept at the office of the Ward Development Committee.

(iv) These minutes shall be presented at the next meeting of the Ward Development Committee and this information shall be made use of by the appropriate sub-committees in their functions.

(v) Grievances: Grievances for not holding or improperly conducting Ward Development Committees shall be addressed to the Chairperson of the Ward Development Committee. The Chairperson shall take appropriate action, including penalty to the Ward Development Committee member after giving adequate notice in writing and reasonable opportunity to be heard to the member:
Provided that, if the Chairperson deems it necessary to impose a fine or other such penalty, the decision shall come into force only upon it being approved by a majority vote at the meeting of the Ward Development Committee:

Provided further that the power to impose penalty shall not extend to the dismissal of the concerned Ward Development Committee member.

15. (1) The State Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:-

(a) Procedure for election of the Ward Development Committee;
(b) Convening and conducting the meetings of the Ward Development Committee;
(c) Preparation and compilation of development plans for the Ward;
(d) Preparation of annual budget of the Ward;
(e) Maintenance of Accounts; and
(f) Any other matter which has to be, or may be prescribed.

(3) Every rules made under this Act shall be laid as soon as may be, after it is made, before the Legislative Assembly, Manipur, while it is in session for a total period of fourteen days which may be comprised of one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the successive sessions aforesaid, the House agrees in making modification in the rules or that the rules should not be made, the rules shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form, or be of no effect, as the case may be, so however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rules.
SCHEDULE
[See section 10(c) (1)]

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