

LALNUNPARI (SHG MEMBER)

Lalnunpari is a 34 years old woman belonging to BPL Self-Help Group in Ward-II of Aizawl Municipal area. She supports her two children with her husband. Vegetable vending is her main occupation while her husband takes up daily unskilled labour as his primary occupation.

Since they belong to the urban poor section of the population, times have been critically hard in the past; the main problem being unsteady job resulting in meager income. She and her husband had to take up different kinds of unskilled labour work every other day which is mainly due to lack of skills and knowledge. They have tried to change source of income but their problems persist although it has subsided to a certain degree.

Lalnunpari heard about Self-Help Groups from peers which interested her and ultimately led to participation in Self-Help Group. After joining BPL SHG, she found ways to help herself. The group was able to loan her Rs 10,000 at 3% interest which was to be paid in full after 120 days. This provided better capital for her daily vending occupation. The family's daily livelihood have improved since then as she is able to save some money every weekend when she sits at the market place selling vegetables. Her monthly income has risen to Rs 8950 approximately.

Although she has no concrete plans for the future but given a chance, she would like to undergo skill training under NULM. She heard about it through their Community Organizer and she is very much interested. But her current position in the family (the better income provider) is holding her back to take time off from her daily works to undergo such trainings.

She applauds the practice of internal lending within SHGs. Her story has been shared with friends and family and influencing even her own co-members. She hopes to keep participating in SHG activities and learn more about NULM.

