

**SHIFT IN OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE  
IN SMALL TOWNS OF SERCHHIP  
DISTRICT OF MIZORAM**

*ABSTRACT*

*By*

**R. LALMUANKIMA**

**SUBMITTED FOR FULFILMENT  
OF THE REQUIREMENT OF THE DEGREE OF  
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN GEOGRAPHY**

**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY  
SCHOOL OF HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
NORTH-EASTERN HILL UNIVERSITY  
SHILLONG  
2009**

Geography

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## 1. Introduction

Understanding the structural relationships within urban economies has remained important to the geographers. The rapid increasing rates of growth of urban population and the uneven nature of this growth have played an important role in altering the nature of urban centres and their host societies. Growth in the size of towns and change in their structure signify many things, but perhaps the most essential feature is its role in bringing about economic development. Simultaneously, the latter engenders rapid urbanisation as well. Mizoram has maintained a high rate of population growth which could very well over take the carrying capacity of its resources. The occupational shifted away from the primary sector has thus been opportune in mitigating such an eventuality. The state is primarily agricultural, though due to the very mountainous character of land, little farmland is available for gainful agricultural practices. And, nearly half of the population of the state live in urban settlements (22 in 2001), one quarter in one city, Aizawl.

## 2 Statement of the Problem:

Occupational structure refers to the types of economic activities, individuals in a society are engaged in as a vocation (or division of its population according to different occupations) and occupational shift refers to the changes occurring in proportion of population in different occupations over time in response to changes in the economic structure of the society, i.e., whether the society is moving away from primary activities towards secondary or tertiary pursuits. As compared to the rural occupations that are by and largely much more uniform (agriculture related), the urban occupations are highly diverse and dynamic, i.e., constantly changing in response to the changes the urban settlements themselves are undergoing.

Mizoram is a tiny and economically underdeveloped state with agriculture still the mainstay of the economy. It is by analysing and understanding the occupational structure within the (three) urban centres that one could discover the processes inherent in Mizoram that is leading to higher urbanisation levels. The study of occupations within the urban areas is likely to throw light on the dynamics of this urban system in a small state like Mizoram and make one understand the processes of economic change that makes these urban centres, though small to thrive on. The main focus of the study remains understanding the occupations, occupational diversity, dynamics of occupational changes and explanations in regards to the sustenance of the urban system as an integrated part of the regional economy.

### **3 Objectives of Study**

The primary objectives of the present study are as follow:

- (1) To study the nature of occupations in the small towns in one of the most backward districts of Mizoram on the basis of primary data.
- (2) The second objective is to analyse the nature of occupational diversification within the small towns
- (3) The third objective is to study the relationship of the regional and town economies with those of the occupational structure of these towns and possibly in the manner, the economy may be changing resulting in concurrent changes in the occupational structure.
- (4) Finally, explanations are to be proposed on the basis of empirical evidences to the occupational characterisation of the towns as well as the changes possibly they are undergoing.

#### 4 Research Issues

There are three major research issues here to be dealt with:

1. The understanding of occupational characterisation of the urban population in the small towns in light of understanding the dynamics of the relationship between occupation and the urban economy.
  2. The second issue concerns the question of urbanisation in Mizoram itself. What then sustains this level of urbanisation? Is the urbanisation a product of economic changes reflected in occupational changes in towns and cities or is a product of political processes and even social processes
  3. The third issue relates the nature and dynamics of occupations in urban Mizoram. Are the occupations diversified enough? Is the process of diversification an on-going one? How is this process of diversification effected? What economic changes facilitate occupational changes? Without any worthwhile manufacturing base, the service sector, primarily public services and trade appear to be the prime-movers of these towns. How sustainable are they? Many of these issues need a closer look and adequate understanding.
5. **Data bases:** *The principal source of data for the proposed study is through field surveys in the three towns. For the purpose of general uses, data from population censuses and other sources like the state directorate of economics and statistics etc. are also used.*
6. **Methodology:** The primary survey is of two categories, (a) the establishment surveys and (b) the household surveys. The establishment survey aims at providing information regarding the nature of economic activities in the towns, including services that provide occupational

opportunities to the people of the towns. The sample design for establishments constitute of all public offices and 50% samples of the rest of the private establishments in all the three towns under study. The household sample was 10% of households in the three townships (combined population of over 25, 878), samples drawn by a systematic random sampling system of 497 households. International Labour Organisation (ILO) occupational classification has been applied; and descriptive statistics and co-efficient of correlation methods are applied.

## **7. Chapters Scheme**

- Chapter I:** Introduction, Review of Literature, Statement of the Problem, Objectives of the study and Hypotheses etc.
- Chapter II:** Database and Methodology
- Chapter III:** The general background to the Three Towns of Serchhip District of Mizoram.
- Chapter IV:** Nature and Capability of Public Establishments and Private Enterprises in the Three Towns of Serchhip District of Mizoram,
- Chapter V:** Occupations, types and compositions of the three towns
- Chapter VI:** Rural-urban relationships, urban economies and occupational nexus
- Chapter VII:** Economic dynamics and occupational changes
- Chapter VIII:** Summary, Finding and Conclusion

## **ANALYSIS CHAPTERS**

### **CHAPTER III: GENERAL BACKGROUND OF SERCHHIP DISTRICT**

This chapter is devoted for the illustration of general background of study area to provide understanding the past and present situations. It provides the information like locations, physical profiles and demographic conditions of the past and the present of the whole district of Serchhip and particular towns. It also emphasises the understanding of economy in three small towns. These three towns are generally lack in infrastructures of economic development like power generation, transportation and market facilities that lead the backwardness in economic developments. However, some of the public undertaking enterprises and establishments also act as a motivator of development such as Wildlife Sanctuary at Thenzawl town, Mini hydel electric generation at N.Vanlaiphai town. Besides these public undertaking establishments, small patches of lands, the depositional work of the stream also endeavour to agriculture development at these three towns.

### **CHAPTER IV: NATURE AND CAPABILITY OF PUBLIC ESTABLISHMENTS AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISES IN THE THREE TOWNS OF SERCHHIP DISTRICT**

This deals with the capabilities of public and private establishments and enterprises in these three towns. It provides information for understanding such production facilities contribution in the field of development. This chapter also aims at to understand people participation in such production facilities and the capability of employment generation in public establishments and private enterprises.

The growth of urban population relates the expansion and the growth of public establishments. The expansion and growth of such public establishments and private enterprises generate occupational growth of professionals, technician and associate

professionals and clerical occupations. As far the employment generation concern, most of the occupations like senior officers, machine operators and clerical occupations are belong to public administrations whereas more than two-thirds of professionals' occupations are belong to educational institutions. The growth of private enterprise has significantly affected occupational changes among salespersons and shop-related work, vehicle drivers etc. While analysing capabilities of private enterprises, we find that only few of the private enterprises like educational institutions and undertaking employ hired-workers. The capacity of employment generation of private enterprises is limited because market size is small (because we deal with very small towns) and also, limited access to capital. The high cost of operation, lack of clients and inadequacy of governmental aid to private enterprises discourage the development of enterprises. An ideal enterprise in small towns is characterised by less capital deployed and low cost of operation, more numbers of clients with high amount of profit. Such kinds of enterprises are viable to sustain, like merchandise shops, animal farming, and household and cottage industries.

## **CHAPTER V: OCCUPATIONAL TYPES AND COMPOSITION**

This Chapter deal with the analysis of occupational composition and types of occupations to analysis of occupational structures of the three towns. These three towns are the dominance of agriculture and allied occupations. Shifting cultivation, market oriented cultivation, subsistence agriculture and market gardening are the main activities of agriculture concern occupation, it consists nearly half of the total occupation in these three towns.

The occupational structures of these three towns are determined significantly by technical knowhow and accessibility of facilities like public establishments and other infrastructures. From the general distribution of occupations, larger towns have high

proportion of office work-based occupations (e.g. teachers, accountants, lawyers, salespersons, market-related workers, clerks etc) and market oriented occupations (shop sales and market sales persons, hawkers etc.). These occupations decline when the town is smaller. On the contrary, agriculture and allied occupations like market oriented and subsistence agriculture are more prevalent in smaller towns. It signifies, larger towns possess more facilities to change occupations, because larger towns are more diversified in terms of occupations like professionals, technical and associated professional and market-based occupations and other higher level occupations. Serchhip town is the most diversified occupation among these three towns; 100 percent diversification accounts 74.46 percent of the total households at Serchhip town, 59.81 percent at Thenzawl town and 55.38 percent at N.Vanlaiphai town.

## **CHAPTER VI: OCCUPATIONS AND THE URBAN ECONOMY OF THE THREE TOWNS OF SERCHHIP DISTRICT OF MIZORAM**

This chapter contains the economic structures, the complex of urban economic and occupations nexus of the three small towns of Serchhip district of Mizoram. The main objectives of this chapter are to show urban economic structures and production systems that facilitate occupations in the town. Occupational structure of a town is one of the best indicators of urban economy indicating stagnancy or vibrancy of the economic life of the town—if less diversified, then the town's economy is stagnant; conversely a greater occupational diversity indicates a growing city.

The study of urban economic system and growth of population exhibit that urban problems like scarcity of land, social and economic disparity and unemployment are high in these three towns, which have essentially agro-based economies. The average (agricultural)

land holding size is 3.18 acres per household<sup>1</sup>. Nearly two-thirds of the total workers are engaged in agriculture and allied occupations (market-oriented cropping, fisheries, subsistence cropping, market gardening, cultivators etc.) with low income (due to low per capita productivity in agriculture, which is quite underdeveloped in Mizoram). Some workers holding high educational qualifications are involved in low income occupations due to lack of adequate work opportunities which small towns do not offer.

The sectoral distribution of workforce reveals that these three towns are dominated by primary sector, largely agriculture and allied activities. In the largest town, Serchhip, nearly half of the total workforces are engaged in primary activities. As it appears, the proportion of people engaged in primary occupations is increases with decrease in the size of the town. The diversified activities in the tertiary sector especially in businesses like shops, market, transport etc. increases the output, but the high productivity is observed by services like government services. Public establishments and private enterprises act as the principal mechanism of production, because the tertiary sector contributes more than two-thirds of the total output in these towns.

## **CHAPTER VII: ECONOMIC AND OCCUPATIONAL CHANGES OF THE TOWNS OF SERCHHIP DISTRICT OF MIZORAM**

This chapter contains the dimension and pattern of changing economic systems of urban centres of Serchhip district. Such changes of production system and productivity from public establishments and private enterprises have significant implications to determine urban economic system since the capacity of employment generation influence urban economy. It also enclosed intra-generation occupational change and inter-generation occupational change.

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<sup>1</sup> Most of the households in these small towns happen to own farm lands in surrounding areas.

These occupational changes were explained through aggregate change of occupational groups. This chapter aims at to understand occupational change in accordance with the change of economy. The study also aims to examine the relationship of the regional and town economies with those of the occupational structure of these towns.

The observation examines the economic change and occupational opportunities through establishment survey that reveals that the public and private establishments contribute significantly in changing occupations. Most of the public establishments and employees have a long path of origin; nearly half of them have origin before 1981. However, most of the private enterprises and the workers are recent origin that change occupation significantly especially on the shop sales and market work occupational group. This chapter analysed the changing pattern of occupations; most of the professional and senior officers and manager occupations were marginally involved in occupational change whereas elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations shift into shop and market sales, technical and associate professional occupations. Inter-generation occupational change is observed to analyse the nature of occupational change among the head of the households of permanent residents of the towns; nearly three-fifth (59.45 percent) of the total permanent resident change occupation from the parent's occupations at Serchhip town, nearly one-third (32.47 percent) at Thenzawl and nearly one-fifth (18.37 percent) at N.Vanlaiphai. More than half of the changes are incurred by capturing better income occupations; more or less one-fourth of the changes are incurred by education. Intra-generations occupational changes is the most important to manifest economic changes; more than one-third (34.77 percent) of the total households of the respondents change occupation during 20 years cycle at Serchhip, 39.25 percent at Thenzawl and 55.38 percent at N.Vanlaiphai. Within 20 years, among the

respondents who change occupation, percentage of occupational change is overstated among elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations.

## CHAPTER VIII : SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The study of occupational structures of the three towns indicates that small towns in Mizoram are dominated by agriculture and allied occupations and services. Overall, the study brings to focus an entirely uncharted territory, i.e. the internal dynamics of the economy small towns, with little growth momentum. The study of occupations and occupational changes bring to focus how people negotiate their lives in the limited economies of small towns with little propensity to expand, except the natural growth of population, since in-migration stream is weak and often the expansion of the specific town merely incorporates the rural habitations in the fringes of these towns without any change in the economic life of the people. In the North East region the small towns (Class VI: population less than 5000) abound; out of 245 towns enumerated during 2001 census in the 7 states of the region, 46 were Class VI towns, nearly 20% of all the towns. Similarly, the Class V towns (5001-10,000) have little growth potential. In Mizoram of the 16 towns, 14 belong to class V or VI towns, though notionally, Mizoram has one of the highest levels of urbanisation in the country and nearly half of the population live in town and cities!

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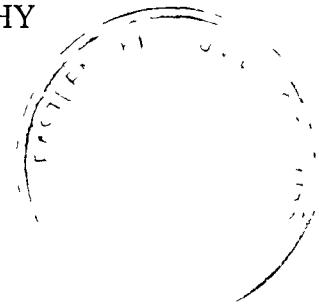
By

R.LALMUANKIMA

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

Supervisor

A.C. MOHAPATRA



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## DECLARATION

I, Ralte Lalmuankima, hereby declare that the subject matter of this thesis is the recode of the work done by me, that the content of this thesis did not form basis of the award of any previous degree to me or to the best my knowledge to anybody else, and that the thesis has not been submitted by me for any research degree in other university/ institutions.

This is being submitted to the North Eastern Hill University for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Geography.



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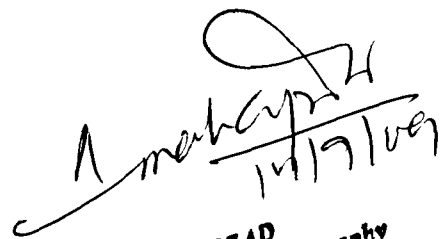
(PROF. A.C. MOHAPATRA)  
Supervisor  
Department of Geography  
North-Eastern Hill University  
Shillong

Dated. 14. 9. 2009, Shillong



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Lalmuankima', with the date '14/9/09' written below it.

(R.LALMUANKIMA)  
Department of Geography  
North-Eastern Hill University  
Shillong.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Mohapatra', with the date '14/9/09' written below it.

**HEAD**  
Department of Geography  
North-Eastern Hill University  
Shillong-793022


## Acknowledgements

I owe a deep sense of gratitude to my teacher and supervisor, Professor AC Mohapatra, Department of Geography, NEHU for his practical insight and approachability which has been a wonderful resource in meeting the demand of the research I have undertaken. In my desperate moments, he has been a source of encouragement and his timely words and candid professional support rekindled my dying enthusiasm during the course of my work. Working under his sound supervision has been a greatly rewarding experience.

I acknowledge my thankfulness to Mr. RL Chhuanthanga, office worker, Department of Geography, NEHU, Mr. Lawrence Chhuanthanga, Lecturer of Government Serchhip College, Mr. Lalhminghlua, N. Vanlaiphai, Mr. FC Vanlalngaia Teacher, Hrangturzo High School, N. Vanlaiphai and Mr. Lalrinnunga Hmar, Research Scholar, Department of History, NEHU, Shillong who helped me in collecting needful data. My sincerest thanks are due also to friends like Dr. Lalliansanga, Dr. Lalthlamuana Pachuau, KC Lalmalsawmzauva and many others whose honest corrections and good wishes have gone a long way in the completion of my research work.

I place on the record my sincere gratitude to my parents, my sisters, brothers and other relative members of my family. I am particularly grateful to my sister Siamthangpuii, Teacher, Presbyterian School, N. Vanlaiphai, Rosiami, Hindi Teacher, Darlawn and Lalhlupuii, Staff Nurse, Khawlailung PHC and my brother Lalrintluanga who selflessly supported me financially throughout my study.

Above all, I thank the Almighty God for granting me good health and strength to accomplish this challenging assignment.



(R.LALMUANKIMA)

Dated 14 . 9. 2009, Shillong

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Introduction

Understanding the structural relationships within urban economies has remained important to the geographers. The rapid increasing rates of growth of urban population and the uneven nature of this growth have played an important role in altering the nature of urban centres and their host societies. Growth in the size of towns and change in their structure signify many things, but perhaps the most essential feature is its role in bringing about economic development. Simultaneously, the latter engenders rapid urbanisation as well.

Urbanisation and urban growth result mainly due to migration, especially from rural to urban migration in developing countries. However, as observed in Indian context as well, such migrations are generally towards the larger and the mega-cities, whereas the smaller towns stagnate, i.e., they do not encourage in-migration, since they provide little economic opportunities to the migrant population. Smaller towns in developing countries like India are, either outgrown villages or are agricultural service centres with little occupational diversification.

In the case of Mizoram, the British left behind a population consisting of an overwhelming majority of shifting cultivators. In 1951, a massive 93% of the people were depended on agriculture. Other opportunities were initially slow to present themselves, but quickened in 70s with the formation of Union Territory and then the state of Mizoram. The result was a rapid diversification of a section of the workforce in to the service sector. As already seen, Mizoram has maintain a high rate of population growth which could very well over take the carrying capacity of its resources. The occupational shifted away from the primary sector has thus been opportune in mitigating such an eventuality.

During the period of 1961-1991, fallen in the high degree of dependence on agriculture is a conspicuous in the realm of labour statistics. In order to understand the condition of occupational diversification, the linkages between these activities is explored on the basis of general impressions borne out by field inquiry. In the rural areas, shifting cultivation is still the established source of income, followed distantly by government service. It is interesting to note that this pattern is very similar to the aggregate picture of Mizoram report in 1971 census, when urbanisation was yet to take off. Evidently, the villages have been through little occupational diversification in the past two and half decades. The changes that have come about are visible in the urban sector, where shifting cultivation is far reduced, while it persisting. Agricultural labour, horticulture, and plantation are better represented as the main occupation in the towns compared to villages. As expected, government employees and business families dominated urban areas. Quite obviously, urbanisation is responsible for taking a large section of the workforce out of shifting cultivation.

In the instant case, Mizoram has been very quickly urbanising in the past two decades (46% urbanisation in 1991 as compared to 24% in 1981; currently, 49.5% in 2001). This is an anachronism of sorts. It is one of the smallest states of India with total population, little over 800,000. It has very high literacy rate (second highest in India) but hardly any notable industries. The state is primarily agricultural, though due to the very mountainous character of land, little farmland is available for gainful agricultural practices. And, nearly half of the population of the state live in urban settlements (22 in 2001), one quarter in one city, Aizawl.

## **1.2 Literature Reviews:**

The meaning of occupational structure, as given by the Concise Oxford Dictionary of Sociology (1990), is the aggregate distribution of occupations in a society, classified according to skill levels, economic functions and social status. The occupation often reflects a

variety of cultural traits of the workers; especially in a country like India where cultural moorings have strong bearing on what a person is to do for earning a livelihood (Gosal, 1965).

The Census of India (1981, 1991) had classified the occupations into the following schemes such as:

- A. Primary sectors comprise of worker engaged as cultivators, agricultural labourers, working in mining, quarrying, hunting, fishing and forestry based activities because these activities are based on direct extraction of natural resources.
- B. Secondary sectors comprise of workers engaged in household industry, manufacturing, and constructions, etc., termed as blue collar jobs.
- C. Tertiary sectors comprise of worker engaged in trade and commerce, transport, storage and communication and all other services; these activities are termed as white collar jobs.

The Census 2001 (Paper I) indicates that whereas at the country level 58.4% of workers (main plus marginal) are engaged as cultivators and agricultural labourers, in rural areas the percentage is 73.33 and in urban, 7.92. On the other hand, non-household industries, construction all services account for 37.52% of all workers, in rural, 22.9% and in urban, 86.98%. This is indicative enough of the significance of occupational diversity in urban areas, where the secondary and tertiary sectors account for more than 92% of all workers.

Kuznets (1966) described that with economic development, the share of tertiary employment in the labour force increases mainly because of slow growth of technical progress in services, a high income elasticity of demand for some of tertiary activities and increasing urbanisation resulting in the rise in the demand for service like transport and distribution. In addition, he viewed increase in manufacturing activities could lead to rise in tertiary employment as income growth originating from expansion of manufacturing

activities raise the consumption of services, and also demand for service input into manufacturing activities tend to increase. Overall, the growth of employment in tertiary activities is viewed mainly from two angles: (a) treating it primarily as a 'supply push phenomenon', and (b) rationalising its growth in term of 'demand-induced hypotheses'.

Change in occupational structure of certain region is influenced by different factors; they may be social factors, political factor, cultural factors and economic factors. Sinha (1972) described that the change in occupation structure is welcome only if it is caused by the consequence of growth in income; it is a happy situation.

Krisnamurthy (1984) had studied change in occupational structure in India. This study presented that high and constant population growth have resulted in high participation rate, and a trend of change in the structure of the work forces is discernible—in particular, there has been many evidences of relative shift away from agriculture.

Jayadevan (1997) described that the Indian economic development during eighties was characterised by the low growth of employment both in formal and informal sector despite a relatively high incomes in the manufacturing sectors. The rise in labour costs, attributable to the labour market rigidities generated by appropriate regulation and the nature of industrial relations have been said to be responsible for deceleration in employment growth in the eighties. He added that the variances in employment growth rates are mainly explained by the variances in output growth rates during the first period. Variance s in the output growth rates and wage growth rates were significantly important determinants of employment growth rate.

Pothana, (1971) studied changes in occupational structure in Andhra Pradesh; he had emphasised, the shift of occupational structure as the corollary to urbanisation, i.e., migration that has taken place among non-agricultural workers. The author had presented the identification of the changing pattern of occupational structure as well as the causes of such

changes. He describes that agricultural development had brought about some significant changes in five districts; diversification of employment through establishments of industries that helped shift of occupation composition in six districts, and construction of a major hydel project and expansion of mining also resulted some significant changes.

Siddiqui (1983) had also studied the shift in occupational structure in Uttar Pradesh. The overall assessment of occupation regions based on index of specialization, coefficient of specialization and occupational combination reveal that the state was characterized by a highly diversified economy, especially industrial economy. He had tested correlation between demographic elements and occupational structure that signified that with the increase in literacy rate, urbanization, industrialization and migration, there was shift from primary occupations and increase in the secondary and tertiary ones. Changes in agricultural productivity and population growth have yielded highly significant degree of positive relationship with secondary occupations.

Prabha (1978) had included the study of shift in occupational structure of Punjab. She presented the peculiarities of occupational structure and analysed employment pattern and major activities in the state, in which the majority of urban workforces were engaged.

By taking the generalizations from the empirical work of Kuznets (1966, 1974); Kumar, et al (1994) had tested the shifting structure of employments of Karnataka from secondary data sourced from Census of India; they had established some changes that was brought about by some progressive indicators. The sectoral composition of employment for rural and urban workforces and percentage of change in employment have been discussed in the study. There was high degree of differences between rural and urban growth rate especially in secondary and tertiary employment. However, the importance of the primary sector declines as the economy of the state grows.

Maria (1997) stated that economic diversification of occupational structure and relative changes in the employment and incomes as significant part of socio-economic process underlying structural transformation. The main mechanism, through which structural transformation is manifested, is the change of occupational structure and associated employment and income pattern of rural groups. Since, occupational structure reflects the diversification of employment and sources of income it is also an instrument for capturing the relative potential for economic diversification among rural population. As such, change in occupational structure form a crucial and more transparent aspect of analytical and empirical linkage between structural transformation and diversification potential of employment and income of community.

Occupation not only determines the employment and income of the individual but also indicates his social status as well (Slocum, 1966: 76-87). In this sense, occupation serves as the link that holds individual to the social and economic order of the community. Viewed from the perspective of socio-economic structure, occupational pursuits are related to an individual's function in the economic system, his share of the community's wealth and his social status and ecological position in the community.

Since occupational structure is a variable located in the interface between economic and sociology, the occupational pattern of rural groups could be observed in their employment and income structure that has the capacity to close approximately to the existing social status structure, as well. Even technological and institutional changes and infrastructure developments, which either proceed or succeed the process of transformation – will have their effect, ultimately reflect in the form of occupational diversification of various economic and social groups. In this manner, the concurrent process of social transition is effected through the economic mobility that accompanies economic transition – both upward

and downward- of groups that engender constant changes in their social stratification and class structure.

Bhattacharya and Mitra (1997) examine the changing composition of employment in the tertiary sector in the India economy. They explored that tertiary sector accounts for a considerably large percentage of employment not only in the developed countries, but also in developing countries, especially in the urban areas. In some of the developing countries, rapid growth of employment in this sector is accompanied by a perceptible decline in the growth rate of manufacturing sector workforce. This process can be explained in term of (a) a structural shift in production behaviour towards tertiary sector, and (b) increasing specialisation leading to a shift of tertiary type of activity in the manufacturing sector to tertiary sector proper. Similarly, trade openness resulting from globalisation may also promote the employment growth in the tertiary sector and effect its composition.

Bhattacharya and Mitra (1997) said that a large percentage of workforce particularly in the developing countries is located in tertiary activities, which is attributable to lack of employment opportunities in manufacturing or agriculture sectors, resulting from labour saving technological changes, factor market imperfections and rapid increase in the labour force.

Eapen (1984) studied empirical data for a number of countries over fairly a long period of time and indicated that the major changes associated with development in the movement of employees from agriculture to non-agricultural activities—the process of industrialization.

The Indian economic development during eighties was characterised by the lower growth of employment both in formal and informal sectors despite a relatively high incomes generated in the manufacturing sector. The rising labour costs, attributable to the labour market rigidities generated by appropriate regulation and the nature of industrial relation have been said to be responsible for deceleration in employment growth in the eighties.

isolated and less developed. It is by analysing and understanding the occupational structure within the (three) urban centres that one could discover the processes inherent in Mizoram that is leading to higher urbanisation levels. The study of occupations within the urban areas is likely to throw light on the dynamics of this urban system in a small state like Mizoram and make one understand the processes of economic change that makes these urban centres, though small to thrive on. As outlined earlier, the main focus of the study remains understanding the occupations, occupational diversity, dynamics of occupational changes and explanations in regards to the sustenance of the urban system as an integrated part of the regional economy.

#### **1.4 Objectives of Study**

The primary objectives of the present study are as follow:

1. To study the nature of occupations in the small towns in one of the most backward districts of Mizoram on the basis of primary data. It may be noted that Census information that has been becoming more restrictive over the years does not provide any occupational data, rather the sectoral data, i.e., the population belonging to which broad industrial categories. Since occupational data from NSSO source are limited by very small sample limitations, therefore of little consequence, the study aims at generating primary data base (on a large sample basis) in the three towns short-listed for the study.
2. The second objective is to analyse the nature of occupational diversification within the small towns themselves and, if, there are cardinal differences between the towns, in regards to their occupational characterisation.
3. The third objective is to study the relationship of the regional and town economies with those of the occupational structure of these towns and possibly in the manner, the

economy may be changing resulting in concurrent changes in the occupational structure.

4. Finally, explanations are to be proposed on the basis of empirical evidences to the occupational characterisation of the towns as well as the changes possibly they are undergoing. This will have a larger implication of both understanding the smaller towns in general (for the country) as well as to understand their economic limitations and dynamics, since it is well known that the smaller towns do not grow because of low threshold population and diseconomies of scale.

### **1.5 Research Issues and Hypotheses:**

There are three major research issues here to be dealt with:

1. Whereas there have been a large number of general occupational studies both by economists and geographers following the issues raised by Kuznets or Clark, such studies on India are largely dependent on Census based data that technically does not conform to occupational definition and details, and studies on urban centres, especially for small towns are very limited. Of the 246 towns/cities of North East India, only nine are class I cities and none, a million plus city. Thus, most of the urban scenario of the region is about only small towns. In Mizoram, of the 22 towns only Aizawl is a class I city but the total population of Aizawl is greater than the combined population of the rest of the 21 towns. Therefore, there is a need of understanding the small towns if one is to understand the economy and dynamics of the urban scene as such.
2. The second issue concerns the question of urbanisation in Mizoram itself, a state very small and agrarian in character and still enjoying an urbanisation level over 50%! What then sustains this level of urbanisation? Is the urbanisation a product of

economic changes, reflected in occupational changes in towns and cities or is a product of political processes and even social processes (migration from interior locations to larger settlements invariably along the national highways). If, the latter is true, then what occupations and economic activities sustain them, since at urban location large-scale agrarian practices are impossible to carry out.

3. The third issue relates the nature and dynamics of occupations in urban Mizoram. Are the occupations diversified enough? Is the process of diversification an on-going one? How is this process of diversification effected? What economic changes facilitate occupational changes? Without any worthwhile manufacturing bases, the service sectors, primarily public services and trade appear to be the prime movers of these towns? How sustainable they are? What are the relationships between service sector expansion and size growth of the towns? Many of these issues need a closer look and adequate understanding.

## **1.6 Chapters Scheme**

- Chapter I: Introduction, review of literature, statements of the problem, objectives of the study and hypotheses etc.
- Chapter II: Database and Methodology
- Chapter III: The general background to the three towns of Serchhip district of Mizoram.
- Chapter IV: Nature of enterprises and establishments in the three towns of Serchhip district of Mizoram,
- Chapter V: Occupations, types and compositions of the three towns
- Chapter VI: Rural-urban relationships, urban economies and occupational nexus
- Chapter VII: Economic dynamics and occupational changes
- Chapter VIII: Summary, findings and conclusion

## CHAPTER II

### DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY

#### **2.1 Data base:**

The principal source of data for the current study is through primary collection by primary surveys in the three towns under study, since no reliable secondary information is available for the purpose set out earlier. For the purpose of general uses, data from population censuses and other sources like the state directorate of economics and statistics etc. have been used.

#### **2.2 Methodology:**

The primary survey will be of two categories, (a) the establishment surveys and (b) the household surveys. The establishment survey is aimed at providing information regarding the nature of economic activities in the towns, including services that provide for work/occupational opportunities. For the purpose of this study, 'establishment' refers to all permanent or semi-permanent structures, private or public, operated regularly for at least, three days a week and six working hours a day. The establishments are suppliers of services (public or private) as well as they could be producers of manufactures. Temporary activities, like production at home (like tailoring by housewives), if there is no separation of work place from home, periodic markets, vending on streets and so on are necessarily excluded from the definition of 'establishments'.

The definition of households is much clearly defined, i.e., all members of the household staying together in one house or separate houses within the same 'holding' (property) and partaking food cooked in the same hearth, irrespective of number of nuclear families involved. The households define the individuals performing various functions as

occupations. The households would also provide information about many functions and occupations which may not be covered under the definition of 'establishments' strictly. Together, these two sources of primary data would constitute the data base of the study.

The data generated from the two surveys broadly will be as follows:

A. Establishments:

1. Nature of the establishment, main business/ services as carried out
2. Self-run, managerially run enterprises
3. Number of employees/ regular/ contracted/ casual worker including managerial staff
4. Classes of job descriptions
5. Broad salary/ wage ranges of different categories
6. Broad information regarding turn-over, profitability
7. Sources of finance (if private only), banks, personal sources, moneylenders/ private financiers

The classification of establishments is broadly into two such as public establishments and private establishments/enterprises, further details of classes are as follow:

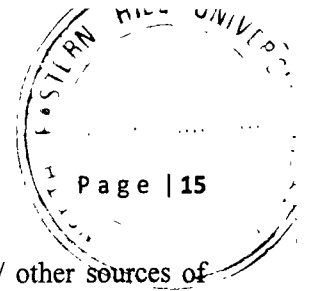
1. Merchandise shop includes books and stationery, grocer, general merchandise, clothe, electrical, mechanical, durables and green grocery/ meat/fish
2. Educational institutions like primary school, middle school secondary, high school, college, and others such institutions.
3. Public offices
4. Agencies includes transportation, financial institutions (private excluding banking systems and others
5. Repairs of household articles, electrical, electronics and transportation equipments

6. Manufacturing includes garments/tailoring, knitting/mending, furniture, metal fabrication, weaving, metal-working, construction materials, printing and publishing and others similar activities
7. Energy includes petrol pump, kerosene vendors and power generation
8. Animal husbandry includes cattle, poultry, piggery and pisciculture etc.
9. Banking/ finance includes commercial banks, co-operatives and insurance establishments,
10. Household/cottage industries include tobacco processing and rolling, cane and basketry, tea processing, spices and condiments, pickles, meat/fish processing etc.
11. Transport organisation includes taxis, buses, trucking and others
12. Restaurants and hotels consist of restaurants, hotels and tea shops/ eateries etc.
13. Food processing includes fruit canning, bakery and others
14. Undertakers (contracting) includes the construction of house/ buildings, roads/bridges and others
15. Health Services includes druggist, pharmacists, doctors, veterinarians and others

B. The household survey generates the following type of information:

#### Household demography

1. Income/ expenditure profile of the households
2. Properties owned by households, agricultural/ non-agricultural
3. Quality of housing and services
4. Educational qualifications of adults of 15+
5. Nature of occupation of the members (Adults above age 15)
6. Total time spent average per day (working day) on establishment



7. Salary/ wages/ earnings/ incomes from rents, profits and interests/ other sources of participating members etc.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) scheme of occupational classification has been used for grouping occupations in the present study because classification of occupations into a reasonable number of categories is to permit international comparisons. There is a great deal of similarity in the industrial classification being adopted by a large number of countries. In India, the census has defined and modified its industrial classification considerably and has made it almost synonymous with that being followed by the United Nations. ILO occupation classification has been designed as applicable to all paid jobs currently done by economically active persons in a country. The object has been to group together occupations (basically by reference to job titles), which are deemed to be similar, taking simultaneous account of two main criteria. The ILO occupation classification uses the following criteria:

The level of skill and experience and formal qualification which is required to carry out competently the work activities typically involved in the occupation, and the nature of those work activities. These criteria are not new and have been implicitly or explicitly invoked in previous schemes of occupational classification (by ILO).

The second criterion is nature of work activities that may refer to any or all of a number of aspects of the work, including the materials handled by type of tools and equipment used and so on. However, it focuses specifically in all cases on work activities. Rather than on other aspects of the job such as, for example, whether the worker has trainee or supervisory status, or what industrial function the job serves. These are ignored by ILO, so that, for example, a 'carpenter', an 'apprentice or trainee carpenter' and a 'foreman carpenter' are all assigned to exactly the same occupational group.

The classification of occupations made by International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO) used in the current study is as follow:

**1. Legislators, senior officials and managers, which include**

(112<sup>1</sup>) Senior government officials

(123) Other departmental managers

**2. Professionals include**

(211) Physicists, chemists and related professionals)

(212) Mathematicians, statisticians and related professionals (Accountants)

(213) Computing professionals

(214) Engineers and related professionals

(222) Health professionals (except nursing) (Compounder)

(223) Nursing and midwifery professionals,

(231) College, university and higher education teaching professionals (college and secondary school teacher and lectures

(232) Secondary education-teaching professionals (Middle schools teacher),

(233) Primary and pre-primary education teaching professionals,

(235) Other teaching professionals

(242) Legal professionals (ADC)

(243) Librarians and related information professionals

(246) Religious professionals (Pastor etc)

**3. Technicians and associate professionals, minor-groups are:**

(311) Physical and engineering science technicians

(313) Optical and electronic equipment operators

---

<sup>1</sup> The numbers in the parentheses are the ILO classification numbers. It may be noted that only the relevant occupations considering the limited occupational diversity in the three study towns have been only used.

- (322) Modern health associate professionals (except nursing)
- (323) Nursing and midwifery associate professionals
- (331) Primary education teaching associate professionals
- (332) Pre-primary education teaching associate professionals
- (334) Other teaching associate professionals
- (342) Business services agents and trade brokers
- (343) Administrative associate professionals
- (344) Customs, tax and related government associate professionals
- (345) Police inspectors and detectives
- (348) Religious associate professionals

**4. Clerks, Minor groups are:**

- (414) Library, mail and related clerks
- (419) Other office clerks
- (421) Cashiers, tellers and related clerks

**5. Shop and market sales workers include:**

- (522) Shop salespersons
- (523) Stall and market salespersons

**6. Skilled agricultural and fishery workers, Sub-groups are:**

- (611) Market gardeners and crop growers
- (612) Market-oriented animal producers and related workers
- (613) Market-oriented crop and animal producers
- (614) Forestry and related workers
- (615) Fishery workers, hunters and trappers
- (621) Subsistence cropping,
- (631) subsistence animal rearing

7. Craft and related trades workers

(722) Blacksmiths, toolmakers and related trades workers

(724) Electrical fitters

(733) Handicraft workers in wood, textile, leather and related materials

(741) Food processing and related trades workers

**8. Plant and machine operators and assemblers, Sub-groups are:**

(816) Power production and related plant operators (on Govt service)

(825) Printing

(826) Textile, fur and leather producing activities/ operators

(827) Food and related products machine operators (mill)

(832) Motor vehicle drivers

(833) Agricultural and other mobile plant operators

**9. Elementary occupations Sub-groups are**

(912) other street services' elementary occupations (hawkers)

(913) Cleaners and launderers (Sweeper),

(921) Agricultural, fishery and related labourers (Cultivators)

(931) Mining (including quarrying) and construction labourers

(932) Transport labourers and freight handlers

(941) Casual/Hired workers

**10. Armed forces**

**2.3 Sampling Design**

The sampling design for establishment survey constitutes of all public offices and 50 percent samples of the rest of the private establishments. The 50 percent private establishment samples have been stratified by the sub-categories of establishments, like (a) shops, (b) garages and small-scale manufacturing, (c) cottage and home-based

manufacturing, (d) personal service enterprises like tailoring, laundry and barber/beauticians etc, (e) restaurants and eateries, (f) agro-services, (g) whole-selling, (h) construction services and real estates and (i) other establishments not covered by the above.

**Table 2.1 Samples Drawn from the Three Towns of Serchhip District**

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai
Number of Households	327	107	67
No. of active worker	751	313	216
Establishments (Govt.)	40	29	18
Private enterprises	122	56	42

The household samples are a 10 percent sample of a 'population' of 5,500 households in the three townships (combined population of over 26,000), yielding approximately 550 household samples to be drawn by a random sampling system from geographical units of 200 to 250 households (localities), using standard systematic-random sampling procedure.

The questionnaires/schedules of household survey cover household demography of the member above 14 ages. It also contains the question to the head of the household whether they have changed occupation or not within 20 year back. The occupation of head of the household is used to reconstruct the past occupational structure of the population. The present occupational structure is formed from the total active workers of the given household. For the analysis of data, frequency distribution and percentage of change, coefficient of correlations and other simple descriptive statistics have been applied to understand the identified objectives. To analyse occupational diversity, the formula applied i.e.

$$\left[ 1 - \left( \frac{P_2 - P_1}{P_2} \right) \times 100 \right] \text{ We have}$$

Where P1 = Numbers of similar occupations,

P2= Total numbers of occupations in household

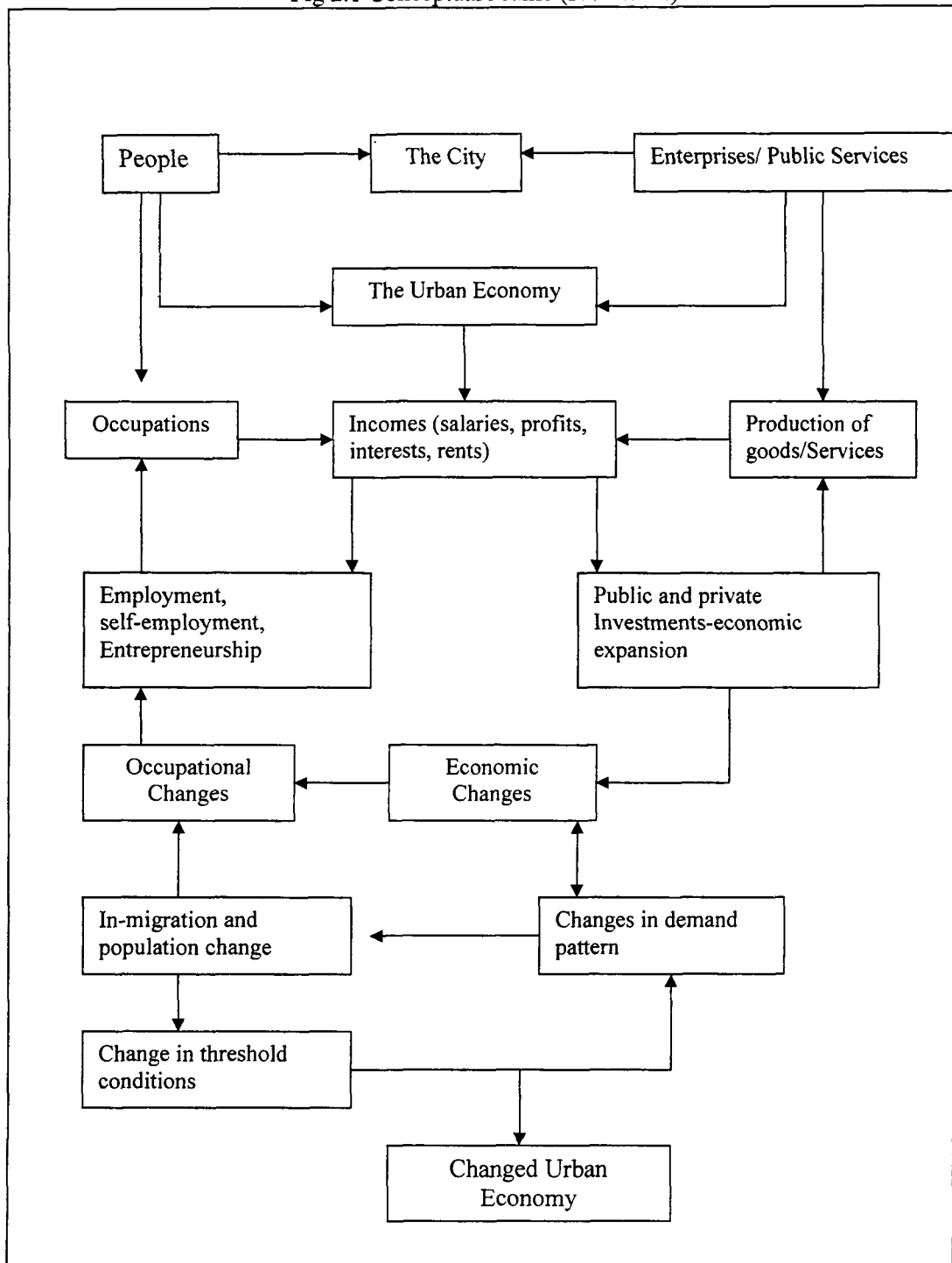
#### **2.4 Conceptual framework:**

The study design could be understood by the following flow chart:

As seen the flow chart, the scheme of observations and explanations is formulated as follow:-

1. Urban economy is mainly constituted by production of goods and services. Public establishments and private enterprises render modes of production and services. They deal various kinds of developments, it indicates urban economic structures. The study of livelihood of the people and their participation in public establishments and private enterprises ascertain the understanding of urban economy.
2. The understanding of public establishments and private enterprises provides the dynamism of urban economy since it creates means of productions and provision of service to the people. It determines the production systems, salaries and income of the inhabitant of the urban centres. The capacity of employments in public establishments determines participation of the people since service plays very important role in the urban economy.
3. The apprehension of means of livelihood and mode of productions in the urban centres provides the understanding of economic structures. It confirms the question of growth processes and potential of growth of the urban centres.
4. The understanding of entrepreneurship environments (capital investments, profitability, operational area and problems of the private enterprise) provides the knowledge of potential growth and expansion of the private enterprises, which is the machine of economic growth of the towns. The growth and expansion of private enterprises stimulate economic changes and occupational changes.

Fig 2.1 Conceptual Frame (Flowchart)



5. The study of occupational changes, changing pattern and causes of occupational changes determine growth processes of the urban economy and horizontal expansion of urban settlements. The economic structures, modes of production and occupational opportunities determine the nature of migration. The economic change, which is the corollary of the expansion and growth of the public and private establishments, combining with wide range of occupational opportunities attract immigrants. The attraction of immigrants leads economic changes to support the growth of urban centres.

## CHAPTER III

### GENERAL BACKGROUND OF SERCHHIP DISTRICT AND THE THREE TOWNS

#### 3.1 Introduction

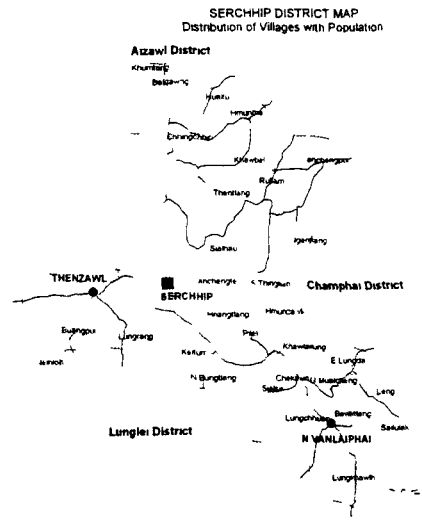
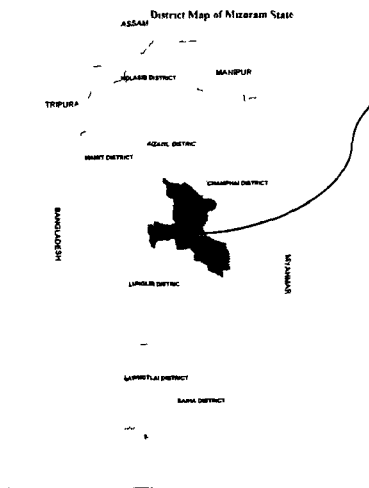
The present chapter contains the general background of the Serchhip District of Mizoram, like physical features, economic and demographic characteristics of the whole district. It covers demographic status of the three towns like population distribution, growth of population, distribution of workers (Census of India) and traces the process of development in the district through actions of public and private establishments. The main objective of this chapter is to understand the nature of the geographical profile as well as economic conditions of the whole district, in particular the three towns under study.

Most of the tables and diagrams have been compiled from data provided by Census of India and Statistical Handbooks of Mizoram for different years. Changes of demographic and economic features have been compiled through statistical work and some of the physical features, distribution of terrain, streams, forest and land use pattern have worked out from [googleearth.com](http://googleearth.com).

#### 3.2 Geographical Profiles of Serchhip District

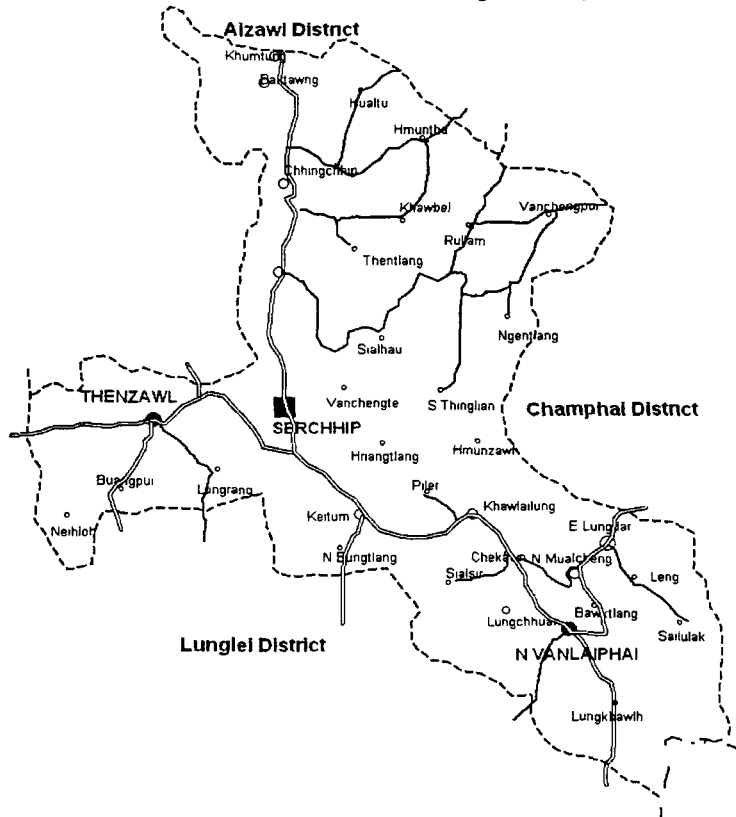
Serchhip district was created in 1998 along with Champhai, Kolosib and Mamit districts. Its total geographical area is 1424.08 sq. Km with a total of 36 villages and three towns, all of which have been studied. The three towns are Serchhip, which is a class IV town (population in 2001 is 18,185), Thenzawl, a V class town (population in 2001: 5,519) and North Vanlaiphai, a class VI town (population in 2001: 3,275).

Fig 3.1 Location Map of the Serchhip District



**District Map of Mizoram State**

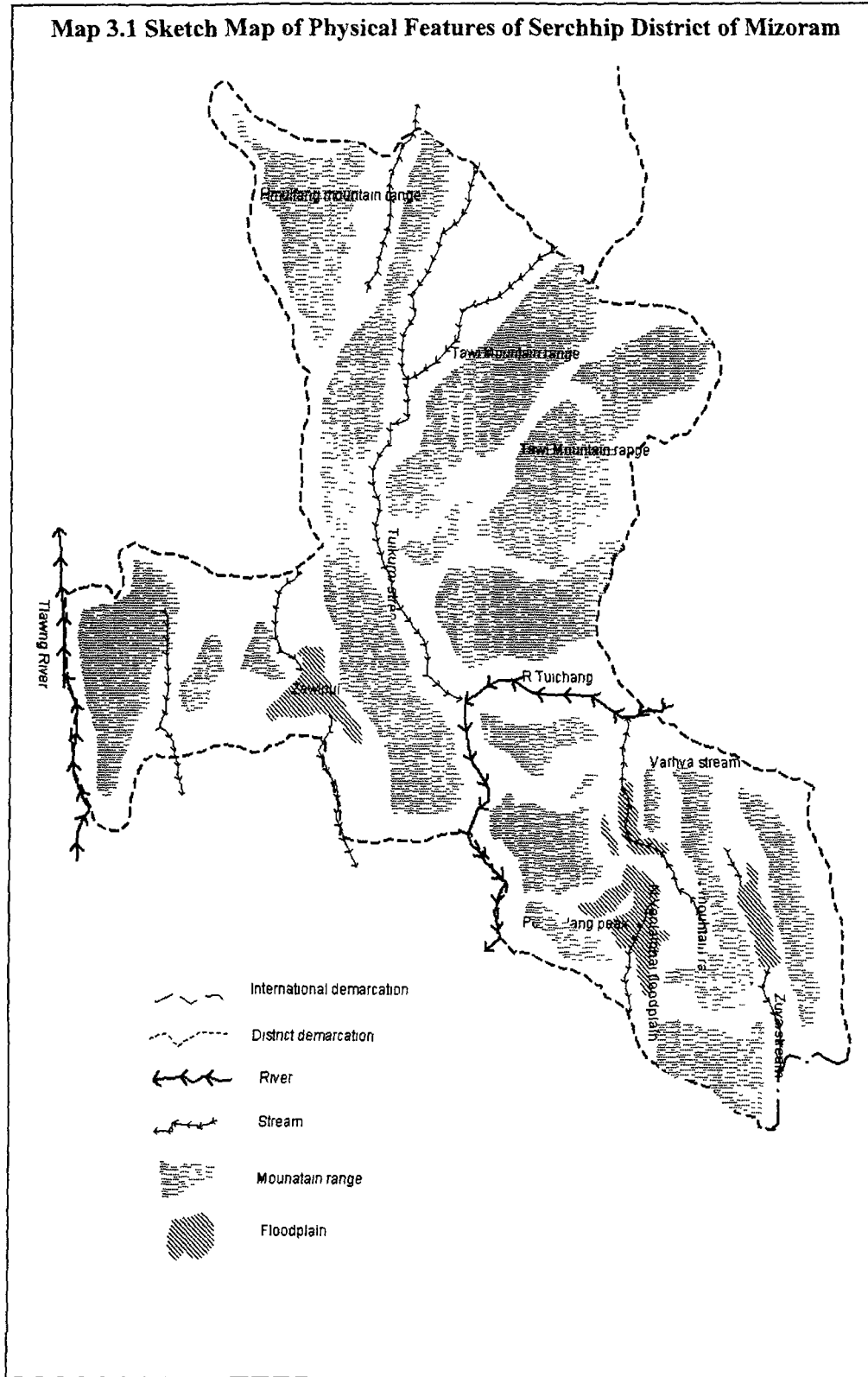
**SERCHHIP DISTRICT MAP  
Distribution of Villages with Population**



### 3.2.1 Physical Features

Though the whole district is of hilly and rugged topographic features, some of the small floodplains are found at N.Vanlaiphai and Mat River basin. N.Vanlaiphai plain is the second largest plain in Mizoram State. It can be noted that most of the mountain ranges are north-south direction as in the rest of Mizoram. Tawi Mountain Range, which is the largest range of the district, runs from the north-east and takes a syntexial turn towards the west. On the eastern corner, Hrangturzo Mountain Range runs from north-east to south and reaches the highest peak, Kelkhum (1845 metres). Purun tlang Mountain Range (1758 metres above sea level) stands at the southern corner of the district. Serchhip Mountain Range runs in the middle part of the district, levelling around 1104 metres in height, and the western corner is covered by Hmuifang tlang Range. Hrangturzo Range and Tawi mountain ranges were separated by Tuichang River with many tributaries, flowing towards the south. Tuikum River also flows between Tawi and Serchhip Range that merge into Tuichang River. The largest river of Mizoram (Tlawng) takes its course through the western part of the district. Mat River drains through the western part of the district, rising from Hmuifang peak and flowing towards the south. All towns under the study contain small plain areas in their vicinity, which are devoted to agriculture. N.Vanlaiphai Plains is a depositional plain of Sasaw stream, rising from Hrangturzo mountain. Zawlpui, the third largest flat-plain in Mizoram was formed by the meandering, lateral-erosion and depositional work of Mat River that stretches between Thenzawl and Serchhip town.

Map 3.1 Sketch Map of Physical Features of Serchhip District of Mizoram



### 3.2.2 Climate, Natural Vegetation and Soil

It is important to note that Serchhip district enjoys a moderate climate owing to its higher elevation though in a sub-tropical location, neither too cold nor too hot throughout the year. It falls under the direct influence of the South-west Monsoon. As such the area receives adequate rainfall that makes the summer humid and a dry winter. Soils in most of the hill areas are under the categories of Ultisols, which are rich in trans-located silicates clays. Etisols classes, like mixed Hyperthermic type occur in the narrow valleys, especially near river courses in limited area. Fine loamy, typical Palequults are found in flat lands. The district has an abundant growth of natural vegetation. Its tropical location furnishes conducive climatic conditions such as adequate rainfall, moderate temperature etc. that favour the luxuriant growth of vegetation. The type of vegetation that thrives in this area ranges from Tropical Evergreens to Sub-Tropical Deciduous forests. These forests contain valuable species of timber, medicinal herbs and various plants for domestic uses.

### 3.2.3 Demography

Some of the important population characteristics of the district are: household size: five, sex ratio: above 6 ages 967 and below 6 ages 677, ST population: 98.09percent etc. The decadal growth rate of population is 18.45 percent. Most of the people belong to Christian religion (97.47 percent). It is noticed that 48.6 percent of the populations live in urban areas in the district.

**Table 3.1 Population Distribution at Serchhip District**

Population	No. of Villages /Towns	Shared of Population	Shared of population in percent
< 500	12 (32.43percent)	2730	05.07
500-1000	15 (40.54percent)	9490	17.64
1000-3000	06 (16.21percent)	12364	22.96
3000>	04 (10.81percent)	29273	54.33
Total	37(100.00percent)	53857	100.00

*Compiled from: Census of India, 2001 (Primary Census Abstract)*

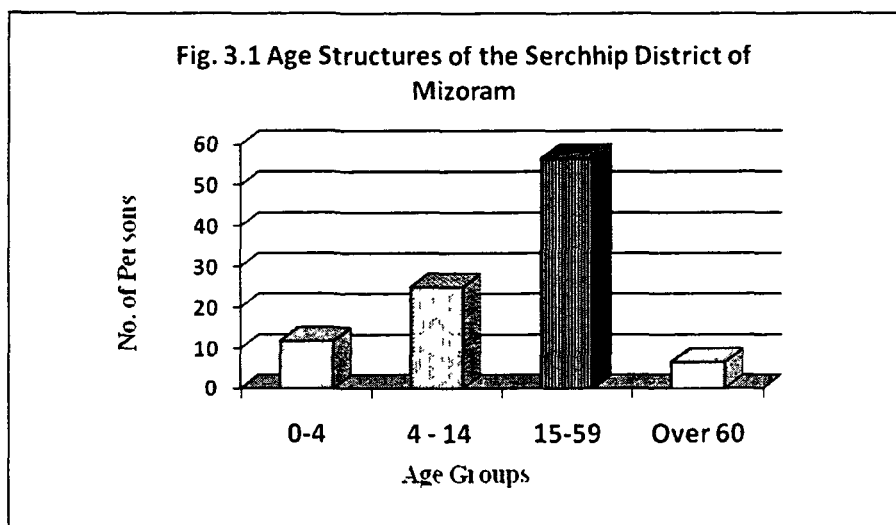
Age distribution of Serchhip is shown on Table 3.2. More than one-third of the people (36.84percent) are dependent children and only 6.55 percent of the people are dependent aged (over age 60+). It further indicates that more than half of the people from the working age group.

**Table 3.2 Age groups of Serchhip District 29**

Age groups	Persons	In percent
0-4	6354	11.80
5-14	13485	25.04
15-59	30492	56.61
60>	3530	6.55

Source: Government of Mizoram, Economic and Statistic Department, 2008

**Fig. 3.2 Age Structures of the Serchhip District of Mizoram**



In the matter of distribution of workers, Serchhip district has 78.69 percent of the workers in primary activity (agriculture and allied activities), 2.20 percent in secondary sector and 19.10 percent in the tertiary sector and the overall work participation rate in 2001 is 61.85 percent, which can be considered to be good in comparison with the national average. This compares with 80 percent in primary, 1.57 percent in secondary, 18.41 percent in

tertiary activities in 1991 (census). This indicates no significant diversification of economic activities or for that matter, a move away from primary activities, like agriculture, hunting, forestry etc. in the district over the past decade.

Prima facie, it appears that the towns are primarily agro-service based as the mainstay of their economies. Administrative functions and servicing the surrounding rural areas as main market centres are the other important functions.

### **3.3 Towns of the Serchhip District:**

The term “town” stands for the non-rural locale with certain physical and social characteristics. All the three towns of Serchhip are Census towns, since the whole state of Mizoram has no statutory towns including the city of Aizawl with a population over 200,000 in 2001. All the towns in the State are administered directly by the State Government through the Local Area Department (LAD) including the capital city, Aizawl. The definition according to 1971 Census (of India) is that all the places satisfying the following conditions have been treated as towns:

- (1) All municipal corporations, municipal boards’ cantonments and notified areas.
- (2) All locality though not in themselves local bodies but forming part of a city or town agglomeration.
- (3) Other places satisfying all the three mentioned conditions: (i) population exceeds 5000, (ii) at least 75percent of male working population is engaged in non-agriculture pursuits and (iii) the density of population exceeds 1000 person per sq miles (400 persons per sq km).

In a way, town with a population between 10 to 50 thousands are labelled as small towns while the other ones having a bigger population are classed as city. Thus small towns are quite often seen as bridge between the urban and rural settlements, as a kind of settlement

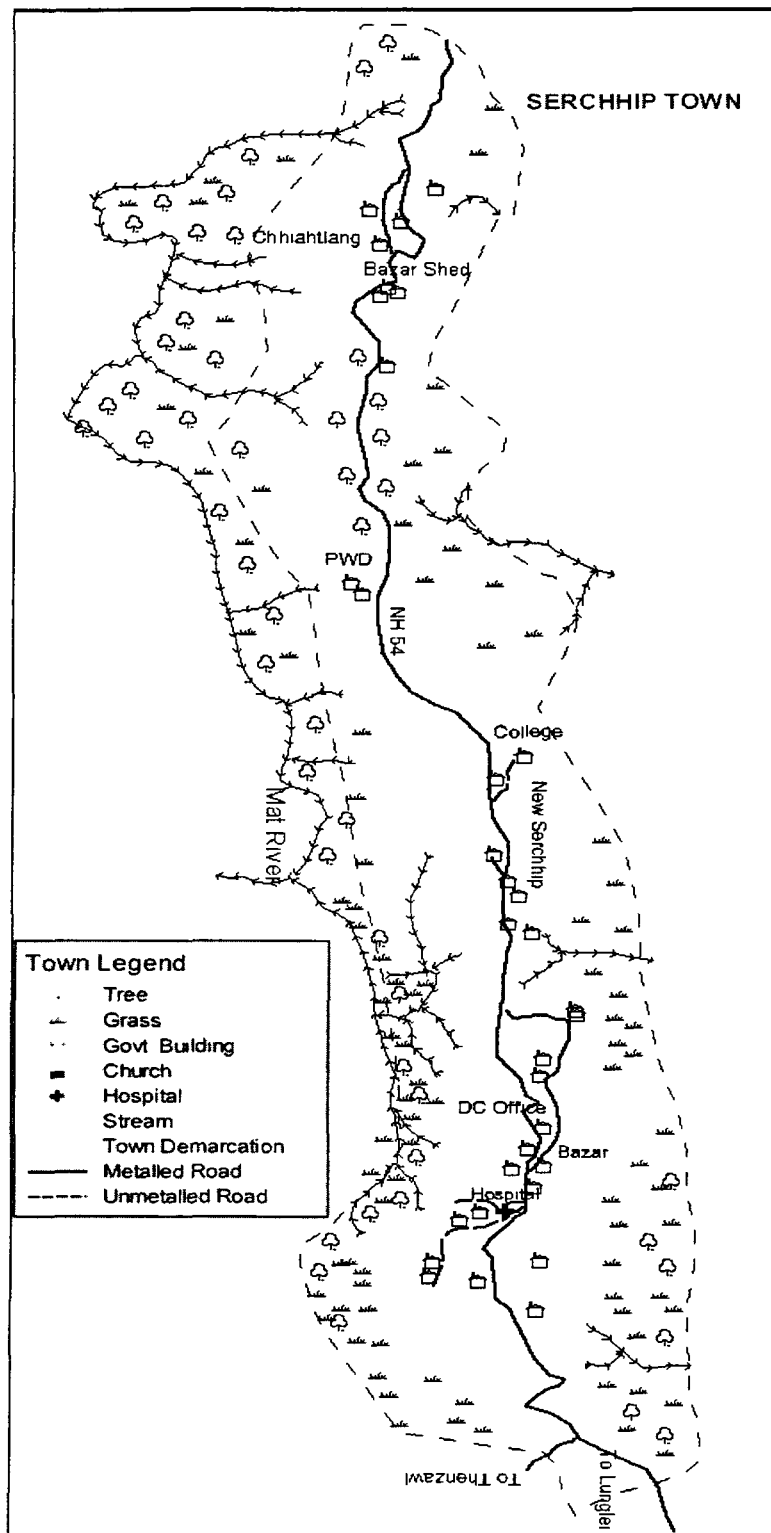
which can offer the best and none of the worse, both of the worlds. Such thinking continues to exist for the simple reason that there are comparatively few facts available either to confirm or contradict the impression.

However, small towns in India have existed for a very long time and the main incentives for their existence have been administrative, economic and also to some extent cultural. Such towns have had a traditional origin. Census of India (1971) included class III to VI urban centres in the categories are of small towns.

### 3.3.1 Serchhip Town Profile

Serchhip town located 112 Km from Aizawl to the south was merged by *Chhiahtlang* village in 1998. It locates on 23°17'58"N latitudes and 92°50'36"E longitudes at 1104 meters above the MSL. It took the form of compact settlement in the central part of the district, along the road of National Highway No.54. It originated around late 19<sup>th</sup> century, but now, its growth has been fuelled by forced migration during 1966 from adjoining small villages. The continuous migration led to the growth of the town. Near the town, Mat River drains *Hmuifang* Range, the denudation process especially meandering through the narrow patch of plain, locally called *Zawlpu* ('*zawl*' means plain, '*pu*' means large, so it was called large plain), devoted to agriculture. Besides *kharif* (summer) crops, due to well connected network of irrigation, *rabi* (winter) crops also grown successfully. Vegetables like cabbages and mustard leaves are known for in the Serchhip town during the winter months.

Fig 3.3 Sketch Map of Serchhip Town



### 3.3.2 Thenzawl Town Profile

Thenzawl town is located on 23°19'08" North latitudes and 92°45'00" East longitudes. It is located at 520 m above MSL in an inter-montane valley along Mat River, and settlement is compact type. The inter-montane patch of plains serves for production of wet-rice, which is the permanent agriculture practice in the area. With the establishment of handloom industry, and animal sanctuary under Forest and Environment Conservation Department, government of Mizoram; migration into the town has accelerated, after the village grouping in 1966.

### 3.3.3 N. Vanlaiphai Town Profile

North Vanlaiphai town is located on 23°07'57" North latitudes and 93°44'58" East longitudes, on altitude 1373 m above MSL. North Vanlaiphai is renowned for its large inter-montane flat plain of Mizoram, second to Champhai valley. It is drained by *Sasaw* stream and *Maicham* stream arose from *Hrangturzo* Range. On account of heavy torrential rains, severe erosion occurs in surrounding areas and *Sasaw* stream meanders through the plains.

This flat plain is devoted to permanent wet-rice cultivation during *kharif* season but is fallowed during winter on account of non-availability of irrigation. *Hrangturzo* Range takes a syntexial turn from northeast to southwest. This mountain range is covered by tropical evergreen forests and suited to potatoes cultivation with heavy organic soil. The town is known for potato production in Mizoram. Another factor responsible for the growth of the town is the construction of *Maicham* Mini Hydel Project (2 MW) which supply power to the adjacent villages and towns. Another 2 MW project is also being constructed under the Department of Power and Electricity of the state government. This construction had provided facility of employment generation in the town that may cause some occupational changes in the town.

Fig 3.4 Sketch Map of Thenzawl Town

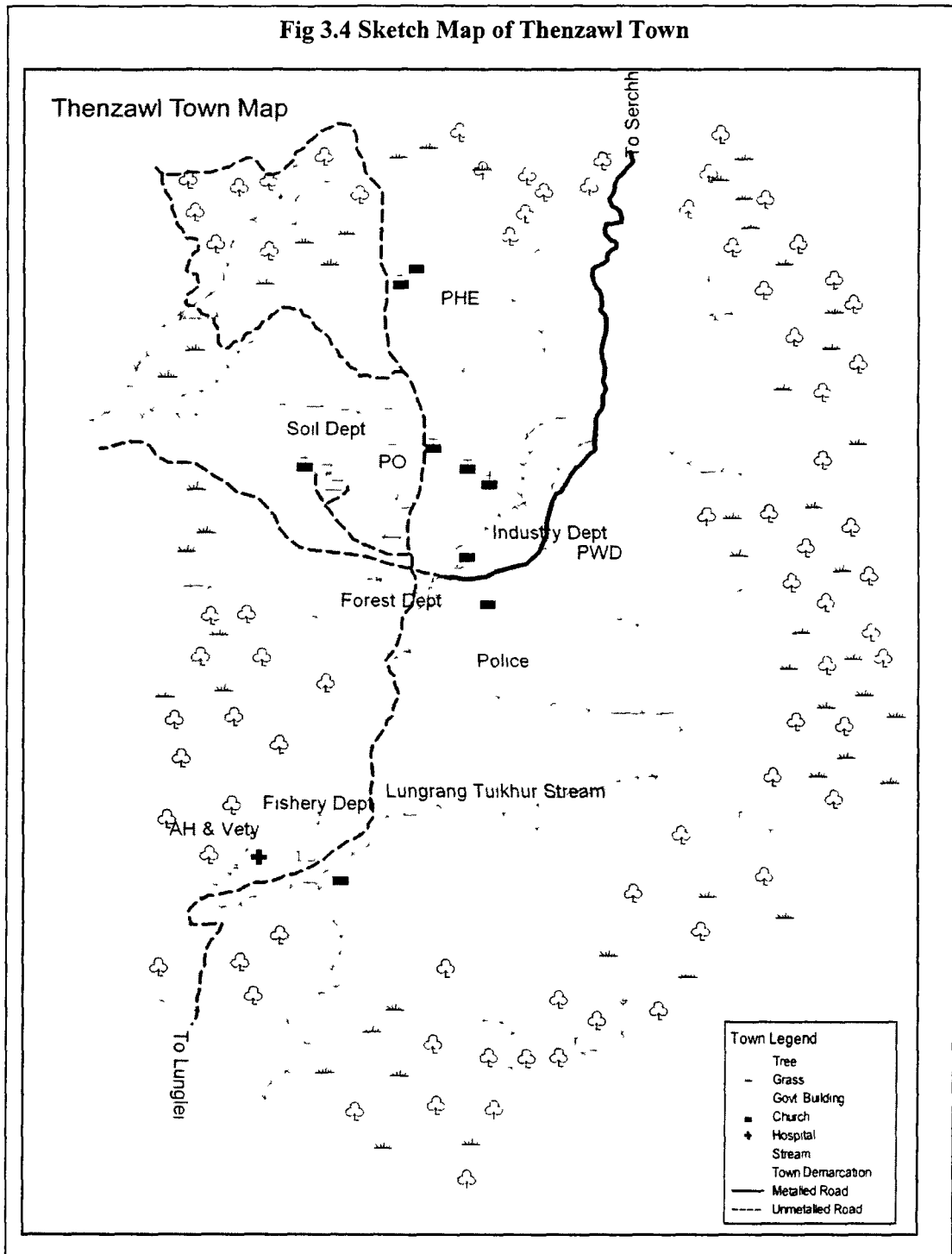
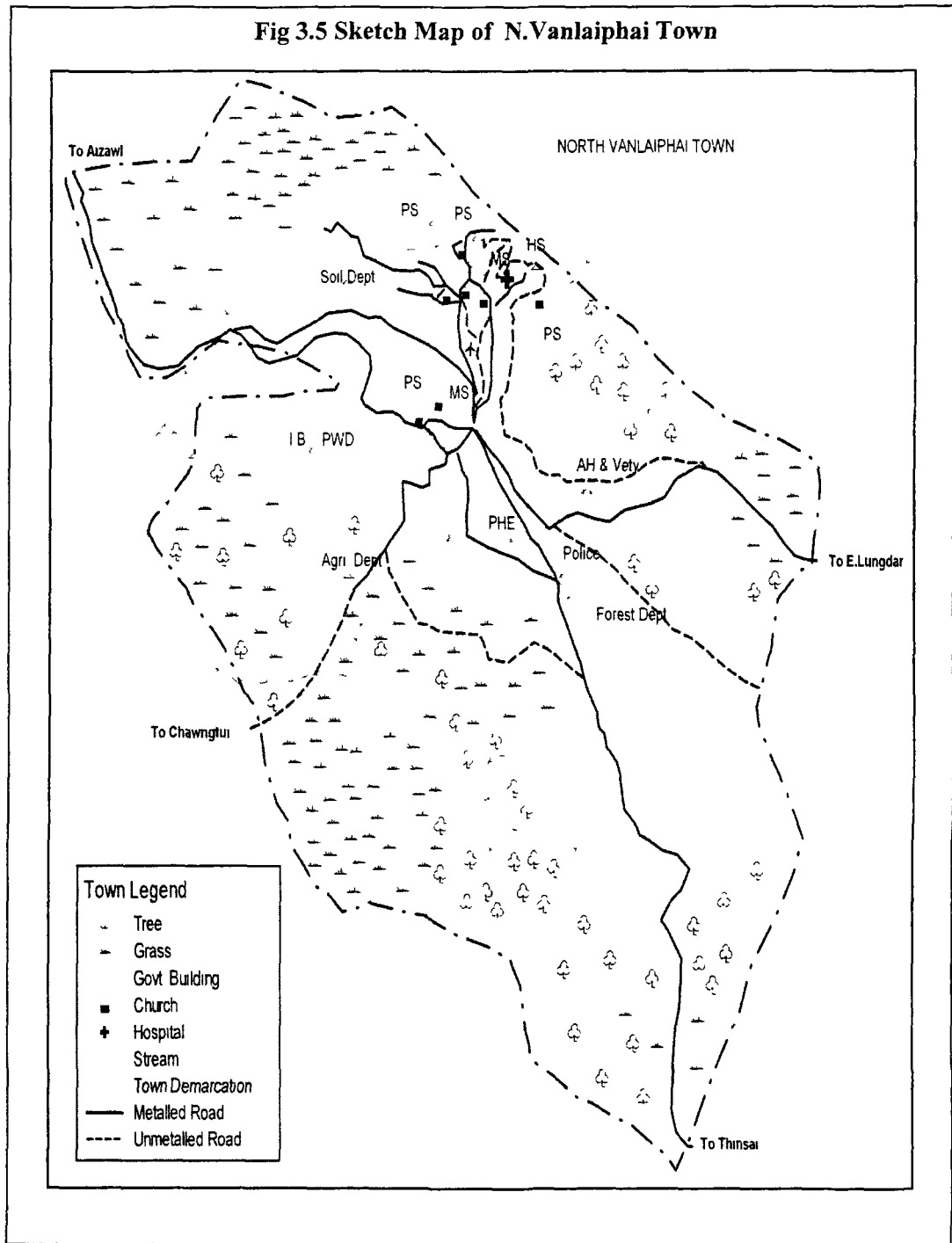


Fig 3.5 Sketch Map of N.Vanlaiphai Town



### 3.4 Demographic Features of the Towns

Basic information of Serchhip district towns, especially demographic features of the three towns are sketched as follow:

**Table 3.3 Basic information of Population in 2001**

Town	No. Households	Total Population	Literacy rate	Work participation rate
Serchhip	3226	17096	95.81	50.48
Thenzawl	1053	5507	97.51	59.71
N.Vanlaiphai	627	3275	96.68	65.51

*Sources: Census of India, 2001 (Provisional)*

#### 3.4.1 Growth of Population in the Towns of Serchhip District

Table 3.4 and 3.5 show the exact figures of population at the three small towns to demonstrate the decadal change of population. These tables show significant changes of these three towns, it shows uneven rates of decadal change. Growth of population also relates the growth of establishments and enterprises. Change of population in the towns and urbanisation go hand in hand at regional/state level that it may lead to economic changes.

**Table 3.4 Town-wise Distribution of Population**

Towns	1971	1981	1991	2001
N. Vanlaiphai	2895	3258	2804	3275
Thenzawl	3535	3126	4502	5507
Serchhip	4802	7329	13688	17096

*Sources: Census of India, 1971-2001*

**Table 3.5 Decadal Growth Rate of Population**

Towns	1971-81	1981-91	1991-01	Mean
N. Vanlaiphai	12.54	-13.93	16.80	5.14
Thenzawl	-11.57	44.02	22.32	18.26
Serchhip	52.62	86.76	24.90	54.76
Average	17.86	38.95	21.34	
Mizoram	48.55	39.69	29.18	39.14
India	24.66	23.85	21.35	23.29

*Sources: Compiled and calculated by the author*

Tables 3.4 and 3.5 show that population growth of the three towns are significant growth during 1971-81 and 1991-2001 decades but decreased during 1981-1991 in N. Vanlaiphai town. Very significant changes in population occurred during 1971-81 and 1981-91, but low rate persisted in growth during 1991-01 in Serchhip town. It can be stated safely that the two smaller towns observed less growth momentum as compared to Serchhip due to lack of any significant economic base for these towns or changes thereof.

### 3.4.2 Distribution of Workforce in 2001

Workforce distribution of the towns show multiple dimensions of people engaged in work and the level of development. Classification of workforces is as follow:

1. Cultivator those involved in the practice of crops growing on the basis of sedentary and shifting cultivations, and also includes subsistence as well as market oriented cropping.
2. Workers in Household Industry include those in production, processing, servicing, repairing or making and selling (but not merely selling) of goods.
3. Other workers include all government servants, municipal employees, teachers, factory workers, plantation workers, those engaged in trade, commerce, business, transport banking, mining, construction, political or social work, priests, entertainment artists, etc.

**Table 3.6 Distribution of Workforces 2001**

Town	In percent		
	Agri.& allied activity	Household industries	Others
Serchhip	58.44	01.79	39.76
Thenzawl	61.76	12.55	25.69
N.Vanlaiphai	71.54	01.87	26.59
<b>Average</b>	<b>63.91</b>	<b>5.40</b>	<b>30.68</b>

*Sources: Compile and calculated from Census of India by the author*

From the Table 3.6, smaller towns have a higher concentration of agriculture and allied activities, the smallest town have 71.54 percent in agricultural and allied activities, and only one-fourth in other non-farm activities. It can be further noted that 12.55 percent of the workers are engaged in household industries at Thenzawl town that it exceeds the other towns.

Some of the sector-wise informations of workforce distribution on from 1981 to 1991 Census are follows:

**Table 3.7 Workforce Distributions in 1991 and 1981**

In percent

Name of towns	Cultivators		Agri. Labour		Household industries		Others workers	
	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981
Serchhip	68.28	61.20	1.72	1.50	1.43	1.05	28.29	36.23
Thenzawl	65.68	90.27	8.03	0.89	4.80	0.06	53.83	08.76
N.Vanlaiphai	65.07	78.79	2.02	0.30	0.62	1.67	27.86	19.19
<b>Average</b>	<b>66.34</b>	<b>76.75</b>	<b>3.92</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>2.28</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>36.66</b>	<b>21.39</b>

*Sources: Compiled and calculated by the author*

**Table 3.8 Decadal Changes of Workforces' Distribution between 1981 and 1991**

In percent

Name of towns	Cultivators	Agri. Labour	Household industries	Others workers
Serchhip	7.08	0.22	0.38	-7.94
Thenzawl	-24.59	7.14	4.70	45.07
N.Vanlaiphai	-13.72	1.72	-1.05	15.27
<b>Average</b>	<b>-10.41</b>	<b>3.03</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>17.46</b>

*Sources: Compiled and calculated by the author*

The Tables 3.7 and 3.8 show steady growth in decadal changes in number of households with relatively moderate growth in N. Vanlaiphai town, particularly during 1971-81, but rapid increase during 1981-91. Thenzawl town observed significant growth during last the decade. However, Serchhip town observed rapid growth of households from 1971 to 2001. Growth of households and growth of population appear to be directly related during same period indicating no significant changes in household composition.

**Table 3.9 Total Number Households**

Towns	1971	1981	1991	2001
N.Vanlaiphai	499	517	556	627
Thenzawl	505	523	800	1053
Serchhip	689	2655	2346	3226

*Sources: Census of India, 1971-2001*

**Table 3.10 Decadal Growth Rate of Households**

In percent

Towns	1971- 81	1981- 91	1991- 01	Mean
N.Vanlaiphai	3.61	7.54	12.77	7.97
Thenzawl	3.56	52.96	31.63	29.38
Serchhip	52.62	91.67	37.51	68.94
Average	28.27	50.72	27.30	

*Sources: Compiled and calculated by the author*

Serchhip has the highest growth of households, which is facilitated being the district HQ with different public establishments. Thenzawl grew somewhat due to a wildlife sanctuary. Mini Hydro-electric Project (*Maicham* Hydel Project) has provided some impetus to the growth of N. Vanlaiphai town.

### **3.5 Town Economy:**

Economy of these towns is dominated by agriculture and allied activities, which are carried out through the practising of shifting cultivation, market-oriented cropping and plantation cropping in the surrounding areas. Wet-rice cultivation plays a pivotal role in agriculture in the small patch of flatlands in the area. Ginger, cabbage, potatoes, mustard leaves and chillies are the major market crops in these three towns. Shifting cultivation largely provides subsistence to the households. Vegetable cultivation on homesteads is also very popular in these towns, mostly practiced by housewives.

The main source of money supply in the towns comes largely from Government servants which plays very important role in the local economy. Besides, shops, hotels and restaurants and transportation mean like taxi, local bus services and others also contribute to

some extent in the local economy. The contributions of household industries and repair facilities are negligible and contribute in a very small way to these three towns.

The small towns under study appear to have good potential for development from the point of view of land availability and possibility of expansion of infrastructures at a lower cost. But they lack any perceivable economic momentum due to the very size factor of these towns providing for limited economic opportunities for further growth.

The population growth of these towns is nearly stagnant or declining as compared to Aizawl city, the State Capital. They serve as only local service centres and trade centres for the surrounding rural regions. They have alternate days of bazaar (periodic market) at Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns, small number of groceries and other shops. These goods and services offered in such centres are limited in variety and choice. Other important activities in these towns are educational services like schools. As service centres and link to other markets, they have important roles in the urbanisation process in the region but they still lack the critical 'threshold'.

## CHAPTER IV

# NATURE AND CAPABILITY OF ENTERPRISES AND ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE THREE TOWNS OF SERCHHIP DISTRICT

### 4.1 Introduction:

This chapter contains the nature and capability of establishments and enterprises at the three towns of the State of Mizoram, namely, Serchhip, Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns. The main purpose of this chapter is to understand the dynamics, as people participate in their manifest vocations in various establishments in the towns under the present study. Since enterprises and establishments are basically the mechanism of production of goods and services, they constitute as agents of change in occupations, vocations and livelihoods as obtain in given situations. Thus, analysis of participation of people and capabilities of establishments and enterprises that operate in facilitating urban economic growth and in ways, it acts as a driving force of change. Besides, since enterprises and establishments act as vehicle of occupational change and economic development of the urban centres, they can affect the capability of enterprises in the process of development at these towns.

This chapter includes discussions on the pattern of employment in the Government establishments and private enterprises. It also analyses what occupations are involved, what engendered occupational changes in urban economy. The provision of employment by establishment units and their growth pattern show magnitude of changes in occupations. Investment pattern of private enterprises and their area of operation, profitability, clients served by the enterprises, as well as problems they encounter, show the potential growth and development of these enterprises in an otherwise inaccessible area of a relatively landlocked state of India.

## 4.2 Classification and Types of Establishments

An establishment is a socio-economic unit engaged in one or predominantly one kind of economic activity under a single ownership or control at a single fixed location, e.g. mine, factory, store, bank, restaurant; which broadly could be split into “public” (or Government-run) and “private”. Such establishments could be enterprises (economic entities, dealing in some productive economic transactions) or non-enterprise based establishments transacting in public, social, cultural functions not necessarily leading to economic transactions. In spite of the existing International Labour Organisation (ILO) – International Standard Classification of Industries (ISCI) (2003 Revision) classification support to some extent, the small towns’ establishments are very tiny in size, and thus this classification is applied which are as follows:

1. Shops include those vending books & stationery, grocery, general merchandise, clothes, electrical equipments, mechanical equipments, communication equipments, durables, green grocery/ meat/fish etc;
2. Educational establishments include primary, middle school, secondary, high schools, colleges, and technical training institutes and other professional training establishment;
3. Office establishments: government offices and private offices;
4. Agencies like transport, financial and others;
5. Repairing of household articles, electrical, electronics, transportation, agricultural implements, and others;
6. Manufacturing establishments include garments/tailoring, knitting/mending, furniture, metal fabrication, weaving, metal working, construction material production, printing & publishing etc;
7. Power generation establishments;

8. Animal husbandry includes cattle, poultry, piggery, pisciculture, others;
9. Banking/ finance includes commercial, co-operatives, insurance and other similar institutions;
10. Household/cottage industry includes tobacco proc. & rolling, cane & basketry, tea processing, spices & condiments, pickles, meat/fish processing and others;
11. Transport includes taxis, buses, trucking and others;
12. Restaurant & hotels includes restaurant, hotels, boarding, tea shops/ eateries and others;
13. Food processing includes fruit canning, bakery and others;
14. Undertakers includes house/ buildings, roads/bridges, and
15. Health services include druggist, pharmacists, doctors, veterinarians and others.

#### **4.3 Nature of Enterprises and Establishment**

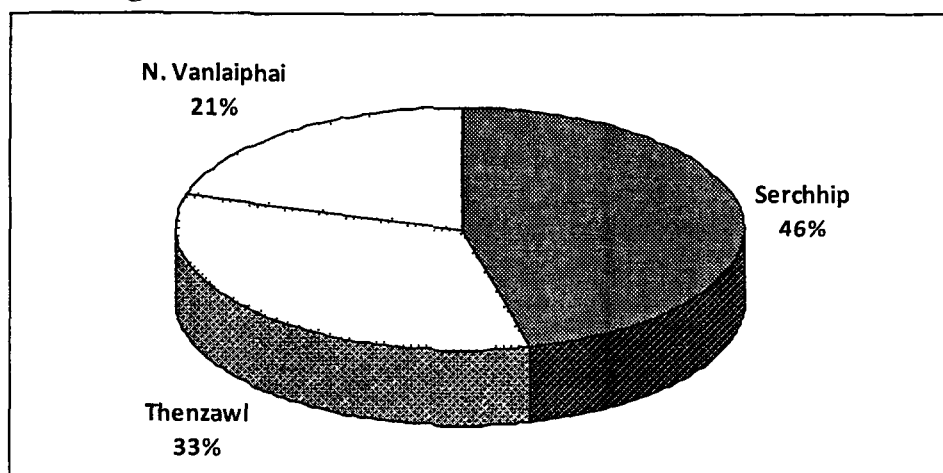
An enterprise is an undertaking engaged in production and / or distribution of goods and/ or services not for the sole purpose of own consumption. Entrepreneurship development is concerned with the qualitative development of human being. It is the key to the progress and prosperity of a community as also of a nation. While entrepreneurs acting as agents to accelerate the development process; the economic development by creating conducive atmosphere motivate and encourage more numbers of potential individual to join the entrepreneurial class. The development of entrepreneurship is essential not only to solve the problem of industrial development but also to solve the problems of unemployment, regional disparity, unbalance growth and utilisation of local resources. And establishment units like public/ government offices provide some of facilities to enhance production and disposal of production that impart an improvement of income besides provision of employments.

The government offices and public enterprises have to play a dominant and a dynamic role to accelerate the rate of economic growth. Public enterprises and government office have been function to provide the commercial surpluses with which to finance further economic development and it become an essential instrument to reach the target in every sector. Although the private sector has increased its productivity by means of public sector provision of facilities, those productivity gains have been shared with workers or with communities.

In all the three small towns under study (namely, Serchhip, Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai), the employed people or some vocations and occupations which will be studied. In carrying out these vocations, professions and occupations, they would appear in various establishments in the towns, like shops, factories, transport establishments, government offices, (like general administration, educational establishments, police or judicial establishments) or in religious establishments like churches, temples or masjids. An enterprise run by employing at least one hired worker on a fairly regular basis is defined for the purpose of the present study an establishment.

The sample design for establishments constitutes of *all* public offices and 50 percent sample of the rest of the private establishments. Such establishment samples will be stratified by the sub-category of establishments as follow:

**Fig 4.1 Town-wise Distribution of Public Establishments**



*Based on table 4.1*

**Table No 4.1 Number of Public Offices and Private Establishments in the Three Towns**

Establishments/ enterprises	Serchhip			Thenzawl			N. Vanlaiphai			Total
	Govt.	Pvt.*	Total	Govt.	Pvt.	Total	Govt.	Pvt.	Total	
Merchandise Shops	0	34	34	0	18	18	0	10	10	62
Educational Inst	17	22	39	12	4	16	8	4	12	67
Govt. Offices	21	0	21	16	0	16	9	0	9	46
Trading Agencies	1	2	3	0	2	2	0	2	2	7
Repair facilities	0	4	4	0	4	4	0	2	2	10
Manufacture	0	16	16	0	4	4	0	6	6	26
Ani. Husbandry	0	2	2	0	4	4	0	2	2	8
Banking/ finance	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	3
HH industries	0	4	4	0	4	4	0	2	2	10
Transport org.	0	20	20	0	8	8	0	8	8	36
Hotel & Rests	0	10	10	0	4	4	0	2	2	16
Food processing	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	4
Undertaker/Contractor	0	2	2	0	4	4	0	2	2	8
Health Services	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>307</b>

*Source:* Fieldwork by the author 2005-06; \* the total number of private establishments have been doubled the ones surveyed, since 50% samples were drawn.

#### 4.4 Distribution of Establishments by Public/ Private and by Type of Activity

The total number of establishments in both public (Govt.) and private in all the three towns of the district are 307, of which the town of Serchhip, the largest of the three towns and the District Head Quarters has more than 50 percent share, the rest of the two towns sharing the establishment more or less equally. Further, the distribution of establishment by “public or private” indicates (Tables 4.1, 4.2 & 4.3) that 28.34 % of the establishment in all the three towns of the district belong to the Government, the balance 72 percent are private enterprises/establishments. Serchhip township also dominates in terms of the share of private establishments (over 50 percent). One may note that the total number of establishments is a

function of the population size of the town, because the population size of Serchhip township (17,069) is more than twice that of the combined population of the other two towns.

Out of the 14 types of establishments, educational establishments (21.82 percent), Government offices (14.01 percent) and private establishments like merchandise shops and transport units (there are no government transport facility in the district) dominate the total number of establishments in the three townships of the district.

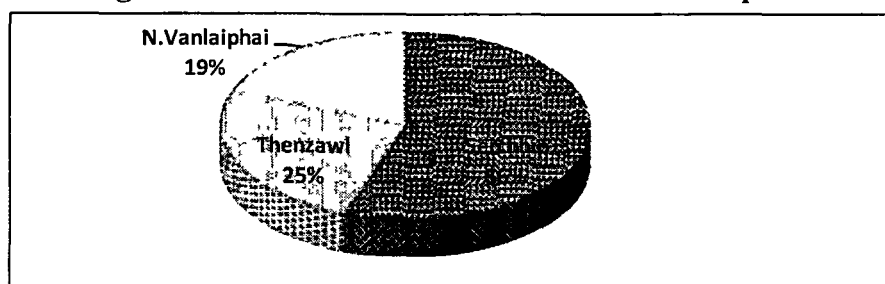
**Table 4.2 Town-Wise Distribution of Public Establishments by Types of Activities**  
In percent

Establishments	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai
Educational Inst	42.50	41.38	44.44
Govt. Offices	50.00	51.72	44.44
Trading Agencies	2.50	0.00	0.00
Banking/ finance	2.50	3.45	5.56
Health Services	2.50	3.45	5.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source:* Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

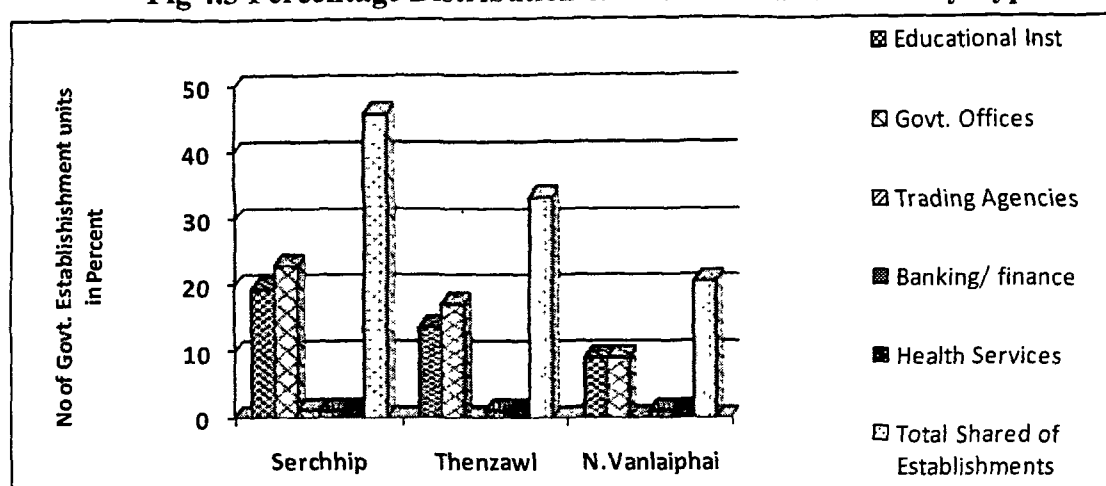
In term of public establishments' distribution, Serchhip town shared nearly half of the total establishment units, Thenzawl town shared one-third the total establishments units and N.Vanlaiphai town shared only one-fifth of the total establishment units. Five types of activities on public establishments are enumerated in this observation; half of the establishments are belonging to government offices that render service and administration, and nearly half also shared by educational institution. Health services like hospital, primary health centres and banking and finance that account only 3.45 percent establishment units.

**Fig 4.2 Town-wise Distribution of Private Enterprises**



*Based on Table 4.1*

**Fig 4.3 Percentage Distribution of Public Establishments by Types**



*Based on Table 4.1*

Table 4.2 shows the town-wise distribution of public establishments, Serchhip town, the district headquarter of the district which shared nearly half of the total educational institution and government offices, all the government undertaking trade agencies. Thenzawl town shared one-third of the educational institutions and government offices of the three towns. N.Vanlaiphai, the smallest town shared only more or less one-fifth of the total educational institutions and government offices. Bank and finance and health establishments are equally distributed over the three towns.

In the case of private establishments and enterprises, 12 types of activities are enlisted in the three towns, Serchhip town shared more than half of the private establishments/enterprises units, one-fourths units are shared by Thenzawl town, less than one-fifths units shared by N.Vanlaiphai town. Out of the 220 private establishments/enterprises, more than one-fourths (28.18 percent) of the units are belongs to Merchandise shops, Transport organisation account 16.36 percent, education Institution accounts 13.64 percent, hotel and restaurants accounts 7.27 percent, manufacture accounts 11.82 percent and the remaining are shared by household industries, contractors, repair facilities etc. with less than 5 percent of the private establishment / enterprises units.

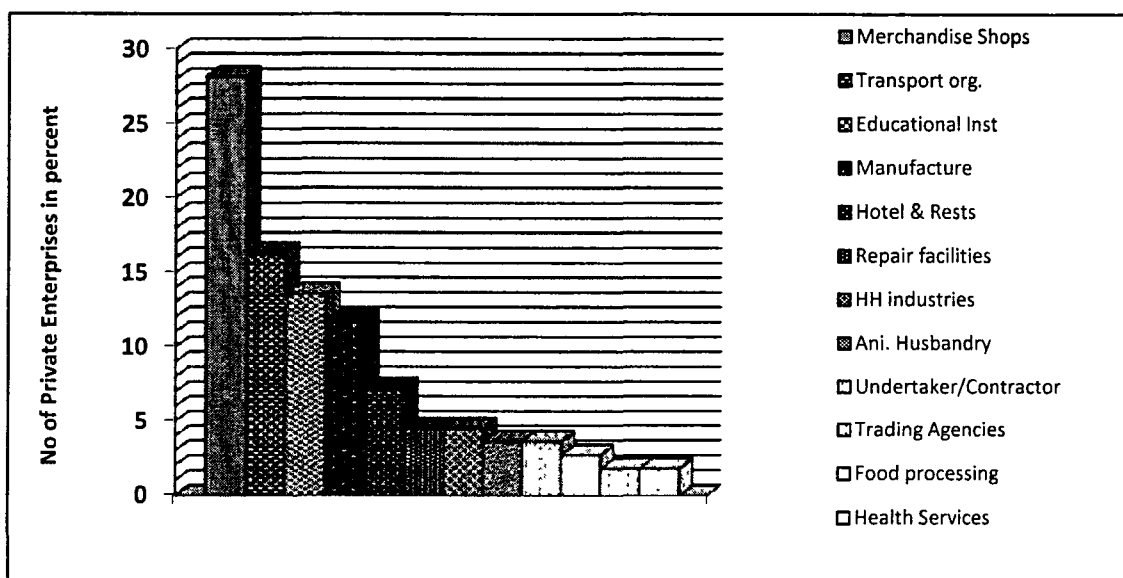
**Table 4.3 Town-Wise Distribution of Private Establishments/ Enterprises by Types of Activities**

(Units of private enterprises in percent)

Establishments	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaphai	Average
Merchandise Shops	27.87	32.14	23.81	<b>28.18</b>
Educational Inst	18.03	7.14	9.52	<b>13.64</b>
Trading Agencies	1.64	3.57	4.76	<b>2.73</b>
Repair facilities	3.28	7.14	4.76	<b>4.55</b>
Manufacture	13.11	7.14	14.29	<b>11.82</b>
Ani. Husbandry	1.64	7.14	4.76	<b>3.64</b>
HH industries	3.28	7.14	4.76	<b>4.55</b>
Transport org.	16.39	14.29	19.05	<b>16.36</b>
Hotel & Rests	8.20	7.14	4.76	<b>7.27</b>
Food processing	1.64	0.00	4.76	<b>1.82</b>
Undertaker/Contractor	1.64	7.14	4.76	<b>3.64</b>
Health Services	3.28	0.00	0.00	<b>1.82</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

**Fig 4.4 Percentage Distribution of Private Establishments/ Enterprises by Types of Activities in the Three Towns**

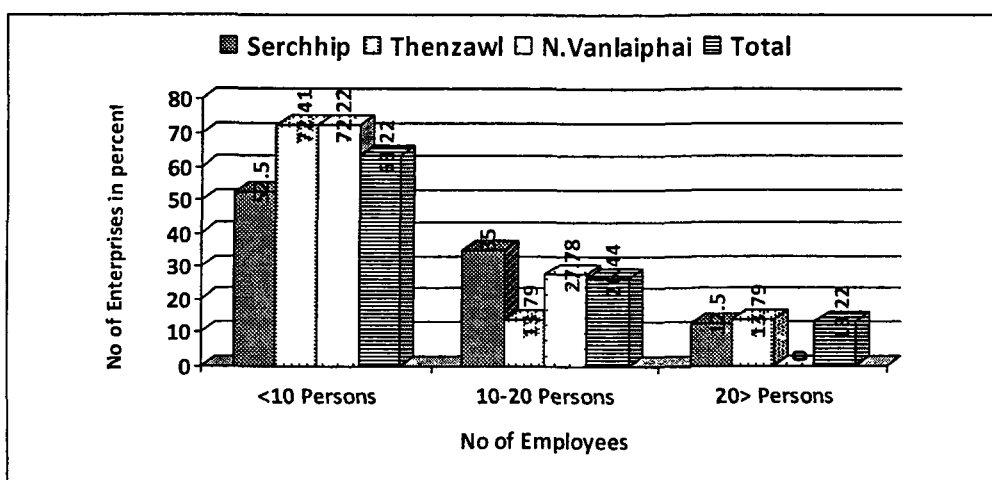


Based on Table 4.3

### 4.5 Establishments by Size of Employment

The employment pattern of the establishments demonstrates that the composition of the establishments, that is, only one-third (28.34 percent) of the total establishments at these three towns belong to government and more than half (55.84 percent) are run by private enterprises. The Government establishments are offices, schools, gas agencies and banks. They provide employment for professionals, technicians, clerical services to administrative organisations. Such public services are provided at nominal costs to the general public for educational, health or other public facilities. However, private establishments are there generally with a profit motive and are generally small in size, because of catering to small markets (small towns). Most of the public establishments employ professionals, technical associate professionals and clerks on a permanent basis, whereas other workers like those involved in Muster rolls and other work-charges are usually employed temporarily. Bigger offices like, general administration, maintenances, engineering works, public distribution (PDS) and education departments employ personnel on a more permanent basis and public offices like state taxes, revenue etc. employ a fewer permanent and temporary workers.

**Fig 4.5 Distributions of Government Establishments Based on Number of Permanent Workers Employed**



*Based on Table 4.4*

**Table 4.4 Town-wise Distributions of Government Establishments Based on Number of Permanent Workers Employed**  
(No of units in percent)

Towns	Establishments	<10 Persons	10-20 Persons	20> Persons	Total
Serchhip	Education	64.71	23.53	11.76	100.00
	Office	50.00	40.00	10.00	100.00
	Agencies	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
	Health Service	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
	Banking/Finance	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>52.50</b>	<b>35.00</b>	<b>12.50</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Thenzawl	Education	75.00	8.33	16.67	100.00
	Office	73.33	20.00	6.67	100.00
	Health Service	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
	Banking/Finance	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72.41</b>	<b>13.79</b>	<b>13.79</b>	<b>100.00</b>
N. Vanlaiphai	Education	87.50	12.50	0.00	100.00
	Office	62.50	37.50	62.50	100.00
	Health Service	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
	Banking/Finance	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72.22</b>	<b>27.78</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source:* Fieldwork by the author 2005-06;

Table 4.4 shows that 52.50 percent of the establishment units employ less than 10 workers, and only 12.50 percent of units employ more than 20 workers at Serchhip town on a permanent basis. Some units in education institutions and public offices employ more than 20 workers. At Thenzawl town, 13.79 percent of the total units belong to the education institutions and public offices employ more than 20 workers. Three-fourths of the total establishments provide employment to less than 10 workers.

Table 4.5 shows that nearly half of the total private establishments are run by self and only 8.20 percent private establishments employ more than 6 persons at the Serchhip town. More than half of the education institutions employed less than 6 persons and the remaining units afford more than 6 persons employment.

**Table 4.5 Distributions of Private Establishments Based on Number of Permanent Workers Employed at Serchhip Town**

(No of units in percent)

Types of Establishment/ Enterprises	Self-run	1 – 5 persons	> 6 persons	Total
Merchandise Shops	70.59	29.41	0.00	100.00
Educational Inst	0.00	54.55	45.45	100.00
Trading Agencies	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	37.50	62.50	0.00	100.00
Ani. Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
HH industry	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	70.00	30.00	0.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	20.00	80.00	0.00	100.00
Food processing	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakers	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Health services	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

**Table 4.6 Distributions of Private Establishments Based on Number of Permanent Workers Employed at Thenzawl Town**

(No of units in percent)

Types of private enterprises	Self-run	Less than 5 persons	More than 6 persons	Total
Merchandise Shops	88.89	11.11	0.00	100.00
Educational Inst	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Trading Agencies	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Ani Husbandry	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
HH industry	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakings	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.6 shows that the 64.29 percent of private establishments of Thenzawl town are self-run enterprises; nearly one-third could employ some of the workers, nearly half of the

education institutions, transport organisations, trading agencies, manufactures. Only 7.14 percent of the private establishments employ more than 6 workers.

**Table 4.7 Distributions of Private Establishments Based on Number of Permanent Workers Employed at N.Vanlaiphai Town**  
(No of units in percent)

Types of private enterprises	Self-run	Less than 6 persons	More than 6 persons	Total
Merchandise Shops	80.00	20.00	0.00	100.00
Education Inst	50.00	0.00	50.00	100.00
Trading Agencies	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	66.67	33.33	0.00	100.00
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Hh industry	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	75.00	25.00	0.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Food processing	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakings	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00

*Source:* Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.7 shows that 61.90 percent of the total private establishment units at N.Vanlaiphai town are owner-run. Whereas one-third of the private establishment/ enterprises are categorised into employing less than 6 persons, which constitutes all the trading agency units and some of the educational units, only 4.76 percent is accounted for by private enterprises that employ more than 6 permanent workers.

Most of the temporary workers are under the category of muster-roll and in work-charges, which forms only 15 percent of the total workers at public and private establishments. These workers play a very important role in service of the public establishments. On the other hand, private establishments, like shops, household industries, health care etc. are self-run and do not employ any temporary workers. Establishments like undertakers (contractors), educational establishments and other units employ some of the temporary workers.

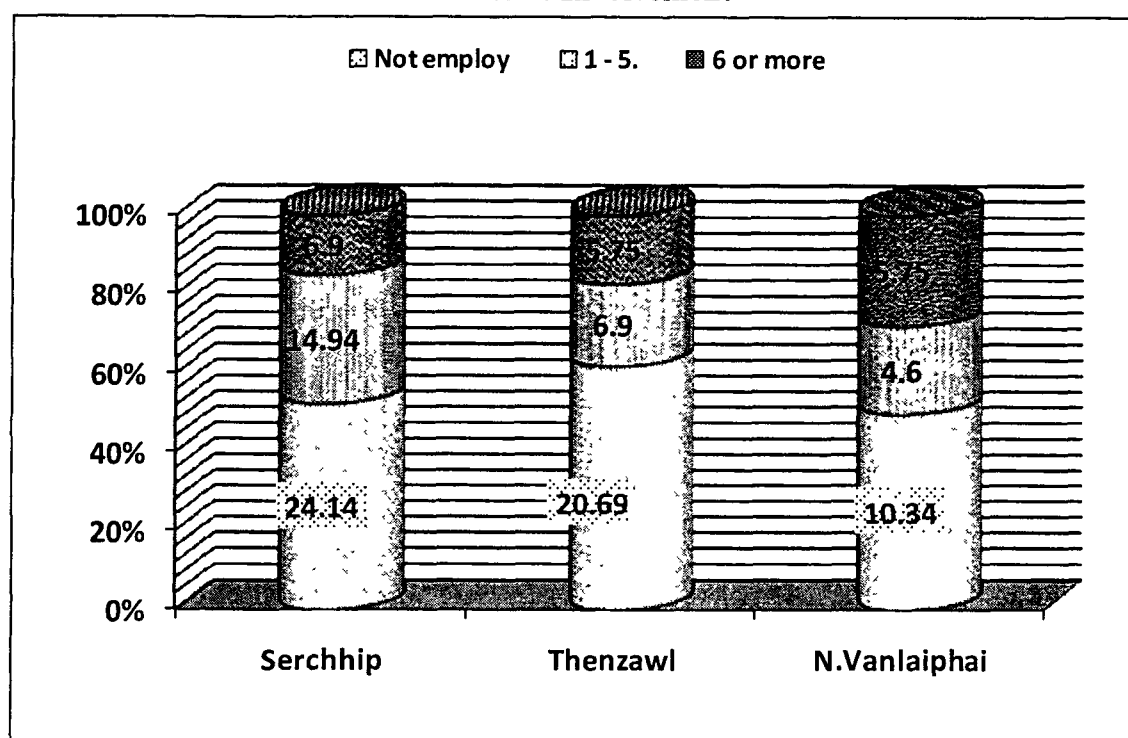
**Table 4.8 Town –wise Distribution of Government Establishments Based on Temporary Workers Involvement**

(No of units in percent)

Towns	Establishments	Not employ	1-5	6 or more	Total
Serchhip	Education	76.47	17.65	5.88	100.00
	Govt. Offices	30.00	45.00	25.00	100.00
	Agencies	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
	Health Service	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
	Banking/Finance	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
	<b>Total</b>		<b>52.50</b>	<b>32.50</b>	<b>15.00</b>
Thenzawl	Education	91.67	8.33	0.00	100.00
	Govt. Offices	40.00	26.67	33.33	100.00
	Health Service	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
	Banking/Finance	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
	<b>Total</b>		<b>62.07</b>	<b>20.69</b>	<b>17.24</b>
N. Vanlaiphai	Education	75.00	25.00	0.00	100.00
	Govt. Offices	25.00	12.50	62.50	100.00
	Health Service	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
	Banking/Finance	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
	<b>Total</b>		<b>50.00</b>	<b>22.22</b>	<b>27.78</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06; \*\* Percentage of particular establishment

**Fig 4.6 Town –wise Distribution of Government Establishments Based on Temporary Workers Involvement**



Based on Table 4.8

Table 4.8 shows that agencies and banks do not employ temporary workers at all. At Serchhip, 17.65 percent of the educational institutions employ 1-5 persons as temporary workers, 5.88 percent employ more than 6 persons and 4.76 percent of the offices employ more than 6 persons as temporary workers. At Thenzawl, 6.25 percent of the educational institutions employ 6 or more temporary workers. In N.Vanlaiphai, 22.22 percent of the public offices employ 1-5 temporary workers. The table brings to light that the involvement of temporary workers at government establishments is generally more insignificant in all the three towns as compared to other establishments.

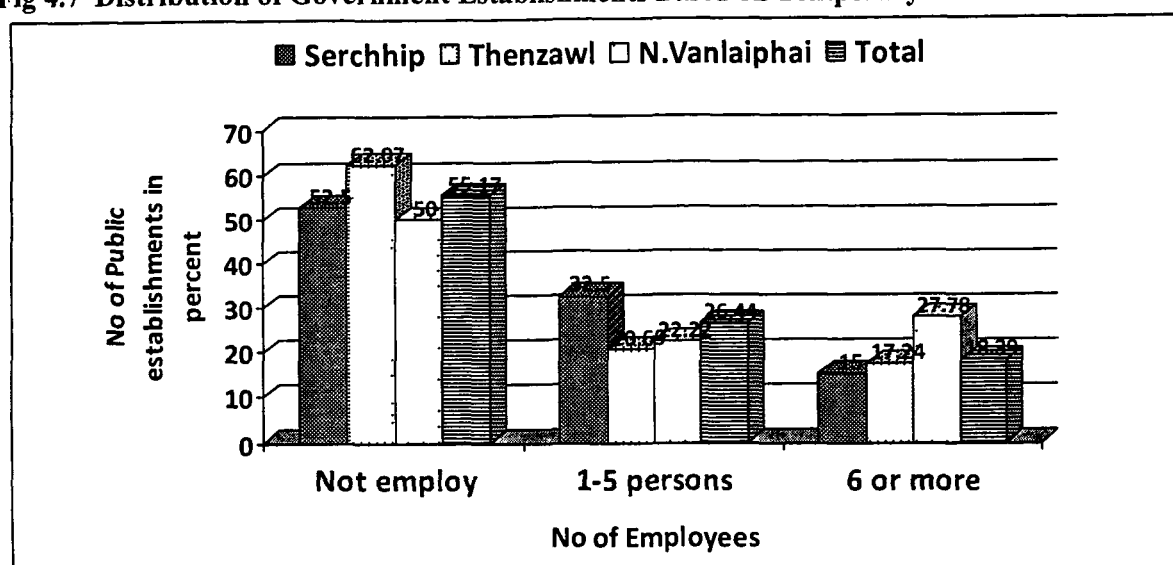
Private establishments employ fewer temporary workers due to their small sizes. However, undertakers (contractors), schools and some of the establishments do provide work for temporary workers.

**Table 4.9 Distributions of Private Establishments Based on Number of Temporary Workers Employed at Serchhip Town**  
(No of units in percent)

Types of Private establishments	Family-run	Employing Workers	Total
Merchandise Shops	100.00	0.00	100.00
Educational Inst	72.73	27.27	100.00
Trading Agencies	100.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	100.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	62.50	37.50	100.00
Ani. Husbandry	100.00	0.00	100.00
HH industry	100.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	80.00	20.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	60.00	40.00	100.00
Food processing	100.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakings	0.00	100.00	100.00
Health services	100.00	0.00	100.00
<b>Average</b>	<b>81.97</b>	<b>18.03</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Fig 4.7 Distribution of Government Establishments Based on Temporary Workers Involvement



Based on Table 4.8

Table 4.9 indicates that more than four-fifths of the total establishments are self-run enterprises, and 18.03 percent units employ less than 5 temporary workers. In this category, 27.27 percent comes from schools, 37.50 percent from manufacturers and the rest from contractors.

**Table 4.10 Distributions of Private Establishments Based on Number of Temporary Workers Employed at Thenzawl Town**

(No of units in percent)

Types of Private establishments	Family-run	Employing Workers	Total
Merchandise Shops	100.00	0.00	100.0
Educational Inst	50.00	50.00	100.0
Trading Agencies	0.00	100.00	100.0
Repairs facilities	100.00	0.00	100.0
Manufacture	0.00	100.00	100.0
Ani Husbandry	50.00	50.00	100.0
HH industry	100.00	0.00	100.0
Transport org.	75.00	25.00	100.0
Rest & Hotel	50.00	50.00	100.0
Undertakers	0.00	100.00	100.0
<b>Average</b>	<b>67.86</b>	<b>32.14</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.10 indicates that two-third of the total private establishments are self-run or use help of other family members; 25 percent of the private establishments employ temporary workers, which consist of agencies, half of manufacturers, educational institutions, animal husbandry sector, and hotels and restaurants in Thenzawl town. Undertaker/contractors units are the only establishments that employ more than 5 temporary workers at Thenzawl.

Table 4.11 indicated that 80.95 percent of the total private establishments are run by the owners without employing any other persons and 19.05 percent of establishments are run through temporary workers, which consists of units such as contractors, one-thirds of manufacturers and one-fourths of transportation services. Only one-thirds of schools employ more than 5 temporary workers at N.Vanlaiphai town.

**Table 4.11 Distributions of Private Establishments Based on Number of Temporary Workers Employed at N.Vanlaiphai Town**  
(No of units in percent)

Types of Private establishments	Family-run	Employing Workers	Total
Merchandise Shops	100.00	0.00	100.00
Education Inst	50.00	50.00	100.00
Trading Agencies	100.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	100.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	66.67	33.33	100.00
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	100.00
Hh industry	100.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	75.00	25.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	100.00	0.00	100.00
Food processing	100.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakers	0.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Average</b>	<b>80.95</b>	<b>19.05</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

#### 4.6 Operational Area of the Private Establishments and Enterprises

The operational areas of the establishments determine the efficiency and effectiveness since these are the prime vehicles of regional development. The operational areas of the small

and tiny enterprises are concentrated within the main areas of the towns. However, the typical enterprises and establishments operate throughout adjacent villages, in the vicinity of towns. The enterprises that extend their functions unto other states are usually located in larger towns. Larger towns provide more opportunities for enterprises. The small towns provide limited facilities like merchandise shops, transports services, hotels and restaurants, contractor/ undertakers to operate effectively.

**Table 4.12 Distribution of Private Establishment and Enterprises Based on Area of Operation at Serchhip Town**

(No of units in percent)

Types of Private establishments	Town	Adjacent village	Other town	Outside state	Total
Merchandise Shops	58.82	23.53	17.65	0.00	100.00
Educational Inst	63.64	0.00	36.36	0.00	100.00
Trading Agencies	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	37.50	25.00	37.50	0.00	100.00
Ani. Husbandry	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
HH industry	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	40.00	0.00	60.00	0.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	80.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Food processing	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakers	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Health services	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
Total	49.18	18.03	31.15	1.64	100.00

*Source:* Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.12 shows that only 1.64 percent of the total private enterprise belong to trading agencies which also operate outside the state because most of the small manufactured products come from outside the state, whereas nearly half of the total private enterprises' (49.18 percent) operations are concentrated within the towns themselves. In Serchhip, nearly one-third and one-fifth of private enterprises operate reaching out to other towns and adjacent villages.

**Table 4.13 Distribution of Private Establishment and Enterprises Based on Area of Operation at Thenzawl Town**

(No of units in percent)

Types of Private establishments	Inside town	Adjacent village	Other towns	Total
Merchandise Shops	33.33	66.67	0.00	100.0
Educational Inst	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
Trading Agencies	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
Repairs facilities	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.0
Manufacture	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
Ani Husbandry	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
HH industry	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
Transport org.	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.0
Rest & Hotel	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.0
Undertaker	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
Total	21.43	64.29	14.29	100.00

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.13 shows that more than one-fifths of private enterprises operate within the Thenzawl town itself, one-thirds of which consists of shops, half of repairs and the rest, hotels and restaurants/ eateries. Nearly two-thirds (64.29 percent) and 14.29 percent of private enterprises at Thenzawl town reach out to adjacent villages and other towns. Transport services usually operate outside the town.

**Table 4.14 Distribution of Private Establishment and Enterprises Based on Area of Operation at N.Vanlaiphai Town**

(No of units in percent)

Types of Private establishments	Inside town	Adjacent villages	Other town	Total
Merchandise Shops	60.00	40.00	0.00	100.0
Education Inst	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
Trading Agencies	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
Repairs facilities	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.0
Manufacture	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.0
Hh industry	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.0
Transport org.	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.0
Rest & Hotel	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.0
Food processing	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.0
Undertakers	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
Total	28.57	42.86	28.57	100.00

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.14 shows that more than one-fourths of private enterprises at N.Vanlaiphai town operate only within town, among which more than half are merchandise shops, repairs units, animal husbandry, and hotels and restaurants. Again, more than one-fourth of private enterprises serve other towns particularly the transports services, produces of household and cottage industries and food processing units. The remaining half of enterprises serves outside the town to adjacent villages in N.Vanlaiphai town.

#### 4.7 Clients Served

A larger clientele is important for the success of private enterprises. Some of the enterprises like small merchandise shops, animal husbandry operations, household and cottage industries and undertaking/ contracting etc. do not seek more clients, since the operations are specific. But services like transport organisations, like buses and taxis, merchandise shops, manufacturers and schools seek larger number of clients, i.e. more than 50 persons per day.

**Table 4.15 Distribution of Private Establishments Based Number of Clients in Serchhip Town**

(No of units in percent)

Types of Private establishments	Less than 10 persons	10-50 persons	More than 50 persons	Total
Merchandise Shops	11.76	82.35	5.88	100.00
Educational Inst	0.00	9.09	90.91	100.00
Trading Agencies	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	37.50	37.50	25.00	100.00
Ani. Husbandry	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
HH industry	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	50.00	40.00	10.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Food processing	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakers/contractors	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Health services	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21.31</b>	<b>55.74</b>	<b>22.95</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.15 shows that nearly one-fourth of the private enterprises in Serchhip town have only 10 clients per day or less, which comprises of all units of undertakings and animal husbandry sectors, manufacturers and small merchandise shops. More than half of enterprises get between 10-50 clients per day and 22.95 percent get more than 50 clients per day.

**Table 4.16 Distribution of Private Establishments Based Number of Clients in Thenzawl Town**

(No of units in percent)

Types of Private establishments	Less than 10 persons	10-50 persons	More than 50 persons	Total
Merchandise Shops	11.11	66.67	22.22	100.0
Educational Inst	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.0
Trading Agencies	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
Repairs facilities	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.0
Manufacture	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.0
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.0
HH industry	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.0
Transport org.	75.00	25.00	0.00	100.0
Rest & Hotel	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.0
Undertaker/contractor	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.0
Total	46.43	39.29	14.29	100.0

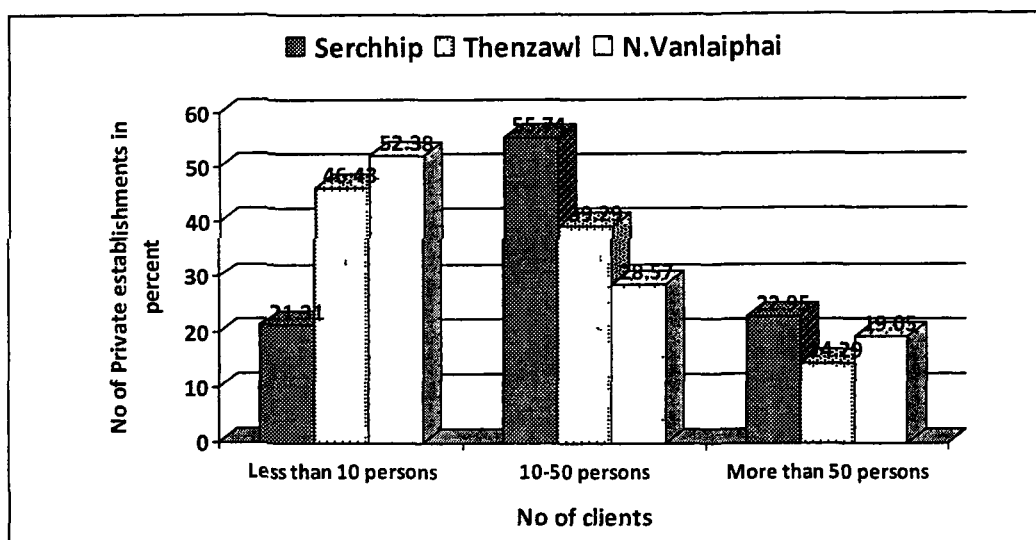
Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.16 shows that nearly half of the private enterprises, consisting of all units of repairs facilities, manufactures, animal husbandry, and undertakings/ contractors, half of household and cottage industries and transport organisation get less than 10 clients per day. More than one thirds of enterprises could get 10-50 clients whereas schools and some merchandise shops get more than 50 visitors/children per day in Thenzawl town.

Table 4.17 shows that nearly half of the private enterprises at N.Vanlaiphai town get less than 10 clients, constituting of repairs, animal husbandry, undertakers and household and cottage industries and some of merchandise shops and manufacturing and transport services.

Nearly one-fifths of the enterprises could get clients more than 50 persons per day consisting of schools and trading agencies and some of manufacturers.

**Fig 4.8 Percentage Distribution of Private Establishments Based Number of Clients**



*Based on Table 4 15-17*

**Table 4.17 Distribution of Private Establishments Based Number of Clients in N.Vanlaiphai Town**

(No of units in percent)

Types of Private establishments	Less than 10 persons	10-50 persons	More than 50 persons	Total
Merchandise Shops	20.00	80.00	0.00	100.00
Education Inst	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Trading Agencies	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	66.67	0.00	33.33	100.00
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Hh industry	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	75.00	25.00	0.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Food processing	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakers/contractor	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
<b>Average</b>	<b>52.38</b>	<b>28.57</b>	<b>19.05</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06*

#### **4.8 Investment Pattern in Private Enterprises**

The productive sectors of an economy comprise of various enterprises including agriculture and allied activities, public administration and defence, production of various goods and services for current and for future consumption. To produce goods and services requires productive capacity. This is done in terms of acquiring machineries, erection of manufacturing plants and buildings, buying of raw materials, making arrangements for the required man power and so on. The expenditure incurred on all such items is called investment. So, it is the act of new investments that increases the productive capacity of an economy. For continued growth and future prosperity of enterprises high level of investment is essential, which depends on the availability and access to capital for investment.

The act of investment is performed by the enterprises, including of course the governments. The private enterprises invest capital in businesses with expectation of returns from it in the future. The enterprises grow with investment. Through investments, enterprises makes contribution in the increasing the productive capacity of the economy. This provides for opportunity of providing more goods and services to the society in lieu of which the enterprises gets returns, e.g. profits.

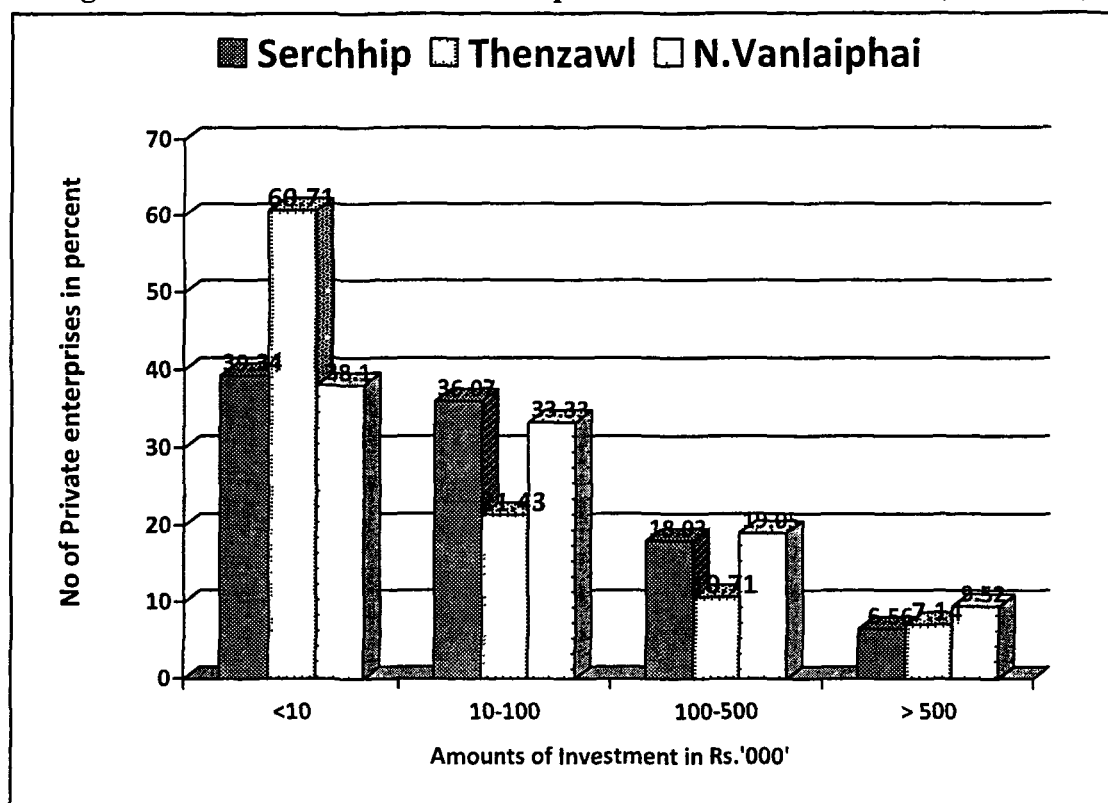
The most crucial aspect of investment is the selection of the most profitable or gainful businesses or projects with regard to the availability of funds to finance the capital expenditure. The investment decision that takes care of all such elements of business planning is extremely complex.

##### **4.8.1 Investment in Fixed Capital and Equipments and Machineries**

Investment concerns with the establishment of the enterprises, fixed capital, etc. and includes all the forms of rents, of land and buildings for instance, which play a vital role for the success of firms. Some of the firms pay a high rent that may reduce the returns to some

extent. But in most of the small towns rents are low, especially in fixed capital situations because those firms are located on their own land. Various types of tools/machineries are required for operations at different stages of production. The values of all such assets at the plant will be the cost of tools. Apart from tools, there will be the need of various types of equipments, for instance, in educational institution, teaching infrastructure, in public offices, office infrastructure, the cost of which will be included in this category. The following tables show that distribution of firms according to the rent and fixed capital deployed in the three towns.

**Fig 4.9 Distribution of Private Enterprises' Annual Investments (in Rs.'000)**



Based on Table 4.18-4.20

Table 4.18 indicates that more than one-thirds of the private enterprises at Serchhip do not invest large amounts of capital on fixed capital, rent and equipments whereas transport, education and health service invest large amounts of capital. Only 6.56 percent of the private enterprises belonging to transport organisation possess an investment over Rs.5 lakhs.

**Table 4.18 Distribution of Private enterprises' Annual Investments at Serchhip Town**  
(In Rs.'000)

Establishments	<10	10-100	100-500	> 500	Total
Merchandise Shops	88.24	11.76	0.00	0.00	100
Educational Inst	0.00	72.73	27.27	0.00	100
Trading Agencies	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
Repairs facilities	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	100
Manufacture	12.50	87.50	0.00	0.00	100
Ani. Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
HH industry	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100
Transport org.	0.00	0.00	60.00	40.00	100
Rest & Hotel	80.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	100
Food processing	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
Undertakers/contractors	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100
Health services	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100
Total	39.34	36.07	18.03	6.56	100

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

**Table 4.19 Annual Investments of Private enterprises in Thenzawl Town**  
(in Rs.'000)

Establishments	less than Rs.10	Rs.10- Rs.100	Rs.100- 500	More than Rs. 500	Total
Merchandise Shops	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
Educational Inst	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100
Trading Agencies	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100
Repairs facilities	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
Manufacture	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
HH industry	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
Transport org.	0.00	0.00	75.00	25.00	100
Rest & Hotel	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
Undertakings/contractor	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100
Total	60.71	21.43	10.71	7.14	100

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.19 indicates that three-fifths of the total private enterprises at Thenzawl have investment less than Rs.10, 000. Here, 21.43 percent of the total private enterprises invest an amount between Rs.10, 000 to Rs.1 lakh. Trading agencies and some of the transport services show a huge amount of investment that is capital worth more than Rs.5 lakhs. Only 10.71 percent have an investment of Rs. 1 lakhs to Rs.5 lakhs.

**Table 4.20 Distribution of Private enterprises' Annual Investments at N.Vanlaiphai Town**

(in Rs.'000)

Establishments	less than Rs.10	Rs.10- Rs.100	Rs.100- 500	More than Rs. 500	Total
Merchandise Shops	80.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Education Inst	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
Trading Agencies	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Hh industry	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Food processing	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Contractor	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Total	38.10	33.33	19.05	9.52	100.00

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.20 shows that investments of private enterprises at N.Vanlaiphai are somewhat evenly distributed. Here, 38.10 percent and 33.33 percent of the total private enterprises invest an amount less than Rs.10, 000 and between Rs.10, 000 to Rs 1 lakh, respectively. Nearly one-fifths of the private enterprises from trading agencies, half of educational institutions and transport services have invested between Rs.1 lakh to Rs.5 lakhs and nearly one-tenths of private enterprises from transport services invest capital over Rs.5 lakhs.

#### 4.8.2 Cost of Operation of Private Enterprises:

The cost required to make the enterprises operational is called the *operating cost*. Such costs are those incurred for procuring raw materials, current repair and maintenance charges, labour cost, insurance, taxes etc. Generally, operating cost for shops is fairly well distributed in all the three towns. The amount of capital involvement depends upon the types of shops, household and cottage industries, manufactures, repairs facilities, hotels and

restaurants who do not have large capital inputs as compared to undertakers, transport organisations and trading agencies. Working capital investment for operations is as follows:

**Table 4.21 Annual Cost of Operation of Private Enterprises in Serchhip Town**  
(No of units in percent)

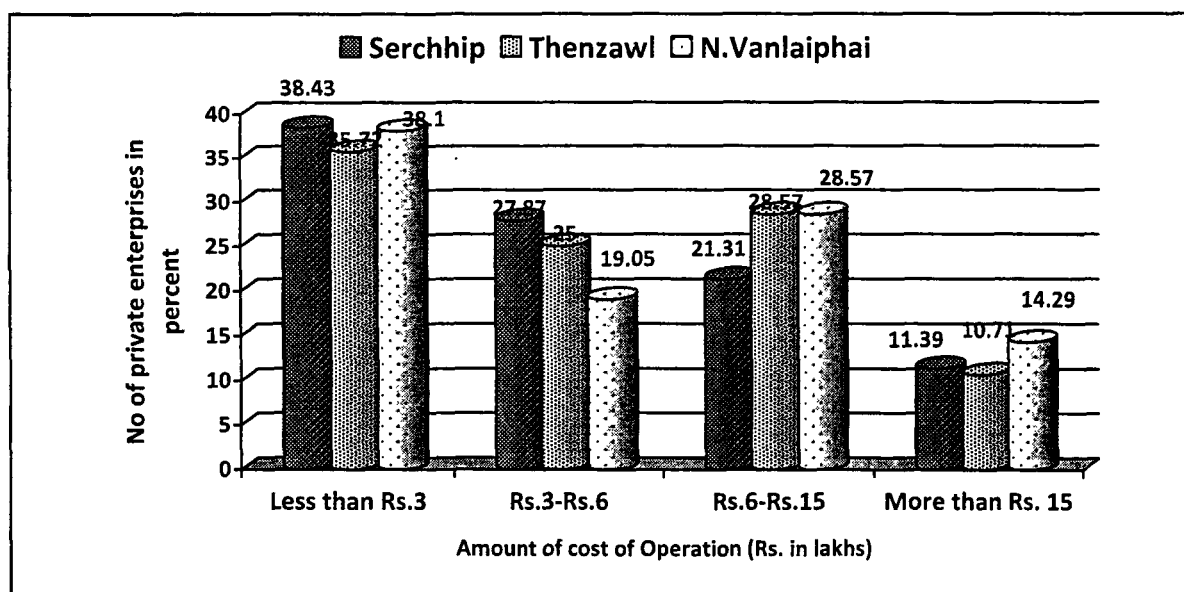
Establishments	Less than Rs.3	Rs.3- Rs.6	Rs.6- Rs.15	More than Rs. 15	Total
Merchandise Shops	29.41	35.29	17.65	17.65	100.00
Educational Inst	45.45	45.45	9.09	0.00	100.00
Trading Agencies	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	49.00	37.50	12.50	0.00	100.00
Ani. Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
HH industry	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	0.00	30.00	50.00	20.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	60.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Food processing	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakers/contractors	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Health services	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.43</b>	<b>27.87</b>	<b>21.31</b>	<b>11.39</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.21 indicates that there is a fair distribution of costs of operation at Serchhip town. Annual inputs for operation in more than one-third of the enterprises is less than Rs.3 lakhs and comprises of all units of household industries, food processing, half of manufacturers, and some educational institution and merchandise shops. Large operation costs are observed in 17.67 percent of merchandise shops, 20.00 percent of transport and half of the health service.

Table 4.22 shows the distribution of operation costs of private enterprises in Thenzawl town. Here, 35.72 percent of the enterprises have extremely low operation costs, consisting of animal husbandry, hotels and restaurants and household industries, half of repairs and manufactures, one thirds of shops. All the undertakings / contractors and half of transport organisations use more than Rs.15 lakhs, annually.

Fig 4.10 Annual Cost of Operation of Private Enterprises (Rs. in lakhs)



Based on Table 4.21-4.23

Table 4.22 Annual Cost of Operation of Private Enterprises in Thenzawl Town  
(No of units in percent)

Establishments	Less than Rs.3	Rs.3-Rs.6	Rs.6-Rs.15	More than Rs.15	Total
Merchandise Shops	33.33	22.22	44.44	0.00	100
Educational Inst	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	100
Trading Agencies	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100
Repairs facilities	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	100
Manufacture	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	100
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
HH industry	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
Transport org.	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	100
Rest & Hotel	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
Undertaker/contractor	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>35.72</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>28.57</b>	<b>10.71</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.23 shows the distribution of operational cost at different private establishments in N.Vanlaiphai. More than one-thirds (38.10 percent) did not spend more than Rs. 3 lakhs annually for their operations, and nearly one-fifth (19.05 percent) spend between Rs. 3 to 6 lakhs. More than one-fourths (28.57 percent) of the private enterprises spend ranging from Rs. 6 lakh to 15 lakhs. These units are some merchandise shops,

manufacture units and transport organisations as well as all trading agencies. A number of merchandise shops and transport organisation incur over Rs. 15 lakhs on operation costs annually.

**Table 4.23 Annual Cost of Operation of Private Enterprises in N.Vanlaiphai Town**  
(No of units in percent)

Establishments	Less than Rs.3	Rs.3-Rs.6	Rs.6-Rs.15	More than Rs. 15	Total
Merchandise Shops	40.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	100.00
Education Inst	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Trading Agencies	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	66.67	0.00	33.33	0.00	100.00
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Hh industry	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	0.00	0.00	25.00	75.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Food processing	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakings/contractor	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.10</b>	<b>19.05</b>	<b>28.57</b>	<b>14.29</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source:* Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

#### 4.9 Annual Turnover of Private Establishments

Private enterprises are organisations aimed at profits, and the profit is the primary measure of their success. Almost all the private establishments are profit oriented enterprises except two schools at Serchhip town and one school from N.Vanlaiphai town that are based on charity.

Table 4.24 indicates that 3.28 percent of the total enterprises do not reap profits. More than half of the shops get a profit of less than Rs.50, 000. Amount of annual turnover ranges from Rs.50 thousand to Rs.1 lakhs and covers 39.70 percent of the private enterprises. All units of trading agencies, and undertakers, 30 percent of Transport organisation, 20 percent of hotel and restaurants, 9.09 percent of schools and 5.88 percent of merchandise shops get the amount of profits more than Rs.2 lakhs at Serchhip town.

**Table 4.24 Annual Turnovers of Private Establishments in Serchhip Town (Rs. '000)**  
(No of units in percent)

Types of private establishment/ Enterprises	Less than Rs.50	Rs.50- Rs.100	Rs.100- Rs.200	More than Rs.200	Total
Merchandise Shops	0.00	82.35	11.76	5.88	100.00
Educational Inst	18.18	63.64	18.18	0.00	100.00
Trading Agencies	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	0.00	87.50	12.50	0.00	100.00
Ani. Husbandry	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
HH industry	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	0.00	20.00	50.00	30.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	0.00	80.00	20.00	0.00	100.00
Food processing	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakers	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Health services	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.28</b>	<b>65.57</b>	<b>21.31</b>	<b>9.84</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

**Table 4.25 Annual Turnovers of Private Establishments in Thenzawl Town (Rs. '000)**  
(No of units in percent)

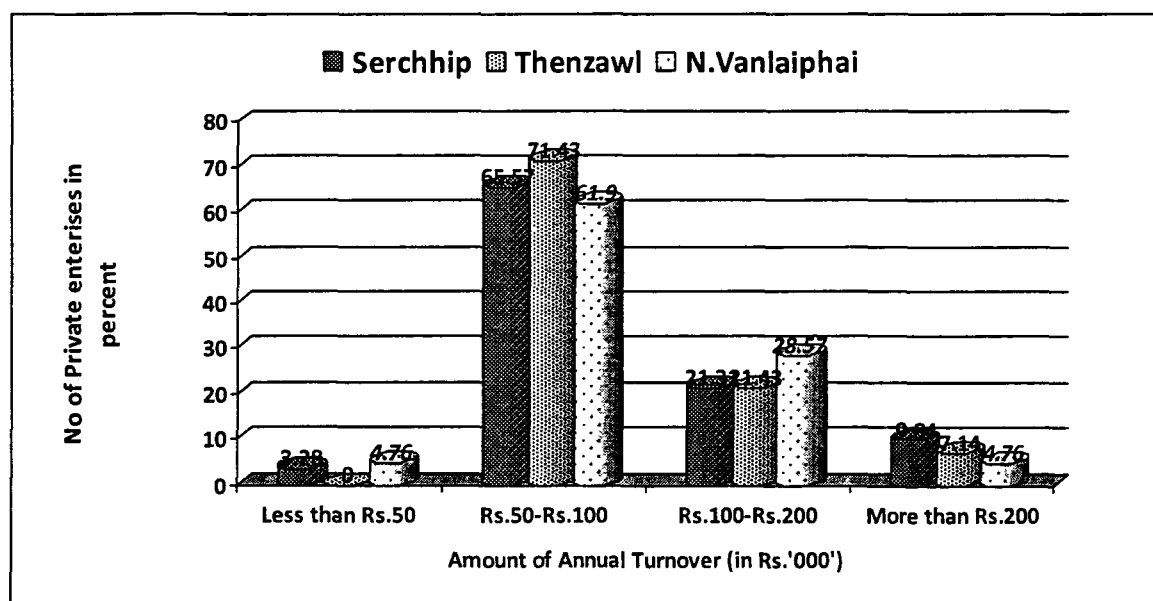
Types of private establishment/ Enterprises	Rs.50- Rs.100	Rs.100- Rs.200	More than Rs.200	<b>Total</b>
Merchandise Shops	88.89	11.11	0.00	<b>100.00</b>
Educational Inst	100.00	0.00	0.00	<b>100.00</b>
Trading Agencies	0.00	0.00	100.00	<b>100.00</b>
Repairs facilities	100.00	0.00	0.00	<b>100.00</b>
Manufacture	100.00	0.00	0.00	<b>100.00</b>
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	<b>100.00</b>
HH industry	100.00	0.00	0.00	<b>100.00</b>
Transport org.	0.00	100.00	0.00	<b>100.00</b>
Rest & Hotel	100.00	0.00	0.00	<b>100.00</b>
Undertaker/contractor	0.00	50.00	50.00	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>71.43</b>	<b>21.43</b>	<b>7.14</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.25 shows the distribution of private enterprises based on annual turnover at Thenzawl town. Here, 21.43 percent of the enterprises belongs to the minimum profit category i.e. those with a turn-over of less than Rs.50 thousand annually. This includes 22.22

percent of the shops and half of the units of repairs, animal husbandry, household industries and hotel and restaurants. Only 14.29 percent of the private enterprises get profits amounting to more than Rs.2 lakhs which comprises of all trading agencies, undertakers and 25 percent of units of transport organisation.

**Fig 4.11 Annual Turnovers of Private Enterprises**



Based on Table 4.24-4.26

**Table 4.26 Annual Turnovers of Private Enterprises in N.Vanlaipai Town (Rs. '000)**  
(No of units in percent)

Types of private establishment/Enterprises	Less than Rs.50	Rs.50-Rs.100	Rs.100-Rs.200	More than Rs.200	Total
Merchandise Shops	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Education Inst	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Trading Agencies	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Repairs facilities	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Manufacture	0.00	66.67	33.33	0.00	100.00
Ani Husbandry	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Hh industry	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Transport org.	0.00	25.00	50.00	25.00	100.00
Rest & Hotel	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Food processing	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Undertakers	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
<b>Average</b>	<b>4.76</b>	<b>61.90</b>	<b>28.57</b>	<b>4.76</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.26 indicates that there is an even distribution of annual turn-over in the town of N. Vanlaiphai. Here, under-profit enterprises involve 4.76 percent of the private enterprises, 42.82 percent of the enterprises get the profits less than Rs.1 lakhs annually; on which category includes all units of merchandise shops, animal husbandry, household industry, hotel and restaurants and undertakers/ contractors. Only 6.52 percent of private enterprises, 25 percent of transport organisation at N.Vanlaiphai, reap a profits amount more than Rs.2 lakhs.

#### 4.10 Problems of the Private Establishments

The main problem of private enterprise relates to get maximum benefits in the face of uncertainty of markets in thinly populated areas where human resources are less developed. Financial problems as well as technical impediments also firmly indicate to the entrepreneurs the atmosphere of the backward regions that lower the profitability of private enterprises in these towns. Tables 4.27, 4.28 and 4.29 show distribution of enterprises based on their main problems.

**Table 4.27 Problems of Private Establishments in Serchhip Town**  
(Private enterprises in percent)

Establishments	Fin. problem	Market problems	Technical problem	Total
Merchandise Shops	5.88	94.12	0.00	100
Educational Inst	9.09	90.91	0.00	100
Trading Agencies	100.00	0.00	0.00	100
Repairs facilities	50.00	50.00	0.00	100
Manufacture	12.50	87.50	0.00	100
Ani. Husbandry	0.00	100.00	0.00	100
HH industry	0.00	100.00	0.00	100
Transport org.	0.00	100.00	0.00	100
Rest & Hotel	0.00	100.00	0.00	100
Food processing	0.00	100.00	0.00	100
Undertakers/contractors	100.00	0.00	0.00	100
Health services	0.00	0.00	100.00	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.84</b>	<b>86.89</b>	<b>3.28</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.27 shows that more than four-fifths of the total private enterprises are ill with market problems. The units involved in health service mainly face the technical problems. Some of the units, covering less than one-tenths of the private enterprises from manufactures, repairs, education and small amount of shops face financial problems at Serchhip town.

**Table 4.28 Problems of Private Establishments in Thenzawl Town**  
(Private enterprises in percent)

Establishments	Fin. problem	Market problems	Raw material	Total
Merchandise Shops	55.56	44.44	0.00	100
Educational Inst	0.00	100.00	0.00	100
Trading Agencies	0.00	0.00	100.00	100
Repairs facilities	0.00	100.00	0.00	100
Manufacture	0.00	50.00	50.00	100
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	0.00	100
Hh industry	0.00	50.00	50.00	100
Transport org.	0.00	100.00	0.00	100
Rest & Hotel	0.00	100.00	0.00	100
Undertaker/contractor	50.00	0.00	50.00	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.57</b>	<b>57.14</b>	<b>14.29</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

**Table 4.29 Problems of Private Establishments in N.Vanlaiphai Town**  
(Private enterprises in percent)

Establishments	Fin. problem	Market problems	Total
Merchandise Shops	40.00	60.00	100
Education Inst	100.00	0.00	100
Trading Agencies	100.00	0.00	100
Repairs facilities	0.00	100.00	100
Manufacture	33.33	66.67	100
Ani Husbandry	100.00	0.00	100
Hh industry	0.00	100.00	100
Transport org.	25.00	75.00	100
Rest & Hotel	100.00	0.00	100
Food processing	0.00	100.00	100
Undertakers/contractor	0.00	100.00	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>45.45</b>	<b>54.55</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.28 shows that market problems take the first position among the impediments to get maximum profit in private establishments at Thenzawl town. These affect up to 57.14

percent of the enterprises. Financial problems in this town affects 28.57 percent of the enterprises and problems relating to shortages of raw material and its supply also persists to some extent. A small number of merchandise shops, undertakers/contractor and animal husbandry face financial problems; trading agencies, manufactures and household industries primarily suffer shortages of raw material.

Table 4.29 shows compact problems like financial and market at N.Vanlaiphai town which affects an overwhelming 54.55 percent of the total private enterprises. Units that are ill with insecurity of market conditions involve those into repair facilities, household industries, food processing and undertakers/ contractors. Similar problems are faced by three-fourth of the units of transport organisation, one-third of manufactures and three-fifth of shops. Financial problems prevail upon the enterprises of educational institution, trading agencies, animal husbandry, hotel and restaurants etc. that covers up 45.45 percent of the total enterprises.

#### **4.11 Distribution of Occupations in Government Establishments**

According to the study, the growth of urban area in the long-run is determined by the rate of acquisition of new or alternative economic activities. Urban areas are unsuccessful where new economic activities stagnate and even decline, which leads to a disappearance of their existing enterprises as well. Civic amenities including public administration and other public enterprises provide facilities that enable regular sale for agricultural commodities. In government establishments, significant numbers of occupations, i.e. nearly one-fourths of the total occupations, are accounted by professionals and technician and associate professionals as well as clerical posts. Legislators, senior officers and managers, personal services, sales and market work, plant and machine operators and elementary occupations cover less than 10 percent of the total occupations and are slightly distributed in government establishments.

**Table 4.30 Town-wise Distribution of Occupations in Government Establishments**  
(Occupations in percent)

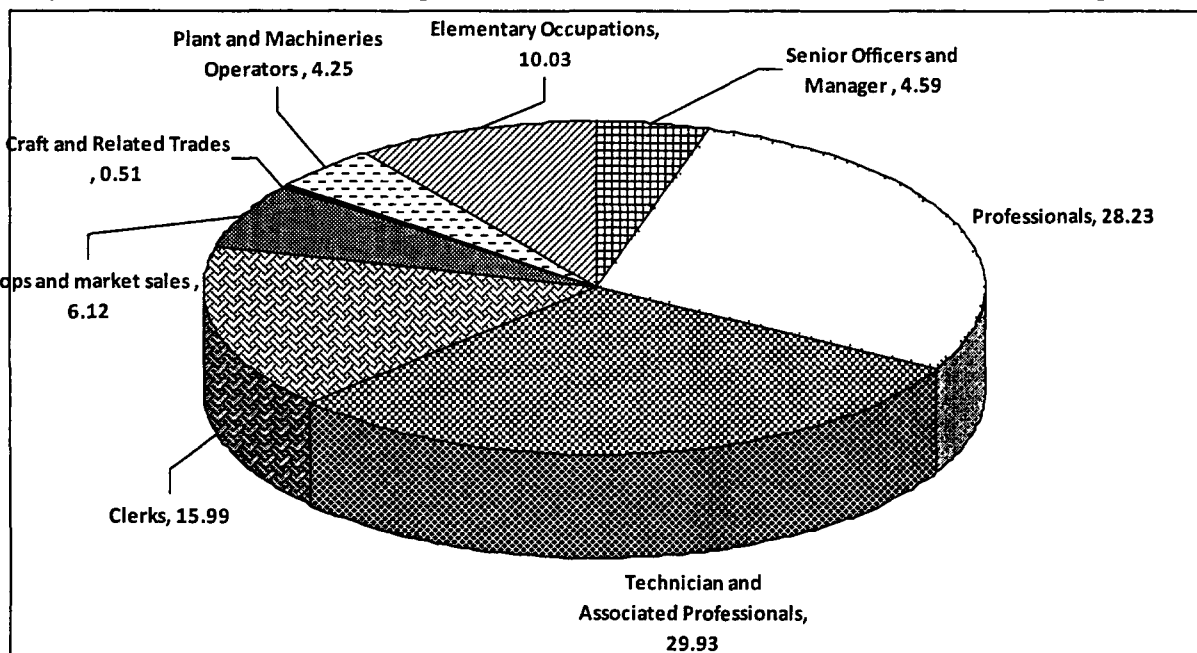
Establishments		ILO Occupation Major Groups*								
		1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	Total
Serchhip	Education	2.29	64.68	20.18	9.63	1.38	0.00	0.46	0.46	100
	Office	5.76	6.63	35.45	19.60	8.65	0.86	6.34	16.71	100
	Banking	7.69	15.38	30.77	23.08	23.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
	Health S	8.33	11.11	58.33	11.11	0.00	5.56	2.78	2.78	100
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4.59</b>	<b>28.23</b>	<b>29.93</b>	<b>15.99</b>	<b>6.12</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>4.25</b>	<b>10.03</b>	<b>100</b>
Thenzawi	Education	1.85	57.41	29.63	6.48	0.00	0.00	0.93	3.70	100
	Office	3.88	12.14	21.84	12.62	1.46	7.28	8.25	32.52	100
	Banking	16.67	0.00	33.33	33.33	0.00	0.00	16.67	0.00	100
	Health	4.35	52.17	13.04	8.70	0.00	0.00	4.35	17.39	100
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3.44</b>	<b>27.19</b>	<b>24.69</b>	<b>10.94</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>4.69</b>	<b>5.94</b>	<b>22.19</b>	<b>100</b>
N. Vanlaiphei	Education	0.00	50.91	40.00	7.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.82	100
	Office	5.23	13.07	18.95	22.22	7.19	0.00	14.38	18.95	100
	Banking	25.00	50.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
	Health	4.76	33.33	14.29	47.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4.25</b>	<b>23.58</b>	<b>24.53</b>	<b>17.92</b>	<b>5.19</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>10.38</b>	<b>14.15</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

\*ILO Major Occupation groups: 1 Legislator, Senior Officers and Manager 2: Professionals, 3: Technician and Associated Professionals; 4: Clerks, 5: Shop and Market sales; 7: Craft and Related Traders 8: Plant and Machineries Operators; 9 Elementary Occupation

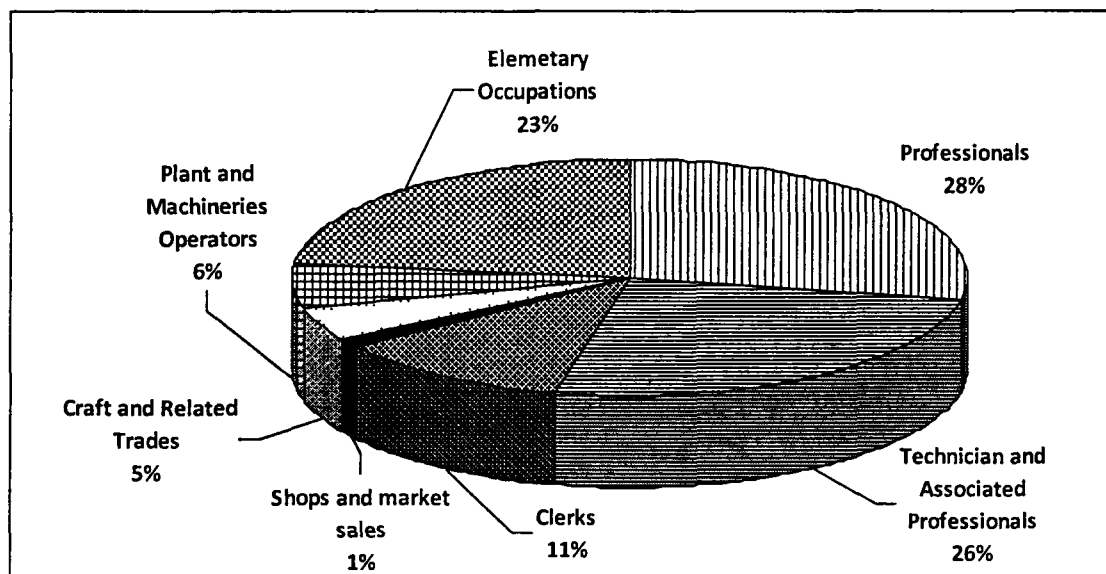
Table 4.30 shows the town-wise distribution of occupations in government establishments. The pattern of occupational distribution in the public establishments is generalised as only two occupations viz. professionals and technician and associate professionals constitute more than half of the total occupations in public establishments. Clerical occupations and elementary occupations constitute another significant proportion of occupations. On account of limited capacity of employments in public establishments, these occupations like legislators, senior officers and managers, personal service, shop and market sales, craft and related trade and plant and machine operators constitute small proportion of occupations in the public establishments.

**Fig 4.12 Distribution of Occupations in Government Establishments at Serchhip town**

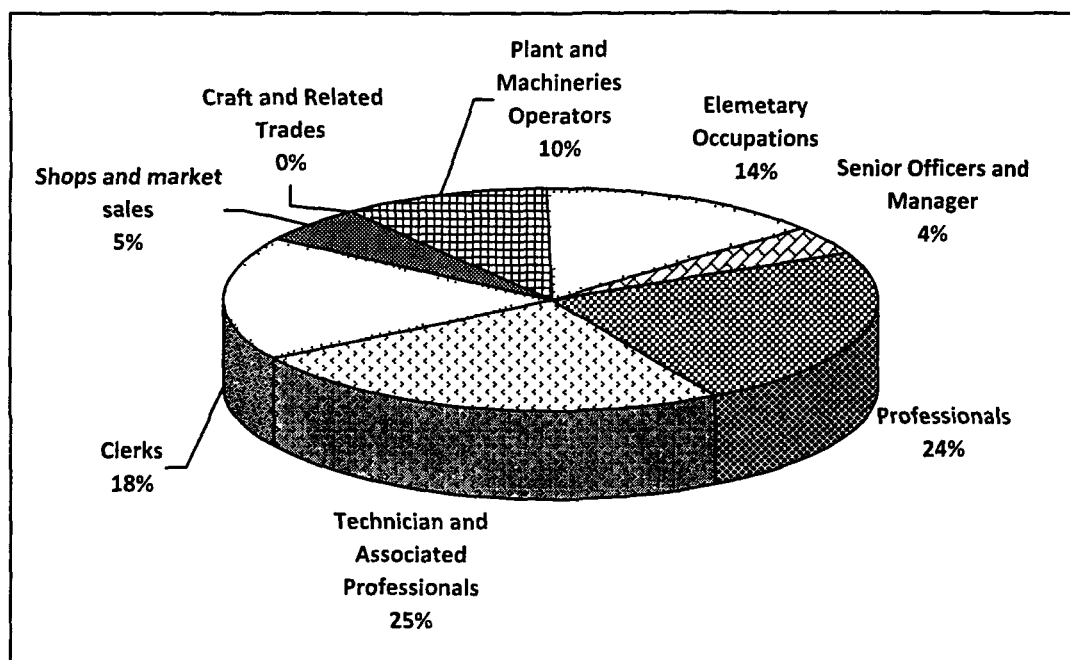


*Based on Table 4.30*

**Fig 4.13 Distribution of Occupations in Government Establishments at Thenzawl**



*Based on Table 4.30*

**Fig 4.14 Distribution of Occupations in Government Establishments at N.Vanlaiphai**

*Based on Table 4.30*

The distribution of occupations in Serchhip town, large proportion of occupations like Professionals (28.23 percent) and technician and associate professionals (29.93 percent) constitute 58.16 percent of the total occupations in the public establishments. At Thenzawl town, the peculiarity of public establishment in Thenzawl town lies overwhelms distribution of elementary occupations and craft and relates trade, which constitutes 22.19 percent and 4.69 percent of the total occupations respectively. N.Vanlaiphai town is also marked by similar pattern of occupational distribution in the public establishments, but the striking feature lies on the distribution of plant and machine operators. This occupation accounts 10.38 percent of total occupations of public establishments; it exceeds the other two towns by double amount.

#### **4.12 Distribution of Occupations in Private Establishments/ Enterprises**

Private establishments/enterprises are one of the main machinery of occupational diversification. Hence, entrepreneurship is the creation of the economic growth in urban

centres that makes additional mechanisms of production (beyond public establishments). The difference of occupational distribution patterns between public and private establishments is indicated by levels of skills and types of professionals which are determined by their respective atmospheres for entrepreneurship within the town itself.

It has been observed that professionals and technician and associate professionals and clerical are concentrated in educational institution; where personal service and shop sales and market works whereas market workers are concentrated in shops, hotel and restaurants. Craft and relate trade occupations are confined to the household industries; plant and machine operations are confined in manufacture and transport organisation. Skilled agriculture and fisheries are concentrated at agriculture and allied activities and animal husbandry. Elementary occupations are found to be confined in undertakers.

**Table 4.31 Town-wise Distribution of Occupations in Private Establishments**  
(Occupations in percent)

ILO Occupational Groups	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Average
Professionals	30.46	13.23	26.23	22.97
Technician & assoc. professionals	25.29	29.03	14.75	23.02
Clerical	2.87	2.15	6.56	3.86
Shop & market sales	19.54	17.20	18.03	18.26
Skilled agri. & fisheries	1.15	8.53	6.28	4.32
Craft and relate trade	3.55	4.38	11.48	6.45
Plant and machine operators	18.06	17.53	16.39	17.33
Elementary occupations	0.15	7.96	3.28	3.80
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source:* Fieldwork by the author 2005-06

Table 4.30 shows that the pattern of occupational distribution in private enterprises in the three towns. Professionals and technician and associate professionals are the main occupations in private establishments, these two occupations constitute nearly half of the total occupations. Another two occupations like shop and market sales and plant and machine operators (Drivers) also constitute more than one-third of the total occupations in private enterprises. The proportion of occupations like professional and technician and associate professionals, shops and market sales, plant and machine operators are almost similar in these

three towns. However, the distinctive features of Serchhip town lay in the distribution of elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations due to highly deficit the average of the two towns. The distinctive feature of Thenzawl town is the distribution of professionals (deficit) and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations. N.Vanlaiphai town is marked by the significantly surplus of clerical occupations and craft and relate trade occupations.

#### **4.13 Summary of the Main Findings:**

The intensity of pubic establishments and private enterprises in generating economic changes and urban development, the study concludes as follow:-

1. Urban growth of population relates the expansion and growth of public establishments that generated occupational growth of professionals, technician and associate professionals and clerical occupations. Senior officers and managers and machine operators account less than 10 percent of the total occupations at public establishments. Approximately one-thirds of the occupations are accounted by teaching professionals, accountants and technician (professionals), one-fifth accounted by clerical occupations. Most of the occupations like senior officers, machine operators and clerical occupations are belong to public administrations, more than two-thirds of professionals occupations are belongs to educational institutions.
2. The amounts of cost of operations, fixed capital investment do not determine the profitability of private enterprises. The enterprises like transport organization, undertakings, health services and agencies have huge amount of capital input and cost of operation. The tiny enterprises are incapable of making huge investments for bearing the cost of operation, because the size of market is very limited.

3. As far as problems of the private enterprises are concerned, market uncertainty clearly appears to be the main predicament of the three towns. More than one-third of the private enterprises are ill with this dilemma. Almost all are ill with insufficient numbers of clients. They are also afflicted by problems of shortage of raw material supply, financial impediments for operation and technical problems. Some of the enterprises like manufacturing, repairing, agencies and food processing have a shortage of raw material supply; this problem hinders regular service of such enterprises and to get maximum benefits. Technical problem also impedes health service enterprises to get much profit. Loan is the means of aids from the government, which is inaccessible for all enterprises.
4. While analysing capabilities of private enterprises, we find that only few of the private enterprises like educational institutions and undertaking employ hired-workers. The capacity of employment generation of private enterprises is limited because market size is small (because we deal with very small towns) and also, limited access to capital. The high cost of operation, lack of clients and inadequacy of governmental aid to private enterprises discourage the development of enterprises. An ideal enterprise in small towns is characterised by less capital deployed and low cost of operation, more numbers of clients with high amount of profit. Such kinds of enterprises are viable to sustain, like merchandise shops, animal farming, and household and cottage industries.

## CHAPTER V

# OCCUPATIONAL TYPES AND COMPOSITION OF HOUSEHOLDS IN THE THREE TOWNS OF SERCHHIP DISTRICT

### 5.1 Introduction:

This chapter contains the study of occupational types and composition of the three small towns of Serchhip district, namely Serchhip, Thenzawl and N. Vanlaiphai town. The main purpose of this chapter is to understand general distribution of different occupations and the constituents of such occupations. The occupational structures are determined by different factors and barriers, but mostly stimulated by educational qualification, age groups and earnings. This chapter also endeavours to provide information on the economic level of these towns of Serchhip districts (of Mizoram) on the basis of primary data. The second objective is to analyse the nature of occupational diversification within the three small towns themselves and, if, there are cardinal differences between the towns, in regards to their occupational characteristics. The occupational structure and its composition in a society is generally, the product of a number of intimately related factors like the nature and variety of physical resource base that lays down the basic foundation in the form of suitable agricultural land, natural vegetation, mineral resources etc. When the primary resources are utilised on a commercial scale in form of secondary processing, it generates diversification of occupational structure through economic opportunities in the Secondary and Tertiary Sectors of the economy. Diversification process of occupations gets further impetus from industrialisations because industrialisation generates a variety of jobs. Advances in science and technology introduce an element of specialisation in the occupational composition by creating high-skill occupations. These entire developments together breed a new urban culture, which is more service oriented. It modifies the occupational structure considerably.

## 5.2 Classification of Occupations:

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) scheme of occupational classification is implemented for grouping occupations because that classification of occupations into a reasonable number of industrial categories is to permit international comparisons. There is a great deal of similarity in the industrial classification being adopted by a large number of countries. In India, the census has refined its industrial classification considerably and has made it almost synonymous with that being followed by the United Nations. ILO has been designed as a classification applicable to all paid jobs currently done by economically active persons. The object has then been to group together occupations (basically by reference to job titles) which are deemed to be similar, taking simultaneous account of two main criteria. The ILO occupation classification reveals the following criteria:

1. The level of skill and experience and formal qualification which is required to carry out competently the work activities typically involved in the occupation, and the nature of those work activities. These criteria are not new and have been implicitly or explicitly invoked in previous schemes of occupational classification.
2. The second criterion is nature of work activities that may refer to any or all of a number of aspects of the work, including the materials handled a type of tools and equipment used and so on. However, it focuses specifically in all cases on work activities. Rather than on other aspects of the job such as, for example, whether the worker has trainee or supervisory status, or what industrial function the job serves. These are ignored by ILO, so that, for example, a 'carpenter', an 'apprentice or trainee carpenter' and a 'foreman carpenter' are all assigned to exactly the same occupational group.

The classification of occupation made by International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO) is followed for the study of selected three towns' occupation. Such classification is as follow:

1. Legislators, senior officials and managers occupational group is consisted of senior officials (112), corporate and general managers (123)
2. Professionals occupational group is consisted by lecturer in physical and mathematical professionals (211), lecturer in engineering science professionals (214) lecturer in life science and health professionals (221) lecturer in art professionals (231), other professionals i.e. teacher in higher secondary school (240), religious professionals i.e. pastors and probationary pastors (246)
3. Technician and associate professionals occupational group includes physical and engineering science associate professionals (311), life science and health associate professionals, (325) teaching associate professionals (321), other associate professionals 340 and religious associate professionals (348).
4. Clerical occupational group is comprised by office clerks(410), customer service clerks (412) and cashiers (421)
5. Shops and market sales occupational group consists of shops salespersons (522), stall and market salespersons (523)
6. Skilled agricultural and fishery occupational group includes market-oriented animal producers and related workers (612), market-oriented skilled agricultural and fishery workers (613) and subsistence agricultural and fishery workers (621).
7. Craft and related trades occupational group includes extraction and building trade workers (710), metal, machinery and related trades workers (720), precision, handicraft, printing and related trade's workers (731) and other craft and related trades (740)

8. Plant and machine operator occupational group includes machine operators and assemblers (820) and motor vehicle driver (832).
9. Elementary occupational group includes sales and services elementary occupations (910) cultivators (921) and mining, construction, manufacturing and transport works (931) daily earnings (941).
10. Armed forces (101)

### **5.3: Source of Data:**

For this chapter analysis, household survey was carried out during September 2005 to March 2006, through questionnaire. It contains household demography like age, educational qualification, income and occupation at the three small towns. This survey covered 497 household (67 household from N.Vanlaiphai town, 107 household from Thenzawl town and 327 household from Serchhip town); nearly 10 percent of 4990 households in the three townships (combined population of over 25, 878), yielding 497 household samples were drawn by a random sampling system, using standard systematic-random sampling procedure.

Descriptive statistics are used to make general tables and to construct the occupational structure of the three towns, members of the household who are active in earning livelihood i.e. above 15 ages of the samples are used.

### **5.4 Principal of Occupations**

Small towns are generally characterised by dominance of agriculture and its allied occupations and low proportion of business and service based occupations. More or less, two-thirds of the population in the three towns under study is engaged in agriculture or allied occupations. Government services and business occupations follow at second and third position, respectively. The occupational group of skilled agriculture and fisheries becomes

the largest occupational groups in these towns. These occupations require knowledge and experience to produce farm, forestry and fishery products. The main tasks of these occupations are growing crops, rearing animals, cultivating fish and selling agricultural and fishery. The occupations of market-oriented cultivation are practices and carried out through growing ginger, chillies and other vegetables, largely for sale in all the towns. Shifting cultivation and wet-rice cultivation also play a pivotal role in livelihood of the towns, which come next to market-oriented cultivations at Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns. However, the proportion of shops and market sales-workers are the second largest proportion of occupations in Serchhip town. The most prevalent occupations like market-oriented cropping, market-orient animal rearing and subsistence cropping are carried out by the people with low educational qualifications or specific skills.

Another important features of occupation distribution of the three towns observed are the elementary occupations, like casual worker, cultivation (shifting cultivation), which belongs to the second largest occupational group in these three towns. These require relatively low levels of knowledge and skills to perform simple and routine tasks involving the use of hand held tools and in some cases considerable physical effort. The main tasks of these occupations consist of selling goods in the streets (vending), door-keeping and property watching, as well as cleaning, laundry services, and working as labourers in the fields in mining, agriculture and fishing, construction and manufacturing activities. Most occupations in this group require no formal educational qualifications but will usually require experience-related skills. All non-managerial agricultural occupations are also included in this major group and those require specific mining experiences in these areas.

Table 5.1 shows town-wise distribution of principal occupations; skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations like market-oriented cropping, subsistence farming and gardening that account for 34.26 percent of the total persons in different occupations in the three towns.

In this occupational group, market-oriented cropping (613) accounts for 19.55 percent in Serchhip town, 19.55 percent in Thenzawl town and 21.15 percent occupations in N.Vanlaiphai town.

**Table 5.1 Town-wise Distribution of Principle Occupations**  
(Occupations in Percentage)

ILO Occupations	ILO Code	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlai-phai	Average
Market oriented cropping	613	19.55	19.80	21.15	19.87
Daily earning	941	8.91	13.42	25.48	12.72
Cultivation	921	5.59	12.42	8.65	7.71
Shop salesperson	522	8.64	6.71	2.40	7.15
Subsistence farming	621	4.65	11.74	9.62	7.15
Market oriented animal farming	612	4.39	2.68	2.88	3.74
Market gardening	611	3.99	3.36	1.92	3.50
Office clerk	419	3.06	4.36	3.37	3.42
Street vendors	911	4.39	1.34	0.48	3.02
Teaching assoc. professionals	334	4.26	0.00	1.44	2.78
Business agency	342	3.59	1.34	0.96	2.62
Motor vehicle drivers	832	3.46	1.01	1.92	2.62
College lecturer	231	2.79	2.35	1.92	2.54
Carpentry	733	1.86	2.35	2.88	2.15
Sec. Teaching professionals	232	1.60	2.68	2.40	1.99
Market salespersons	523	2.66	1.01	0.00	1.83
Primary teachers	331	1.60	2.01	0.96	1.59
Other teaching professionals	235	2.26	0.00	0.00	1.35
Power plant operators	816	0.66	1.01	3.37	1.19
Cashiers	421	1.60	0.00	0.48	1.03
Adm. Assoc. professionals	343	1.20	1.01	0.00	0.95
Handicraft in textile	743	0.27	3.36	0.00	0.95

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Subsistence farming also constitutes an important occupation category, which accounts for 4.65 percent of the total occupations in Serchhip, 11.74 percent in Thenzawl and 9.62 percent in N.Vanlaiphai towns. Market-oriented animal rearing (612) is also one of the important occupations. It accounts for 4.39 percent of the total occupations in Serchhip town, 2.68 percent in Thenzawl town and 2.88 percent in N.Vanlaiphai town. Market-gardening (horticulture) like growing of oranges, legumes, turmeric, bananas, pineapples and other

horticultural products also constitutes an important occupation that account for 5.30 percent of the total occupations of the three towns. These occupations need short experiences; most of them are higher level of income and low educational qualifications in these occupations.

Elementary occupations like in cultivations, daily wagers and street vending and related works account for 26.71 percent of the total occupations of these three towns. Cultivation and daily wagers are one of the conspicuous occupations in elementary occupational group. Cultivation is also one of the most important occupations, accounting for 5.59 percent of the total occupations in Serchhip town, 12.42 percent in Thenzawl town and 8.65 percent in N.Vanlaiphai town. Daily wagers also constitute 8.85 percent of occupations in Serchhip, 13.62 percent in Thenzawl and 25.48 percent of occupation in N.Vanlaiphai towns.

Government service-based occupations including different professionals, technicians and associate professionals and clerical occupations are major (city oriented) occupations because they act as the main source of the economy at local level. In smaller towns the salaries earned, particularly from public services are locally spent leading to a multiplier effect in the limited economies of these towns. These occupations, however account for only 7.00 percent, 8.90 percent and 5.41 percent of these three towns, respectively. The handicraft-related occupations like carpentry, hand-made textiles and its relate trades are limited, consisting not more than 6 percent of the total occupations in the three towns. Thenzawl has a high proportion in this occupational group; it accounts 5.70 percent of the total occupations. However, shop and market sales workers constitute more than one-fifth of all occupations accounting for 22.87 percent in Serchhip, 17.79 percent in Thenzawl and 15.87 percent in N.Vanlaiphai towns, respectively.

#### 5.4 Occupational Structures of the Three Towns

The occupational structure and its composition in the towns reflect the level of development in the urban economy. From the general distribution of occupations, larger towns have high proportion of office work-based occupations like teachers, accountants, lawyers, salespersons, market-related workers, clerks etc. These occupations decline when the town is smaller. On the contrary, agriculture and allied occupations and elementary occupations are more prevalent in smaller towns. It signifies, larger towns possess more opportunities for divergent occupations, because larger towns constitute larger markets in economic terms.

**Table 5.2: Occupational Structure of the Three Towns and shared of Total Output**  
(Occupations and Output in percent)

ILO Occupation Major Groups	Serchhip		Thenzawl		N.Vanlaiphai	
	Occupation	Output	Occupation	Output	Occupation	Output
Senior officials and managers	0.40	1.83	0.67	3.08	0.96	7.23
Professionals	7.99	20.85	5.70	16.22	5.29	13.82
Tech. & assoc. professionals	11.45	20.35	5.70	16.28	4.33	10.75
Clerks	5.46	9.13	4.70	8.46	6.25	13.73
Shop and market sales	11.98	12.86	8.72	9.56	3.37	2.78
Skilled agri. and fishery	32.89	18.60	37.58	20.48	35.58	23.59
Craft and related trades	3.99	2.47	5.70	5.14	3.37	3.07
Plant and machine operators	4.66	4.94	2.68	4.32	5.29	6.96
Elementary occupations	20.64	8.10	27.52	14.02	35.10	16.61
Armed Forces	0.53	0.86	1.01	2.42	0.48	1.45
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.

Table 5.2 shows occupational structures of the three towns, senior officers and managers account less than 2 percent of the total occupations in these towns. The proportion of clerical occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations are evenly distributed over these three towns. Serchhip town has a high proportion in occupations like professionals, technical and associated professionals, shops and market sales occupations.

Thenzawl has high proportion in skilled agricultures and fisheries workers and craft related trade occupations. N.Vanlaiphai town has exceeded the larger towns in the proportion of clerical occupations, elementary occupations, and plant and machine operator occupations.

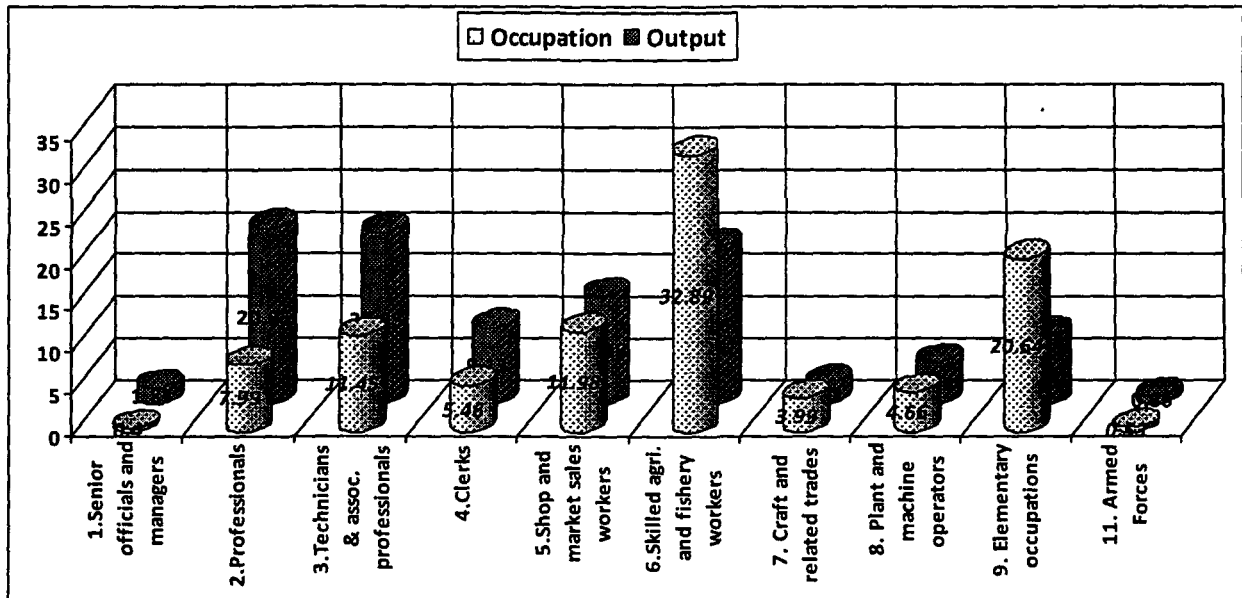
The distribution of senior official and managers over these three towns is even. Public establishments provide facilities to stimulate such even distribution. However, the distribution of professionals like college lecturers, teaching professionals in higher secondary education, business agencies, administrative professionals and other government service-based occupations are determined by the size and capacity of public establishments in the given town. The larger town, therefore, has high proportion in distribution of professionals, and conversely the slow growth and less capacity of employments in public establishments in smaller towns.

The distribution of technician and associate professionals including primary teaching professionals, nursing and midwifery associate professionals, pre-primary education teaching associate professionals, customs, tax and related government associate professionals and police, have all being due to public establishments. Since the growth and expansion of public establishments are often governed by the size of the town and its administrative importance, smaller towns are deficit in proportion in such occupations. Besides these professionals and technician and associate professionals, shops and market sales occupations are bigger in larger towns to smaller towns because of size of the market.

The location of handloom and mini-hydro-electric project stimulates high proportion of occupations like in hand-made textiles at Thenzawl town, power plant machine operators at N.Vanlaiphai town etc. Besides, due to availability of agricultural land, the smaller towns absorb the agricultural labourers and daily wage occupations. Stagnant economies and lack of employment opportunities are responsible for a bigger proportion of casual labourers in

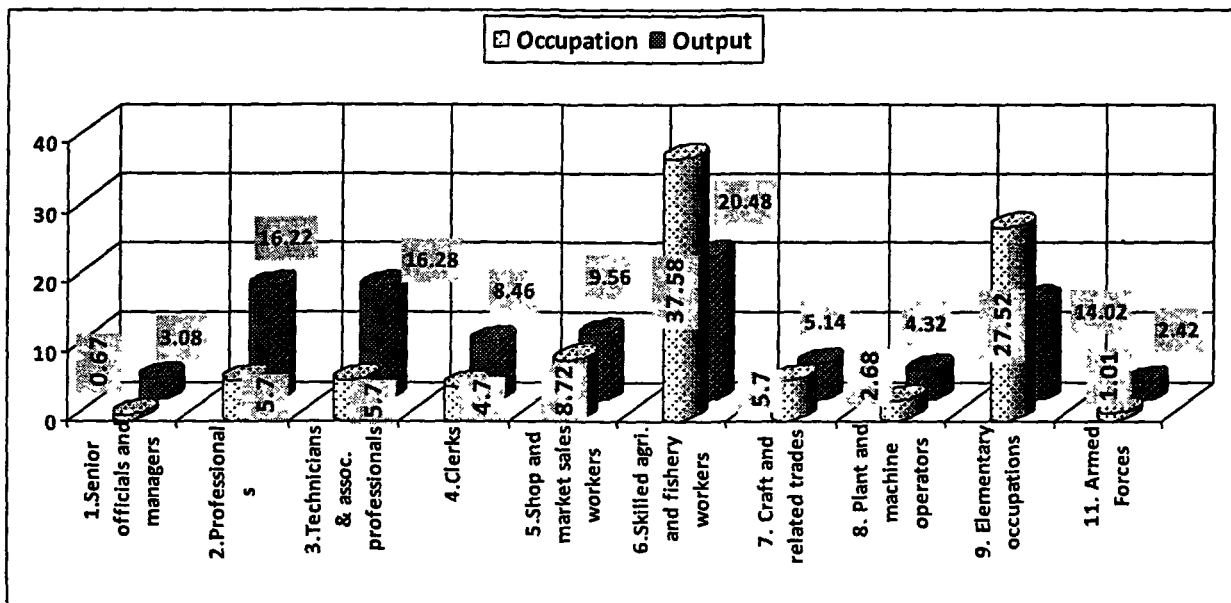
smaller towns. Generally, agriculture and allied occupations dominate the activities in smaller towns; such occupations decline in larger towns.

**Fig 5.1 Occupational Structure of the Three Towns and shared of Total Output at Serchhip**



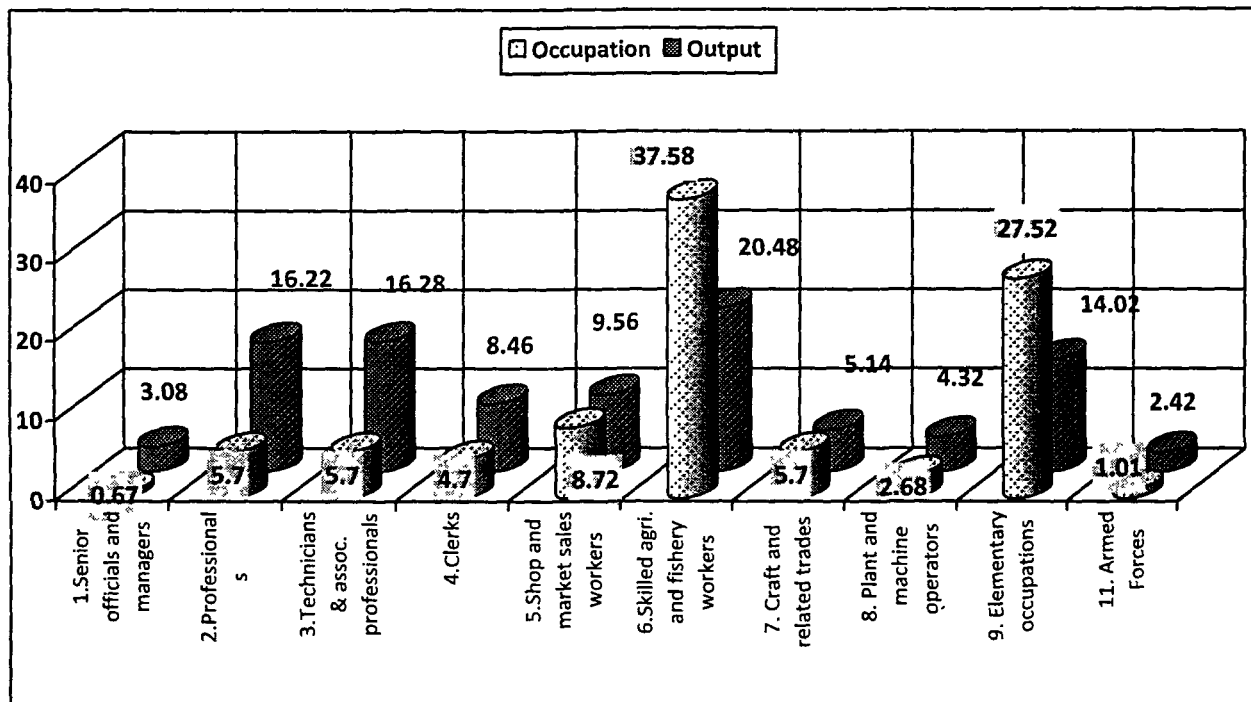
*Based on Table 5.2*

**Fig 5.2 Occupational Structure of the Three Towns and shared of Total Output at Thenzawl Town**



*Based on Table 5.2*

**Fig 5.3 Occupational Structure of the Three Towns and shared of Total Output at N.Vanlaiphai Town**



*Based on Table 5.2*

#### **5.4 Factors of Occupational Distribution:**

Distribution of occupational types in these towns is ascertained by the factors of age, and educational qualification etc, whereas formation of general distribution of occupational types in the particular towns is contributed by employment problems and availability of natural resource and the general resource utilisation in the towns.

##### **5.4.1 Age**

Generally, age factor is one of the most determinants of occupational types in the towns. Generally, people in older age groups are absent in the occupational types like casual work that require strenuous physical labour. Similarly teenagers did not appear in senior officers and managers as well as professional occupation because these occupations need considerable education and experience. On the other hand, some of the plant operations and technical associate professional occupations are carried out by people of younger age groups.

**Table 5.3 (a) Occupations Distribution Based on Age in the Three Towns**  
(Persons in percentage)

ILO Occupational groups	Age groups				Total
	<20	20-45	46-55	>55	
Senior Officers and managers	0.00	14.29	71.43	14.29	<b>100.00</b>
Professionals	0.00	50.00	40.91	9.09	<b>100.00</b>
Technicians and assoc. professionals	1.79	55.36	31.25	11.61	<b>100.00</b>
Clerical	1.47	41.18	41.18	16.18	<b>100.00</b>
Shops and market sales	3.23	51.61	29.03	16.13	<b>100.00</b>
Skilled agri. and fisheries	1.62	40.28	40.97	17.13	<b>100.00</b>
Craft and relate trade	1.85	61.11	31.48	5.56	<b>100.00</b>
Plant and machine operators	5.56	79.63	12.96	1.85	<b>100.00</b>
Elementary occupations	5.81	66.34	19.37	8.47	<b>100.00</b>
Armed Forces	12.50	75.00	12.50	0.00	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.16</b>	<b>53.60</b>	<b>31.03</b>	<b>12.21</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 5.3 (a) shows that distribution of occupations based on the age group of the three towns; teenagers account for only 3.16 percent of the workers, younger age group consists of the largest proportion of the total workers accounting for 53.60 percent. Matured age groups account 31.03 percent of the total workers and the older age group consists of 12.21 percent of all occupations.

Most of the senior officers and managers occupational group belong to matured age group, professional and technical associated professional occupational groups belong to matured age and younger age groups. However, Plant and machine operation and armed forces are the concentration of younger age groups, whereas age is no consideration in the occupational groups like craft and related trade, shop sales and market related work and elementary occupations.

Table 5.3 (b) shows that distribution of occupational groups based on age in the three towns; it is marked by high concentration of teenagers in the elementary occupations and armed forces. Skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations and elementary occupations are the main occupations that lead fair distribution on all age groups.

**Table 5.3 (b) Occupations Distribution Based on Age in the Three Towns**  
(Persons in percent)

ILO Occupational classes	Age groups				Total
	<20	20-45	46-55	>55	
Senior Officers and managers	0.00	0.14	1.18	0.60	<b>0.51</b>
Professionals	0.00	6.04	8.53	4.82	<b>6.47</b>
Technicians and assoc. professionals	4.65	8.50	8.29	7.83	<b>8.24</b>
Clerical	2.33	3.84	6.64	6.63	<b>5.00</b>
Shops and market sales	9.30	8.78	8.53	12.05	<b>9.12</b>
Skilled agri. and fisheries	16.28	23.87	41.94	44.58	<b>31.76</b>
Craft and relate trade	2.33	4.53	4.03	1.81	<b>3.97</b>
Plant and machine operators	6.98	5.90	1.66	0.60	<b>3.97</b>
Elementary occupations	55.81	37.59	18.96	21.08	<b>30.37</b>
Armed Forces	2.33	0.82	0.24	0.00	<b>0.59</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

#### 5.4.2 Educational Qualification

Skilled level and educational qualification are the most important factors to determine the occupational distribution. In the three towns, there are no clear-cut of determination of occupations. But some limited principle could be observed between occupations and educational qualifications persist--none is to get higher jobs without skills and higher educational qualifications. Due to employment problems, some of the people holding higher qualifications are unemployed or are employed in the lower category occupations.

Table 5.4 (a) shows the distribution of occupational groups based on the educational attainment; nearly one-third of the total workers belong to primary level, which are mostly concentrated in skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations. The largest proportion of the workers belongs to high school levels who are engaged in the same occupational groups. Post graduates, Technical and other diploma level individuals constitute a negligible proportion or are mostly confined to professional and technical associated professional occupational groups.

**Table 5.4 (a) Distributions of Occupations based on Education Qualification in the Three Towns**

(Percentage of particular Occupational group)

ILO Occupation classes	Educational qualification <sup>2</sup>							
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Senior officers and managers	0.00	0.00	0.00	71.43	0.00	28.57	0.00	100.00
Professionals	0.00	3.41	13.50	59.09	22.73	0.00	1.14	100.00
Technicians and assoc. professionals	4.46	11.61	33.04	43.75	7.14	0.00	0.00	100.00
Clerical	17.55	29.41	25.00	27.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Shops and market sales	29.84	37.10	24.19	8.06	0.81	0.00	0.00	100.00
Skilled agri. and fisheries	50.93	36.57	11.81	0.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Craft and relate trade	33.33	51.85	7.41	1.85	0.00	1.85	3.70	100.00
Plant and machine operators	11.11	51.85	25.93	9.26	0.00	0.00	1.85	100.00
Elementary occupations	29.54	44.79	22.03	3.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Armed Forces	0.00	62.50	0.00	25.00	12.50	0.00	0.00	100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.88</b>	<b>35.74</b>	<b>18.75</b>	<b>11.84</b>	<b>2.21</b>	<b>0.22</b>	<b>0.29</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006

**Table 5.4 (b) Distributions of Occupations based on Education Qualification in the Three Towns**

(Percentage of particular Occupational group)

ILO Occupation class	Educational qualification							
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Senior officers and managers	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.11	0.00	66.67	0.00	0.51
Professionals	0.00	0.62	4.55	32.30	66.67	0.00	25.00	6.47
Technicians and assoc. professionals	1.19	2.67	14.51	30.43	26.67	0.00	0.00	8.24
Clerical	2.62	4.12	6.67	11.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Shops and market sales	8.81	9.47	11.76	6.21	3.33	0.00	0.00	9.12
Skilled agri. and fisheries	52.38	32.51	20.00	1.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.76
Craft and relate trade	4.29	5.76	1.57	0.62	0.00	33.33	50.00	3.97
Plant and machine operators	1.43	5.76	5.49	3.11	0.00	0.00	25.00	3.97
Elemt. occupations	29.05	38.07	35.69	9.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.37
Armed Forces	0.00	1.03	0.00	1.24	3.33	0.00	0.00	0.59
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.

<sup>2</sup> Educational qualification code: 2-Primary, 3, High School, 4, Graduate, 5 Post Graduate, 6 Professional class, 7, Technical line, 8 Diploma and other prestige's

Table 5.4 (b) shows that distribution of occupational groups based on worker's educational qualification. It indicates that most of the senior officers and manager, and professional workers have the level of post graduate education. On the other hand, it also shows that some of the holders of high level educational qualifications are engaged in the occupational groups like skilled agriculture and fisheries and elementary occupations.

### **5.5 Comparison of Occupational Structure of the Three Towns**

The observations reveal that there are significant differences in the pattern of occupational distribution in the three towns. Generally, small town is characterised by high proportion in agriculture and its allied occupations where larger town is characterised by larger proportion of government services-based and shop and market sales occupations. However, this observation clearly states that Serchhip town has a larger proportion of professional occupations, clerks and shop salespersons etc. Since, Serchhip town is district headquarters, it has concentration of government offices. Thenzawl is a handloom textile production centre, which is run by the Government and N.Vanlaiphai has location of Maicham Mini Hydel Project. A comparison of occupational distribution among the three towns is as follows:

1. Dominant occupations of a town in proportion (dispersion from average of the three towns)
2. Recessive occupations of a town in term of distribution (dispersion from the average of the three towns)

Some of the occupations are vary significantly distributed on account of local resources and functions of the towns. Some of them are concentrated in the larger town and some of them are very scarce due to the lack of specific natural resources. Such occupations are power plant operation, handicraft and textile, university/college teaching professional

occupations and market salespersons etc. Thus, the following tables give the occupations which are surplus and shortfall in proportion of the average (in percent) of the other two towns. This could realise the differences in distribution of occupations at these three towns.

Table 5.5 shows that dominant occupations of Serchhip town, which exceed over the average proportion of the three towns. The proportion of shop sales (522) exceed the average of the three towns by 2.72 percent at Serchhip town, college teaching professionals (235) exceeds by 1.51 percent and street vendors (911) exceeds 3.32 percent, business services agency (342) exceeds 1.63 percent, market salespersons (523) exceeds 1.21 percent. The proportions of these occupations exceed significantly the average of the three towns. Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai town do not possess proper market places, college such factors lead to the surplus of market salespersons, college lecturers at Serchhip town. This table throw the light that these above mentioned occupations have get facilities to extend over by means of local resources and special functions of the town.

**Table 5.5 Dominant Occupations of Serchhip Town**

*(Occupations in percent)*

ILO Code	ILO Occupations	Average	Serchhip	Deviation
913	Office cleaners & launderers	0.35	1.06	<b>0.71</b>
611	Market gardeners	3.09	3.99	<b>0.90</b>
421	Cashiers	0.69	1.60	<b>0.91</b>
612	Animal farming	3.36	4.52	<b>1.16</b>
523	Stall & market salespersons	1.45	2.66	<b>1.21</b>
832	Motor vehicle drivers	2.13	3.46	<b>1.33</b>
235	College teaching professional	0.75	2.26	<b>1.51</b>
342	Business agents	1.96	3.59	<b>1.63</b>
911	Street vendors	2.07	4.39	<b>2.32</b>
334	Teaching assoc. professionals	1.90	4.26	<b>2.36</b>
522	Shop salespersons	5.92	8.64	<b>2.72</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 5.6 shows that Serchhip town has deficit significantly in the occupations like daily earnings (-7.03 percent), subsistence cropping (-4.02 percent), shifting cultivation (-

3.30 percent) and power generation plant operators (-1.02 percent). Less than 1 percent deficit occupations are handicraft in textile (-0.94 percent), market-oriented cropping (-0.62 percent), office clerks (-0.66 percent) Larger town exhibits as recession of agriculture and allied occupations due to mainly inaccessibility of agriculture land. Thus, Serchhip town is characterised by the recession of occupational distribution like textiles, handicraft and clerical occupation.

**Table 5.6 Deficit Occupations of Serchhip Town**

(Occupations in percent)

ILO Code	ILO Occupations	Average	Serchhip	Deviation
941	Daily Earnings	15.94	8.91	-7.03
621	Subsistence agricultural	8.67	4.65	-4.02
921	Shifting cultivations	8.89	5.59	-3.30
816	Power production plant operators	1.68	0.66	-1.02
743	Handicraft in Textile	1.21	0.27	-0.94
419	Office clerks	3.72	3.06	-0.66
613	Market-oriented crop	20.17	19.55	-0.62

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

**Table 5.7 Dominant Occupations at Thenzawl Town**

(Occupations in percent)

ILO Code	ILO Occupations	Average	Thenzawl	Deviation
232	Teacher (HS, MS)	2.32	2.68	0.36
331	Primary teachers	1.52	2.01	0.49
419	Office clerks	3.72	4.36	0.64
522	Shop salespersons	5.92	6.71	0.79
743	Textile	1.21	3.36	2.15
621	Subsistence agricultural	8.67	11.74	3.07
921	Shifting cultivations	8.89	12.42	3.53

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 5.7 shows that dominant occupations at Thenzawl town, which are noticed by the occupation distribution which exceeds the average of the three towns. Occupations significantly surplus over the average of three towns are shifting cultivation (exceeded by 3.53 percent) Subsistence cropping (3.07 percent) and handicraft in textile (2.15 percent). Other worthy-noted occupations which exceed insignificantly proportion of the average of

the three towns are office clerks (0.64 percent), secondary school teaching professional (0.36 percent), shops salespersons (0.79 percent) and primary teacher (0.46 percent). So, Thenzawl town is well-known by handicraft in textile occupation leading to serve as a special function of the town, where cultivation and subsistence cropping also a prevalent occupations that exceed over the other two towns.

Table 5.8 shows that occupations of Thenzawl town which are the shortfall of the average of three towns in proportion; daily earning exceeded by -2.52 percent, other teaching associate professionals exceeded by -1.90 percent, motor vehicle drivers exceeded by -1.12 percent. Street vendors (-0.73 percent), college teaching professional (-0.75 percent), business service agency (-0.62 percent), cashier (-0.69 percent) and subsistence animal farming (-0.68 percent) are deficit in the proportion of occupations of the average of the three towns in Thenzawl town.

**Table 5.8 Shortfall Occupation of the Thenzawl Town**  
(Occupations in percent)

ILO Code	ILO Occupations	Average	Thenzawl	Deviation
941	Daily earnings	15.94	13.42	-2.52
832	Motor vehicle drivers	2.13	1.01	-1.12
911	Street vendors	2.07	1.34	-0.73
612	Animal farming	3.36	2.68	-0.68
816	Power production plant operators	1.68	1.01	-0.67
342	Business agents	1.96	1.34	-0.62

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

**Table 5.9 Dominant Occupations at N.Vanlaiphai Town**  
(Occupations in percent)

ILO Code	ILO Occupations	Average	N.Vanlaiphai	Deviation
621	Subsistence agricultural	8.67	9.62	0.95
613	Market-oriented crop	20.17	21.15	0.98
816	Power production plant operators	1.68	3.37	1.69
941	Daily Earnings	15.94	25.48	9.54

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 5.9 shows the occupations of N.Vanlaiphai town that exceeds the average of the three towns. The proportions of occupations like daily earnings (9.54 percent), power plant

machine operators (1.69 percent), market oriented cropping (0.98 percent) and subsistence agriculture (0.95 percent) exceed the average of the three towns significantly. As a result of unemployment problems in service oriented occupations and least developed in transportations and other infrastructure of industries, this town has been noticed as an overwhelming of daily earning occupation and agriculture and its related occupations. Again, due to the site of Mini Hydel Project at N.Vanlaiphai town, immense numbers of power plant operators are distributed.

Table 5.10 shows the distribution of occupations which are deficit in the proportion of average of the three towns; such occupations are salespersons (-3.52 percent), street vendor (-1.59 percent), market gardening (-1.17), Business agency (-1.00 percent). It throws the light that smaller towns are usually exhibited as lack of shop and marketing.

**Table 5.10 Deficit Occupation at N.Vanlaiphai Town**

(Occupations in percent)

ILO Code	ILO Occupations	Average	N.Vanlaiphai	Deviation
522	Shop salespersons	5.92	2.40	-3.52
911	Hawkers	2.07	0.48	-1.59
611	Market gardeners	3.09	1.92	-1.17
342	Business agents	1.96	0.96	-1.00

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

## 5.6 Locality-wise Distribution of Occupations

### 5.6.1 Serchhip Town

For the analysis of locality level distribution of occupation, Serchhip town is classified into four blocks in accordance with village councils' demarcations, i.e. *Chhiahtlang, New Serchhip, North Block* and *South Block*. *Chhiahtlang* locality with Bukpui ward accounts 20.98 percent of total population in the town. It is located to the north of the town and merged with Serchhip town in 1998. *New Serchhip* accounts for only 7.97 percent of the total population of the town and is located between *Chhiahtlang* and the main town,

whereas North Block consists of Chandmari, Hmar *Veng*, Project *Veng*, Bazar *Veng*, Bazar Hnuai *Veng* that account for 42.50 percent of the town population, and the South Block separated from Bazar Point consists of Darnam, Ramthlun, Tuikhuah, Field *Veng*, Dinthar, Chhim *Veng*, Sailiam that account for 20.55 percent of the town population.

Table 5.11 shows the locality-wise distribution of occupational groups in Serchhip town. Skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations constitute 32.80 percent of the total occupations, which is the main occupation in the town; elementary occupations like cultivation and casual work constitute of 20.85 percent. Technical associated professionals and shop and market workers compose of more than one-tenth of the total occupations. Legislators, senior officers and manager occupational groups and armed force are very small that constitute 0.40 percent and 0.53 percent of the total occupations, respectively.

**Table 5.11 Locality-wise Distribution of Occupational Groups at Serchhip Town**  
(Occupations in percent)

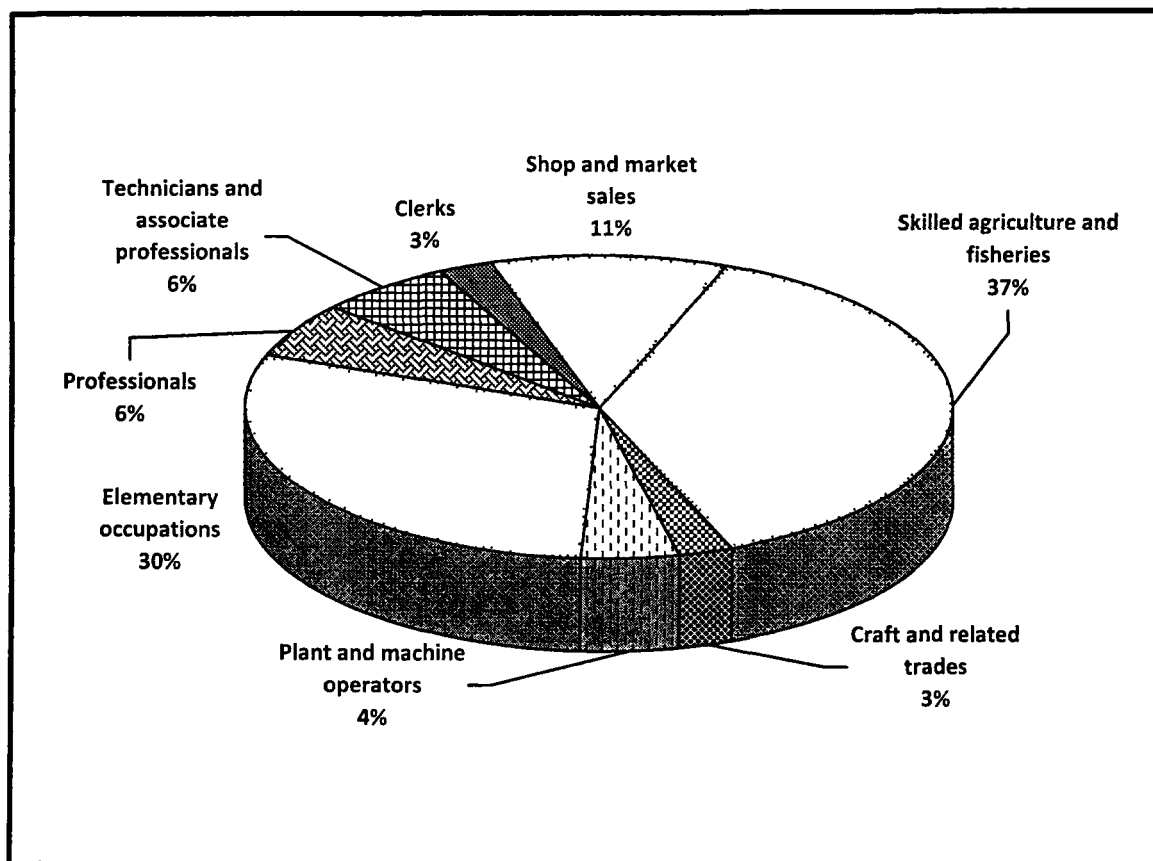
ILO Occupation groups	Chhiah-tlang	New Serchhip	North Block	South Block	Total
Legislators, senior officials and managers	0.00	0.00	0.27	0.13	<b>0.40</b>
Professionals	1.20	0.53	4.65	1.59	<b>7.97</b>
Technicians and associate professionals	1.33	0.40	7.04	2.66	<b>11.42</b>
Clerks	0.53	0.40	2.52	1.99	<b>5.44</b>
Shop and market sales	2.26	0.53	5.31	2.92	<b>11.95</b>
Skilled agriculture and fisheries	7.97	3.85	10.49	10.49	<b>32.80</b>
Craft and related trades	0.53	0.27	1.99	1.20	<b>3.98</b>
Plant and machine operators	0.93	0.53	1.99	1.20	<b>4.65</b>
Elementary occupations	6.24	1.46	7.84	6.24	<b>20.85</b>
Armed Force	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.13	<b>0.53</b>
Total	20.98	7.97	42.50	28.55	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Fig. 5.1 shows the distribution of different occupations at Serchhip town; senior official and managers and armed force occupations are found at the locality of North and South blocks of Serchhip town. These two blocks of Serchhip town take the preminent position in the distribution of technical associated professional (accounting for 4.65 percent of total respondents), clerks are mostly distributed over North and South blocks of Serchhip

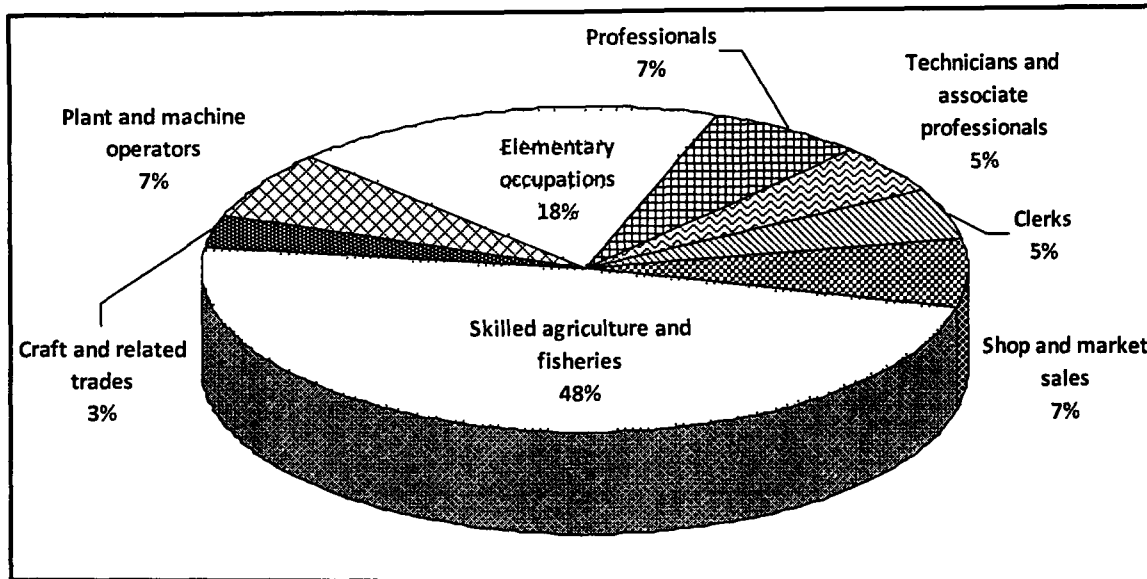
town. North and South blocks dominate occupations like, clerks, shop and market services, craft and related trades, plant and machine operations. Skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations and elementary occupations like cultivations are evenly distributed in all localities except New Serchhip locality and Serchhip North block predominates in occupations of professional occupational groups and technical associated professional occupational groups. It also locates government servants' residential quarters (Project *Veng*) in the locality of North block.

**Fig 5.4 Distribution of Occupational Groups at Chhiahtlang Locality of Serchhip Town**



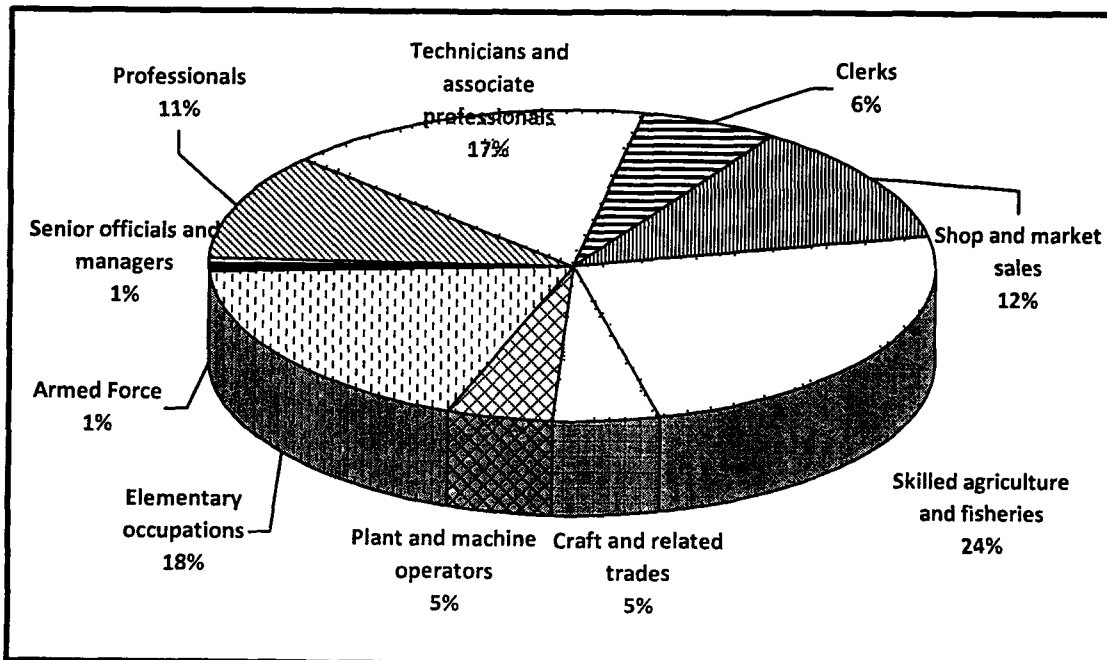
*Based on Table 5.11*

**Fig 5.5 Distribution of Occupational Groups at New Serchhip Locality of Serchhip Town**



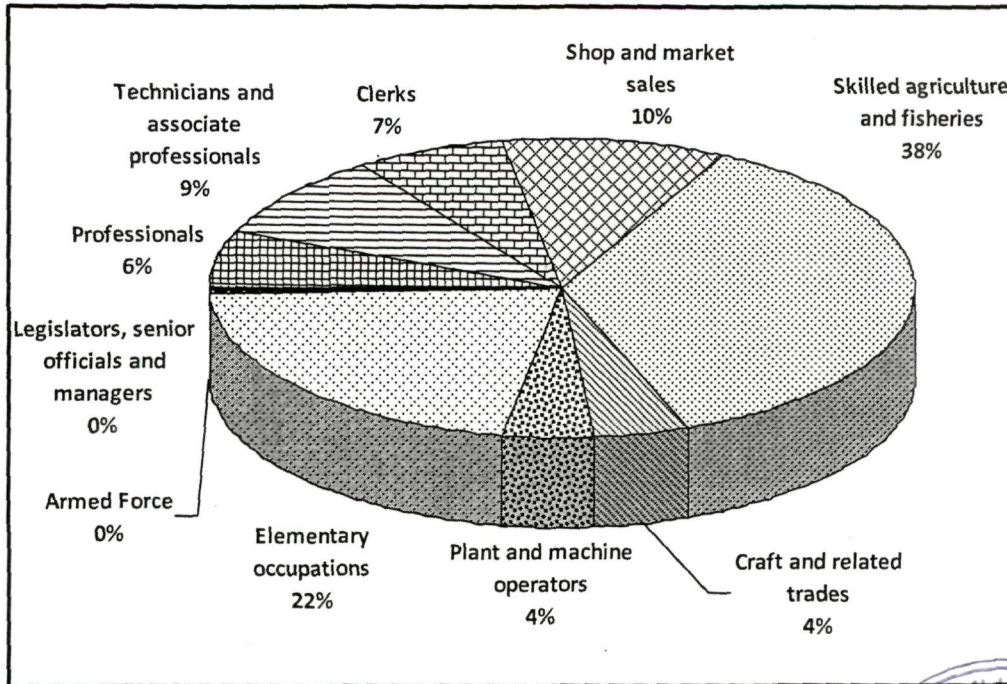
*Based on Table 5.11*

**Fig 5.6 Distribution of Occupational Groups at North Block Locality of Serchhip Town**



*Based on Table 5.11*

Fig 5.7 Distribution of Occupational Groups at South Block Locality of Serchhip Town



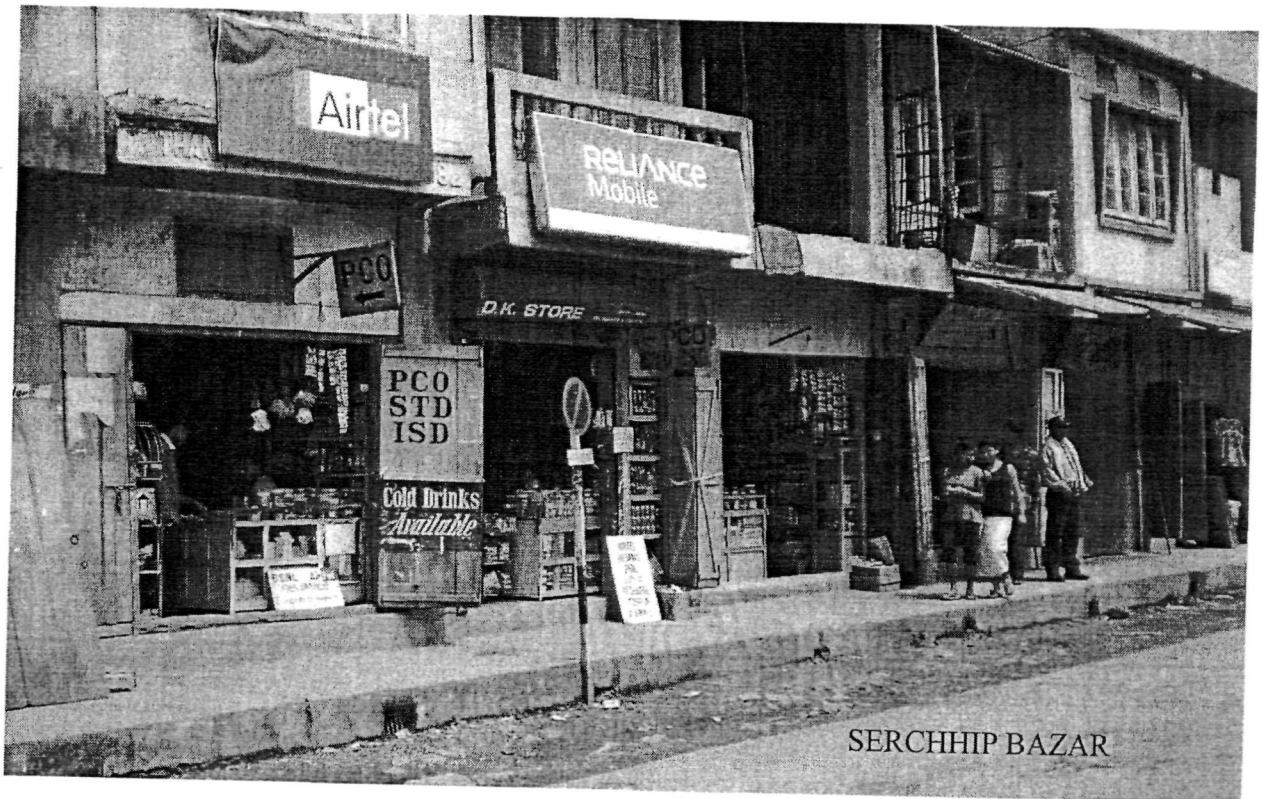
Based on Table 5.11



Fig 5.8 Transportation at Serchhip Town

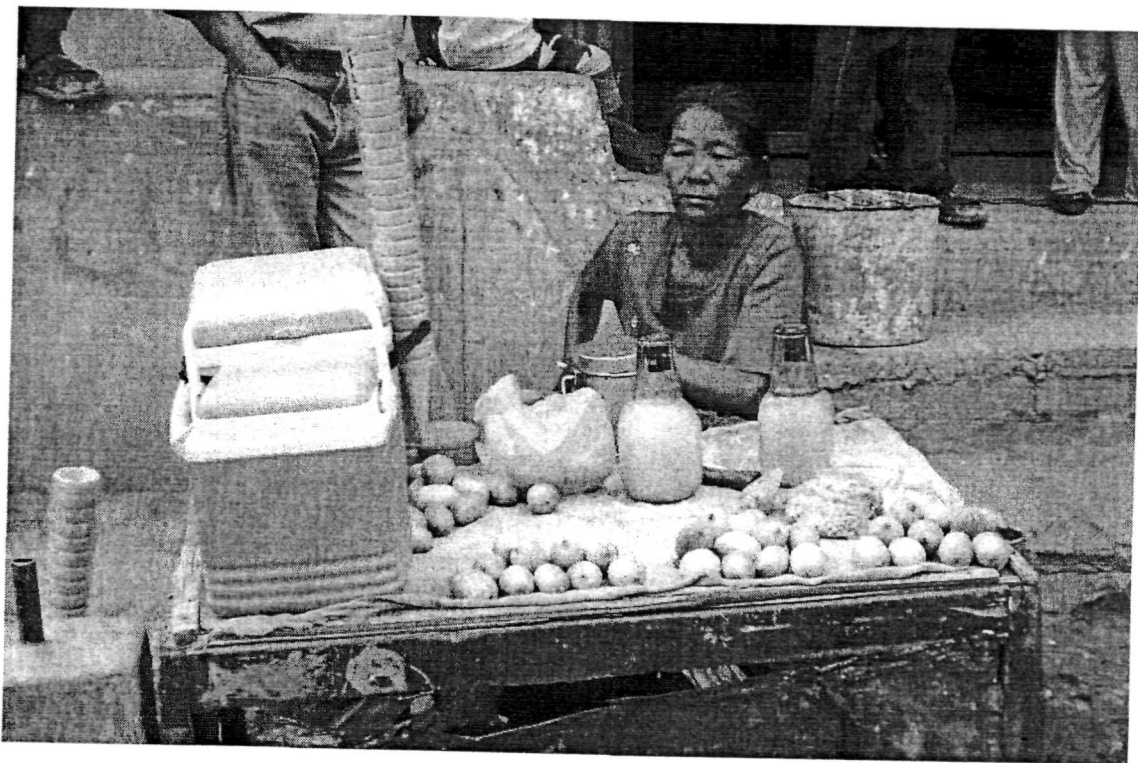


Fig 5.9 Serchhip Market

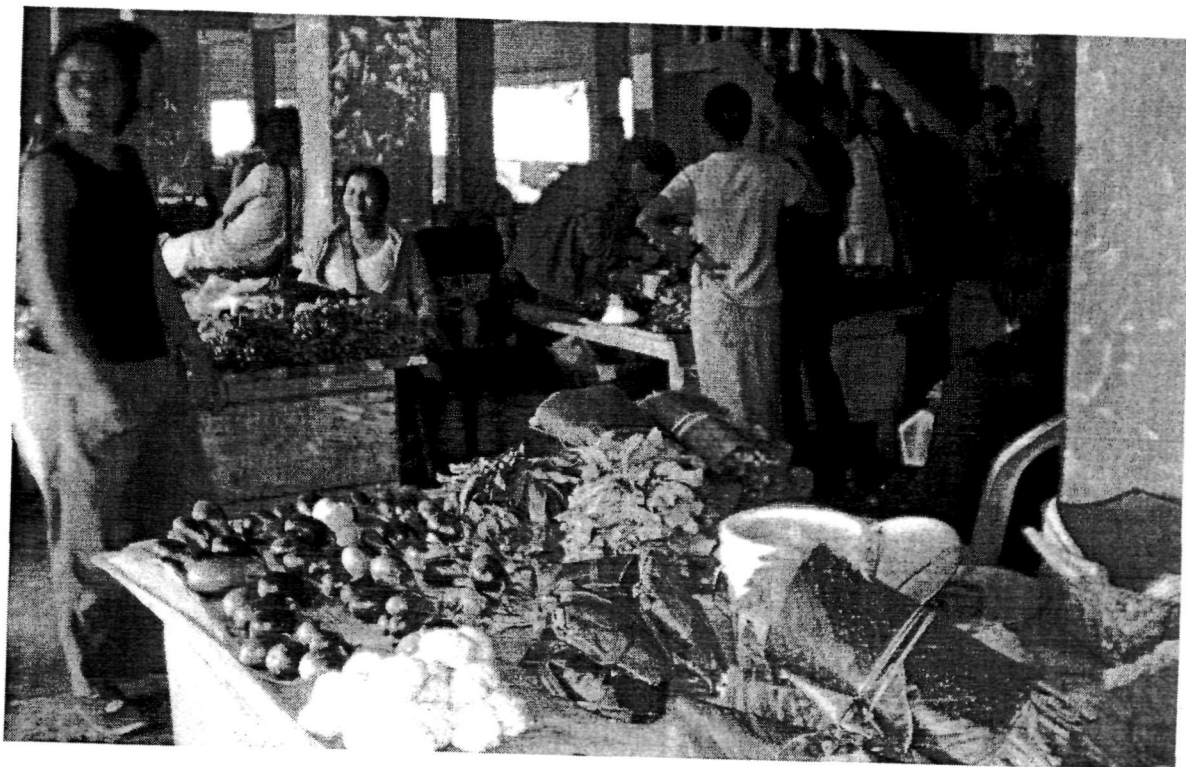


SERCHHIP BAZAR

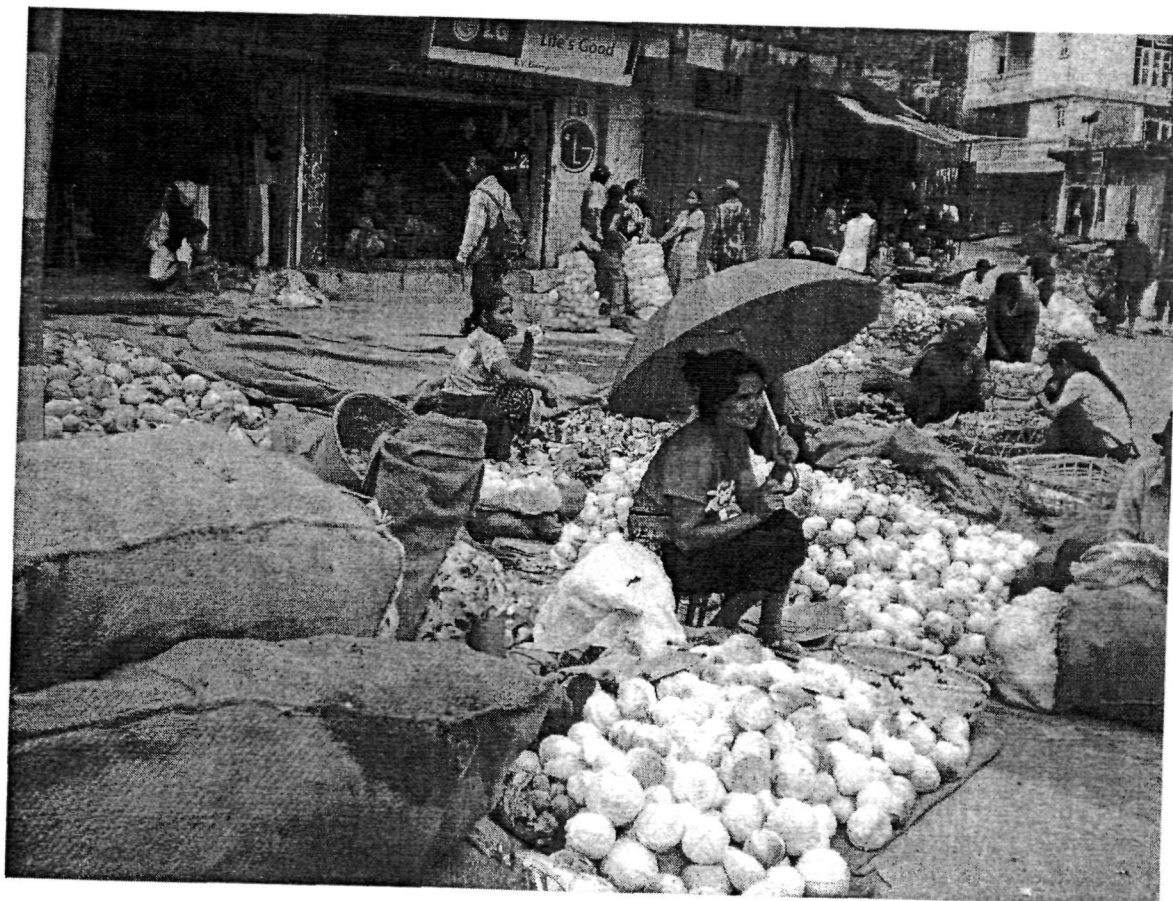
Fig 5.10 Hawker at Serchhip



**Fig 5.11 Serchhip Bazaar**



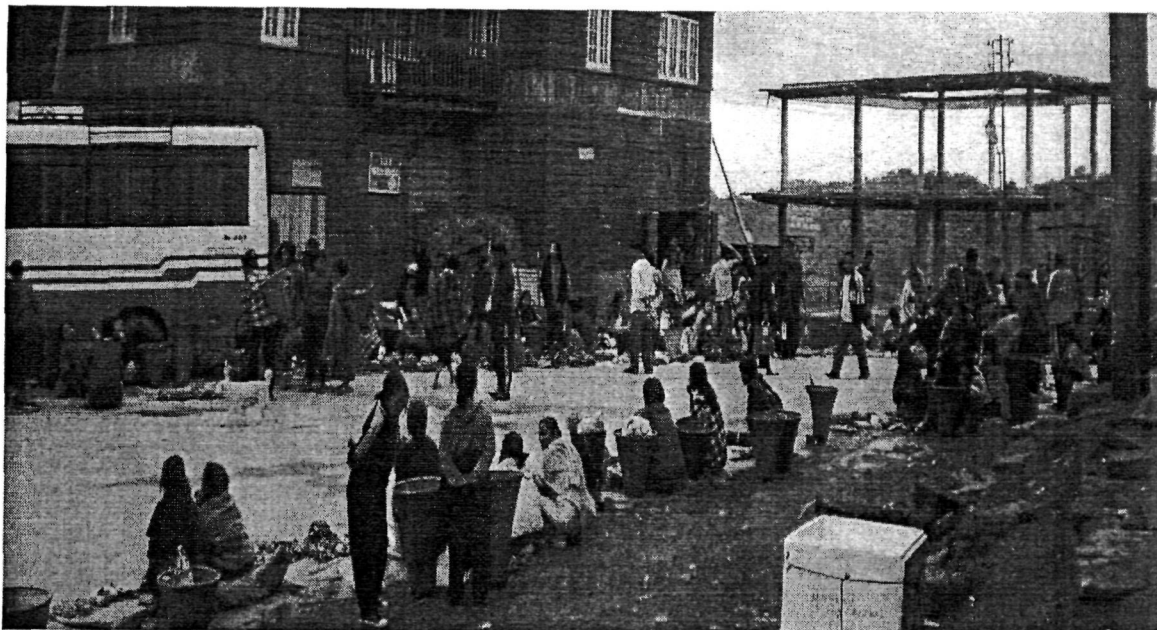
**Fig 5.12 Cabbage Production at Serchhip bazaar**



**Fig 5.13 Cabbage production at Thenzawl**



**Fig 5.14 Market at N.Vanlaiphai**



**Fig 5.16 Ginger Production at N.Vanlaiphai**



**Fig 5.17 Ginger Temporary Storage at N.Vanlaiphai**



### 5.6.2 Thenzawl town

Thenzawl town consists of five localities like Bazaar *Veng* including UPC *Veng* and Dinthar; Venghlun including Soil *Veng* and PWD *Veng*, Field *Veng* including Model *Veng*; Vengthar comprise of *Vengchhak* and H/S *Veng* and Venglai including Zote. Locality-wise distributions of occupation are given as table 5.12

Table 5.12 shows that in Thenzawl town, more than one-third of the total population are in skilled agriculture and fisheries occupational groups, and more than one-fourth of the total population are engaged in elementary occupations.

In Bazaar *Veng* (including UPC *Veng* and Dinthar), 35 percent of the population perform skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations, 25 percent elementary occupations, 11 percent shop sale/market work and 7 percent craft and related trades and professional, 6 percent are technical associate professional and 5 percent clerks, respectively.

**Table 5.12 Locality-wise Distribution of Occupational Groups at Thenzawl Town**

ILO Occupation groups	Bazar <i>Veng</i>	<i>Venghlun</i>	Field <i>Veng</i>	<i>Vengthar</i>	<i>Venglai</i>	Total
Legislators, senior officials and managers	0.00	0.00	0.34	0.34	0.00	<b>0.67</b>
Professionals	2.69	0.00	0.67	0.34	2.02	<b>5.72</b>
Technicians and associate professionals	2.36	0.67	0.67	0.67	1.35	<b>5.72</b>
Clerks	2.36	0.34	0.67	0.67	0.67	<b>4.71</b>
Shop and market sales	4.38	1.01	0.34	0.67	2.02	<b>8.42</b>
Skilled agriculture and fisheries	13.47	7.41	2.36	4.38	10.10	<b>37.71</b>
Craft and related trades	2.69	0.34	0.34	1.35	1.01	<b>5.72</b>
Plant and machine operators	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.34	0.34	<b>2.69</b>
Elementary occupations	9.76	6.73	1.68	3.03	6.40	<b>27.61</b>
Armed Force	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.67	0.00	<b>1.01</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.72</b>	<b>17.17</b>	<b>7.74</b>	<b>12.46</b>	<b>23.91</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.

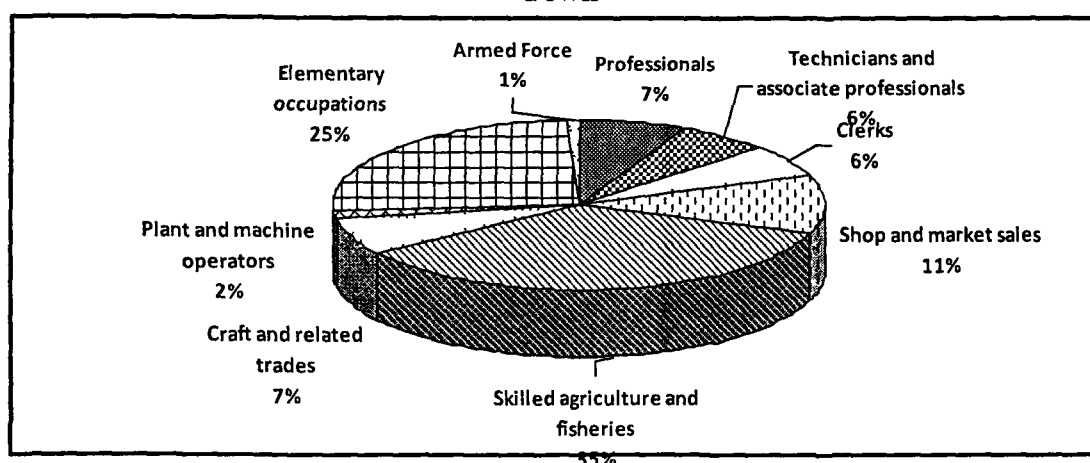
In Venghlun locality, 43 percent of total population pursue skilled agriculture and fisheries occupation, 39 percent elementary occupations, 6 percent in shop sale market work, and only 4 percent technical associate professional and plant machine operations. The main occupation is skilled agriculture and fisheries occupational group accounting for 30 percent

total occupations, elementary occupational group account for 22 percent and only 9 percent each are in occupations of professional, technical associated professional, clerks, and plant and machine operation occupational groups. Craft and related trade, shop, sale and market work and senior officer and manager account for only 4 percent total occupations of the locality.

In *Veng-thar* locality of Thenzawl town, the main occupational group is skilled agriculture and fisheries occupational group that accounts for 35 percent total occupations; next is elementary occupational group that accounts for 24 percent, craft and related trade also plays a very important role accounting for 11 percent total occupations of the locality, technical associated professional account 6 percent, and armed forces, clerks and shops sale and market workers account for 5 percent each of the locality.

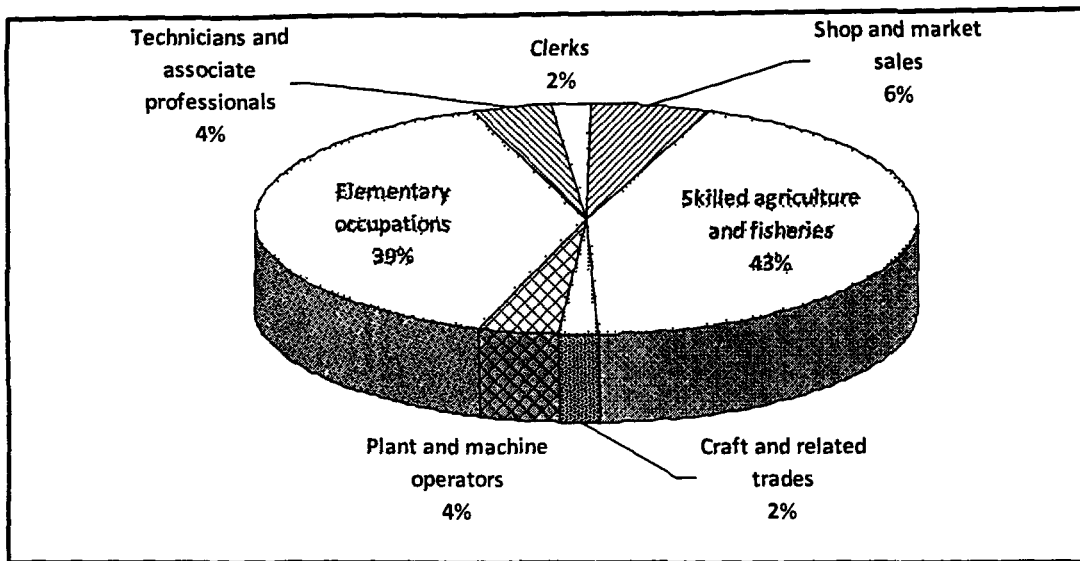
At *Venglai* locality, nearly half of the total occupations belong to skilled agriculture and fisheries occupational groups (42 percent), more than one fourths of occupations belongs to elementary occupations (27 percent). Noteworthy to mention that nearly one tenths are in groups of professional, shops sale and market work (9 percent) and 8 percent, respectively, and 6 percent occupations are related to technical associated occupational group, and the rest in other occupational groups.

**Fig 5.19 Distribution of Occupational Groups at Bazar Veng Locality of Thenzawl Town**



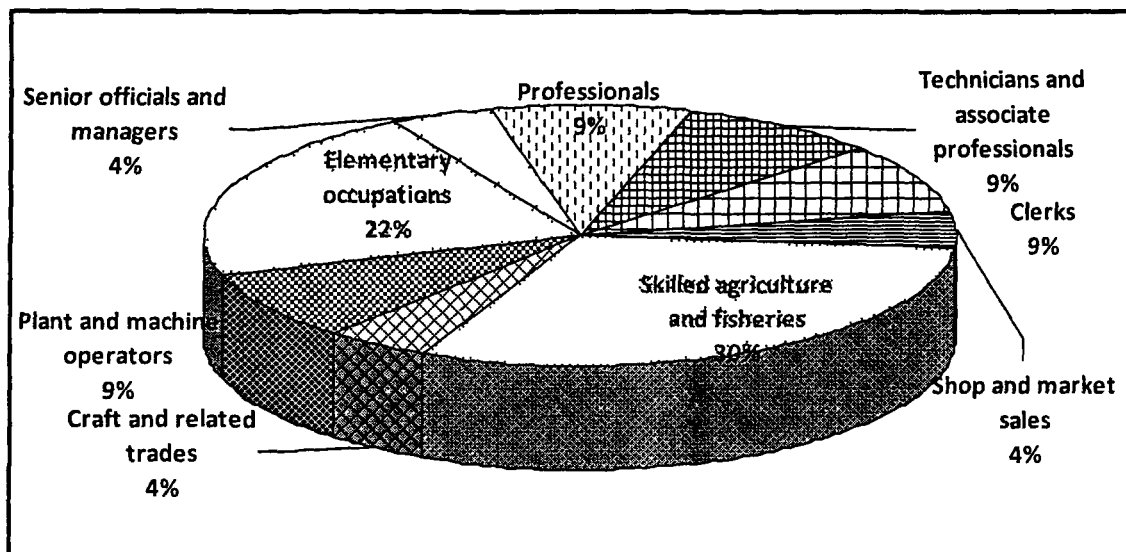
Based on Table 5 12

**Fig 5.20 Distribution of Occupational Groups at Venghlun Locality of Thenzawl Town**



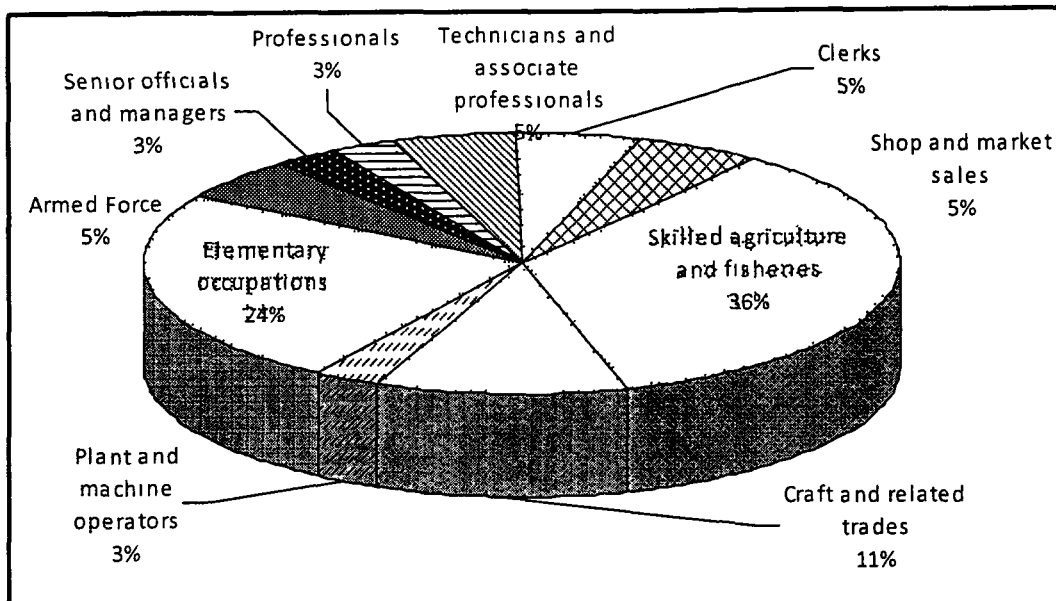
*Based on Table 5.12*

**Fig 5.21 Distribution of Occupational Groups at Filed Veng Locality of Thenzawl Town**



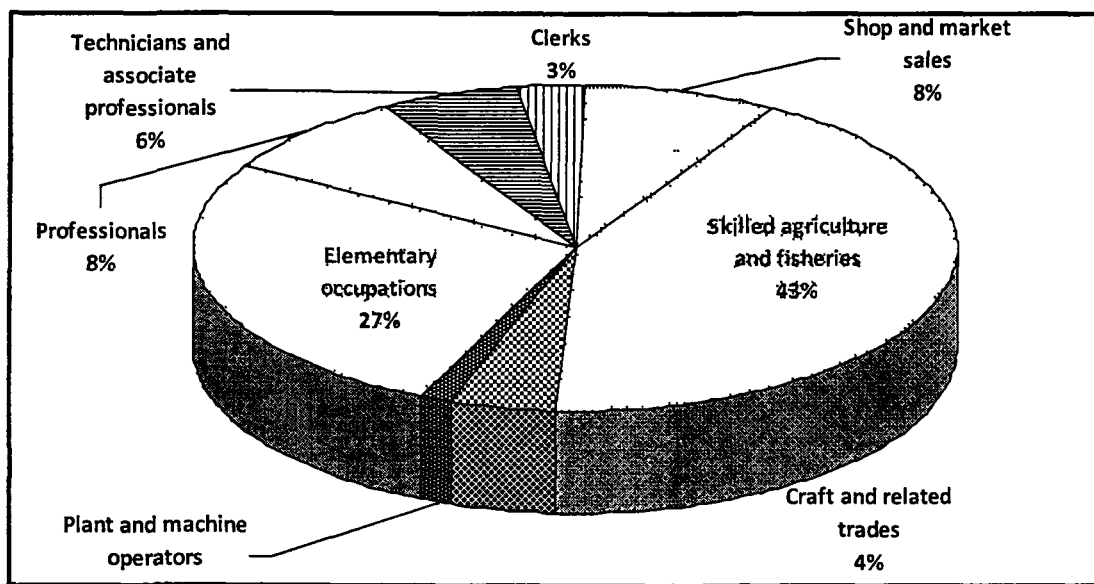
*Based on Table 5.12*

**Fig 5.23** Distribution of Occupational Groups at Vengthar Locality of Thenzawl Town



*Based on Table 5 12*

**Fig 5.23** Distribution of Occupational Groups at Venglai Locality of Thenzawl Town



*Based on Table 5 12*

### 5.6.3 N. Vanlaiphai town

N.Vanlaiphai town is consisted of four localities in accordance with their origination during village groupings in 1966. They are: Bangla *Veng*, Damdawiin *Veng*, *Veng-lai* and Rahsi *Veng*. Bangla *Veng* locality originated from adjacent village–Bawktlang. It is now the

smallest locality in this town consisting of 17.79 percent of the total population. The largest locality of the town is Damdawiin *Veng*, originating from Puallawi and Lungkhawlh villages during the village grouping and consists of 33.65 percent of the total population. *Veng-lai* originated from Leilet village consisting 25.00 percent of the total population. The people are the owners of the flat land of N.Vanlaiphai. The town was originally, occupied by Rahsi *Veng* locality consisting of only 23.56 percent of the total population of the town. In this town more than 70 percent of the population are engaged in skilled agriculture and fisheries and elementary occupational group--there can be no distinctions among localities. More than half of the public offices and residences are located in the locality of Damdawiin *Veng* and Rahsi *Veng* which have the largest concentration of professional, technical associated professional and other white collar occupations in these two localities.

**Table 5.13 Locality-wise Distribution of Occupational Groups at N.Vanlaiphai town**

ILO Occupation groups	Bangla <i>Veng</i>	Damdawiin <i>Veng</i>	<i>Venglai</i>	Rahsi <i>Veng</i>	Total
Legislators, senior officials and managers	0.00	0.96	0.00	0.00	<b>0.96</b>
Professionals	1.44	1.92	0.96	0.96	<b>5.29</b>
Technicians and associate professionals	1.92	1.44	0.48	0.48	<b>4.33</b>
Clerks	0.00	1.44	3.85	0.96	<b>6.25</b>
Shop and market sales	1.44	1.44	0.48	0.00	<b>3.37</b>
Skilled agriculture and fisheries	4.33	13.46	7.69	10.10	<b>35.58</b>
Craft and related trades	0.48	0.96	0.48	1.44	<b>3.37</b>
Plant and machine operators	0.48	0.96	2.40	1.44	<b>5.29</b>
Elementary occupations	7.69	10.58	8.65	8.17	<b>35.10</b>
Armed Force	0.00	0.48	0.00	0.00	<b>0.48</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>17.79</b>	<b>33.65</b>	<b>25.00</b>	<b>23.56</b>	<b>100.00</b>

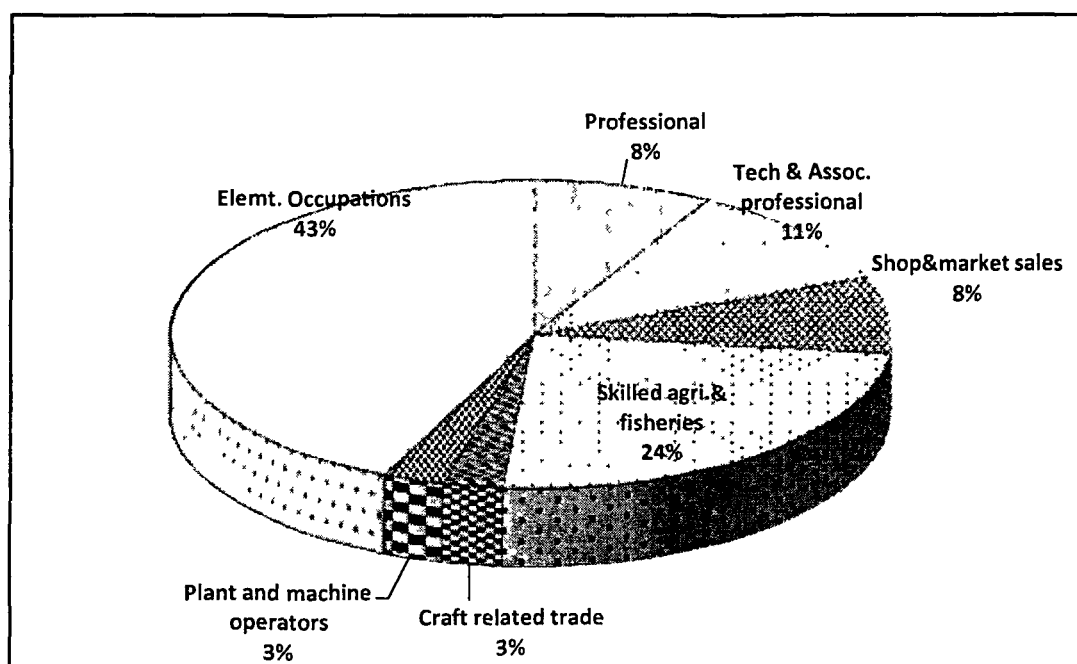
*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 5.13 shows that most of the government service-based occupations like senior officers, professionals, technicians and associated professionals, clerical occupations are concentrated in the localities where there are public offices and institutions. Again, shops salespersons are concentrated in local markets which are in Damdawi *Veng* and Rahsi *Veng*

localities. However, agriculture and allied occupations and power plant machine operators are evenly distributed over all the localities.

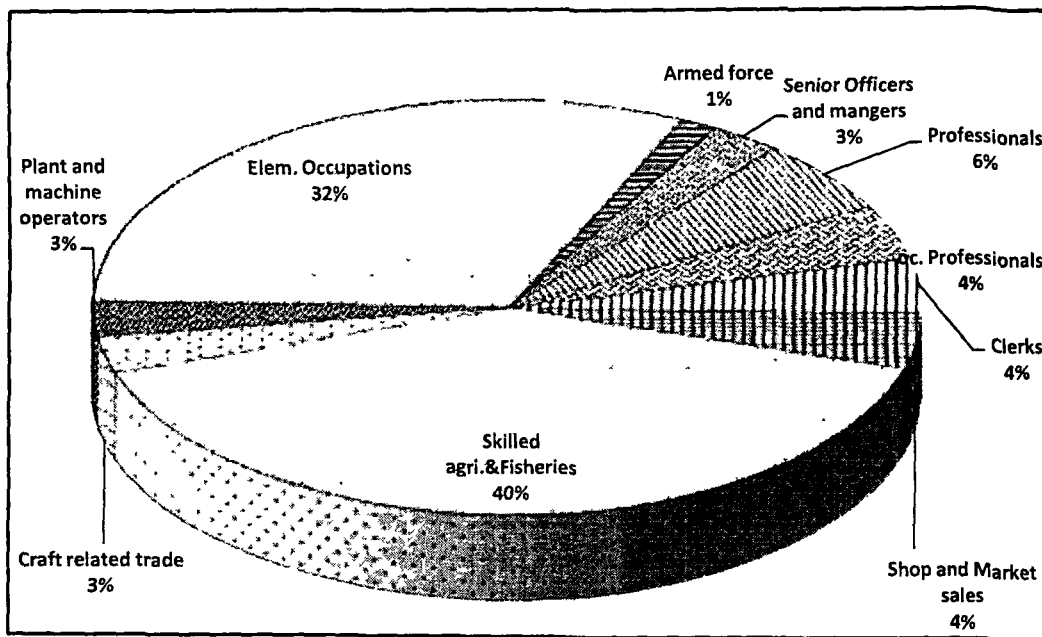
Figure 5.3 shows locality-wise distribution of occupations at N.Vanlaiphai town, the occupational group of legislators, senior officials and managers are negligible. Skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations are the main occupations and these are evenly distributed over the localities. Daily-wage occupation is one of the main occupations next to skilled agriculture and fisheries occupation, which is fairly distributed over all the localities. Clerical occupations are mainly found in *Venglai* locality, professionals and technician and associated professionals occupations are mostly found at *Damdawin Veng* and *Rahsi Veng* localities because of the residential quarters for government servants.

**Fig 5.24 Distribution of Occupational Groups at Bangla veng locality**



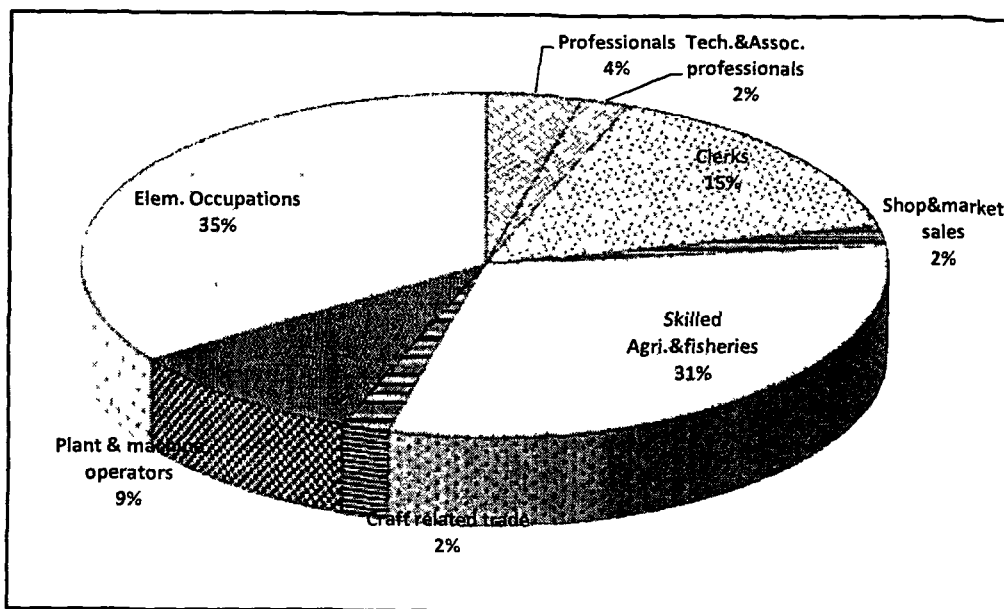
*Based on Table 5.13*

**Fig 5.25 Distribution of Occupational groups at Damdawin veng locality of N.Vanlaiphai**



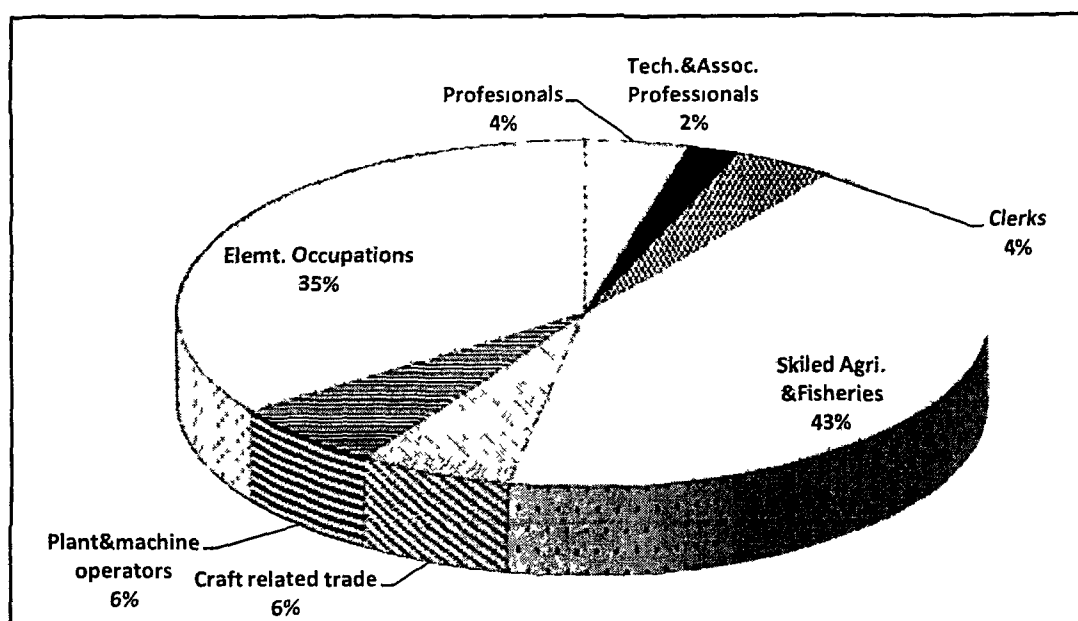
*Based on Table 5.13*

**Fig 5.26 Distribution of Occupational groups at Venglai locality of N.Vanlaiphai Town**



*Based on Table 5.13*

**Fig 5.27 Distribution of Occupational Groups at Rahsi veng locality of N.Vanlaiphai**



*Based on Table 5 13*

### 5.7 Family and Occupational Diversity

Mixed occupations in a single household are common to families in urban economic system, while the existence of similar occupations on the household being prevalent in the rural economy. In these towns, most of the white collar occupations belong to the family of white collar workers and similar is the case with agricultural and allied activities. Shop sale and market workers belong to the families in similar occupations. This condition reflects social immobility and stagnation. On the other hand, occupational diversity is significantly observed among the households of professionals, technical associated professionals and shops sale and market occupations. For instance, some of the household members are engaged in the occupations of subsistence cropping and animal rearing for their own livelihoods. Occupational diversity is encouraged by the growth of industries and commercialised of agricultural products in rural areas and in the small town economy. The index of occupational diversity in household level shows variability of occupations. For instance, 25 percent diversity index manifest similarity of occupations, 100 percent index

manifest all the workers of the households engaged in different occupations, a situation that may be ascribed to progressive economy within the households.

**Table 5.14 Occupational Diversity of Family Level of the Three Towns**  
(Occupations in percent)

Diversity index (in percent)	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
25	0.31	0.00	0.00	<b>0.20</b>
50	13.54	14.02	15.38	<b>13.88</b>
75	11.69	26.17	29.23	<b>17.10</b>
100	74.46	59.81	55.38	<b>68.81</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 5.14 shows that occupation diversity at household through diversity index (in percent). Similar occupations (25 percent) within a household accounts for only 0.31 percent of the total households in Serchhip town. 75 percent of occupational diversity is less in larger town but 100 percent diversity is more common. The occupational diversity index shows that most diversification of occupation could be observed in larger town--100 percent diversification (74.46 percent) in Serchhip town, 59.81 percent in Thenzawl and 55.38 percent in N.Vanlaiphai towns.

However, the existence of similar occupations within the household are observed; for instance, occupations of nearly three-fifth of the total household members are of elementary occupations, i.e. rest of the household members following those belonging to heads of the households. However, multiple occupations in the level of family are prevalent among professionals, technical associated professionals and shop sales and market work occupations.

## 5.9 Summary of the Findings

1. The observation reveals that at these three towns, the most prevalent occupations are market-oriented cropping (19.87 percent), cultivation (7.71 percent), and daily earning occupations (12.72 percent), these occupations are fairly distributed with

high proportion. These towns possess small patch of flat lands near the sites to stimulate the dominance of agriculture and allied occupations. Besides the flat land area, hill slope are devoted for shifting cultivation. Subsistence agriculture with mixed cropping also prevalent in these three towns, the main crops are vegetables as a household consumption motive. On account of unemployment problems; seasonal workers and hire-workers also formed significant proportion of total workers; they are employed on the construction of building, road, bridges and even cultivation.

2. The study of occupational structures of the towns reveals that senior official and managers is evenly distributed as only public establishments provide the facilities to stimulate distributions of these occupations. However, the distribution of professionals and technician and associate professionals which are government service based occupations favour the larger town since the distributions of such occupations are determined by the size and capacity of employment on public establishments. Public establishment like public office and educational institutions stimulated a significant difference in occupational distribution. The location of handloom and mini hydel project stimulates high proportion of occupations like handicraft in textile at Thenzawl town, power plant machine operators at N.Vanlaphai town. Besides, due to availability of agricultural land, the smaller towns absorb the immigrants those who are involve in agriculture and daily earning occupations. Unemployment problem also stimulates high proportion of casual labours at smaller towns. Generally, agriculture and allied occupations dominates the activities of the people in smaller towns, such occupations are declined at larger towns.
3. The study of occupational compositions and types reveals the occupations like skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations and elementary occupations are suited

for low educational qualification, then amount of income inevitably low as compared to other occupations. The people who are engaged in craft and related trade occupations also high income and educational qualification and most of them are old age group. Some of the people who engaged in professional occupation and technical associated professional occupations are belongs to mature age group with having high educational qualification but uneven distribution of income amount. The people who are engaged in plant and machine operation occupations do not earn high income but it is suited to pursue for low educational qualification and equally income amount.

4. The analysis reveals that the occupations like professional, technical and associated professional, clerical and shop and market sales works are the main earner of local fund. Service and trade contribute more than three-fifth of the total output of the towns. Such occupations have not high proportion at these towns because the distributions of professional and technician and associated professionals are mainly depend upon the capacity of employment on public offices and educational institutions. The involvements of such occupations in private sector are limited in private enterprises. From the general distribution, larger towns have high proportion in these occupations and the proportion declines in smaller towns. On the contrary, the proportion of skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations and elementary occupations are high in smaller towns and proportion declines in larger towns.
5. The morphological study of towns reveals that there is no difference in distribution of occupations at locality level. However, some of the occupations like professional, technical and associated professional and plant and machine operators are concentrated at some localities due to the site of government servants' residence quarter.

6. As we seen in occupation diversity index, more than three-fourth of the total households of Serchhip town accounts 100 percent diversity. Larger towns are supposed to lead diversification of occupation. Diversification of occupations leads more variety of production methods to widen economy. Smaller towns have less variability of occupation because of incapability of human resource development. Small towns are depending upon the primary resource without commercialised scale but larger towns are human resource intensive economy that led to the development of human resources. It brings to light that larger towns are significantly notified as greater variability and diversity of occupations and smaller towns as adverse condition on account of lack of infrastructures and scarcity of exploitable human resources.

## CHAPTER VI

# OCCUPATIONS AND THE URBAN ECONOMY OF THE THREE TOWNS OF SERCHHIP DISTRICT OF MIZORAM

### 6.1 Introduction:

This chapter contains the economic structures, the complex of urban economic and occupations nexus of the three small towns of Serchhip district of Mizoram. The main objectives of this chapter are to show urban economic structures and production systems that facilitate occupations in the town. Occupational structure of a town is one of the best indicators of urban economy indicating stagnancy or vibrancy of the economic life of the town—if less diversified, then the town's economy is stagnant; conversely a greater occupational diversity indicates a growing city.

The main data is obtained through primary source, collected during 2005-06 in Serchhip, Thenzawl and N. Vanlaiphai towns. The sampling design of the household survey was systematic random sampling, 10 percent of the households at a town was drawn. From the household survey, observations of occupation were based on the occupation of the head of the household. The aggregate of incomes from main occupation and income from other properties of the household of the town is quick estimated as gross domestic product of the town. The second primary source of data was the establishment survey—establishments that generate opportunities for employment and occupations. The establishment survey covers all the government offices and approximately half of all the private enterprises. The year of establishment of the units of enterprises will show the growth of facilities and services in the towns.

## 6.2 Nature of Small Town Economy:

The small towns of Serchhip district face many problems in respect of their proper development though largely they are socio-economic in nature. The economic activities are the prime factors to promote the viability of a town over the space—the economic base of the town. These three towns are stagnant may be due to the limitation of economic opportunities. These towns serve as local service centres and trade centres for the rural sub-regions surrounding the towns. The towns have a large number of groceries and other merchandise shops. These goods and services offered are limited in variety and choice, because the limitations of the smaller market of the towns. Thenzawl town has become a centre for production of handicraft and handloom goods. Serchhip town has a higher share of service based occupations because of being the district headquarters.

## 6.3 Characteristics of Production in Urban Centres:

Sectoral distribution of workforces and outputs are the best expression of the economic base of the town. These three towns are dominated by primary activities in term of workforce distribution—perched within remote rural hinterlands of essentially primary production. Many of the town dwellers are often farmers—practicing cropping or animal rearing either there has been no skill diversification of the population or occupational opportunities in service based occupations and trade are limited. The conditions of infrastructure for manufactures like power supply, transportation, market and manpower are inadequate in the region.

**Table 6.1 Town-Wise Sectoral Distribution of Workers and Output**

Economic Activities	Workers in percent			Output in percent		
	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai
Primary	47.80	64.09	70.19	21.99	32.78	36.65
Secondary	4.66	7.05	6.73	3.07	5.68	7.94
Tertiary	47.54	29.29	23.08	74.94	61.54	55.40

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

### 6.3.1 Primary Sector:

The Primary Sector covers the most elementary activities like agriculture and allied occupations, skilled and unskilled labour in mining, lumbering and gathering activities. The diversification of such occupations is carried out through commercialised production. As shown in table 6.1, the Primary Activities constitute more than half of the total workforces. On account of low productivity in this sector, the contribution of primary activities in gross domestic product is approximately less than one-thirds of the total production. The problem of agricultural development is that all activities are carried out through traditional methods like slash and burn agriculture and the equipments, generally rudimentary and are of local produces, resulting in low productivity. Land itself is limited, because of the difficult terrain conditions. There are no facilities of irrigation. Even if the farmers produce more, there is no market for the produce and regional exports are expensive due to high transportation costs leading to low level of incomes to the farmers.

As shown in table 6.1, it reveals that the share of Primary Sector in the distribution of workforces in the smaller towns is much higher than larger towns, like Serchhip. However, productivity levels are not significantly different in all these three towns.

The liberalisation of agriculture market in 1990s and thereafter, the productivity of agriculture sector have increased in Mizoram state as a whole, i.e. the practice of market-oriented cropping and animal husbandry have become reasonably successful. Besides, the Government of Mizoram introduced new agriculture policy (i.e., New Land Use Policy) in 1991 that encourages horticulture, market-gardening and silviculture. The incentive-based policy made changes in the productivities in the agricultural sector of the state. Shifting cultivation does not contribute a significant share to the gross domestic product of the state, though there are a large number of practitioners of shifting cultivators of the state.

In spite of being urban centres, the economy of the towns under study are a mix of economic activities, since primary occupations dominate the production system in all the three towns. Changes in the system of production from traditional to modern make changes in occupation from primary sector based to trade and administration services, since in the absence of any manufacturing base in the towns, secondary sector transition do not take place.

### **6.3.2 Secondary Sector:**

The Secondary Sector includes activities like manufacturing both organised and unorganised, power generation, household and cottage industries, craft and related work and construction activities. Within manufacturing activities, some countries introduce subsidiary classifications distinguishing the manufacture of durable goods, e.g., the framework of steel bridge, and of non-durables such as tins of conserved foods, capital goods, such as machine tools, and consumer goods like motor cars or textiles etc.

As shown in table 6.1, the secondary sector constitutes a small share of the labour-force and the production, constitute approximately 5 percent of the gross domestic product of the state. Generally, larger towns are have more secondary activities but in these three towns, the smaller towns have much more the workers in secondary activities, whereas Serchhip the largest town has more of service sector activities. It seems that the sites of Mini Hydel Project at N.Vanlaiphai and Handloom production centre at Thenzawl towns have paved the way for greater work opportunities in the secondary activities.

### **6.3.3 Tertiary Sector:**

It includes all those activities, which are not of material goods and so embraces transports and commerce, banking and insurance, public and private and all other services. It

is obvious that the banking and domestic services are poles apart; the one is the expression of vast financial and social organisation, which can profoundly influence national affairs, the other is elementary occupation, found even in the least developed countries, but they, by definition get clubbed together.

Like the Secondary Sector, the Tertiary Sector is expanding in these small towns, as well as in course of transformation in almost all countries of the world. While the growth of Secondary Sector marks the consolidation of the economic potential of a country that of the Tertiary, indicate the real transformation of the internal economy of the region. It is the expression of progress along three lines:

Improvement of basic services of transport, water supply, electricity, which permit the progress of industry and the development of new lands resources;

The progress of trade and commerce and finance which answers the development of production consumption, of demand and supply in a more and more stimulated society with increasing complex needs and a rising of standard of living; The extension of public services, representing an increase in the effort to look after the welfare of its citizens.

#### **6.4 Mechanism of Production:**

Public establishments and private enterprises are the main agencies of production of goods and services in these three towns, because secondary and tertiary activities earn four-fifths of the total domestic production in Serchhip town, approximately two-thirds of total production in Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns. Thus, the distribution public establishments and private enterprises excluding crop production determine the capacities of production in the three towns. Provision of facilities to the people is the main purposed of public establishments, but the assessment of public establishments is difficult to make. The capacity of employments in the public establishment is invariably greater rather than contribution in the production. These establishments are not profit-oriented; they provide

facilities for the welfare of the people. Private enterprises are usually profit motive rather than employment generation.

**Table 6.2 Distribution of Mechanisms of Production in the Three Towns**  
(Unit in Percent)

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Service-based units (Govt.)	45.35	33.72	20.93	<b>100.00</b>
Production-motive units	52.63	27.37	20.00	<b>100.00</b>
Service-based units (Pvt.)	73.33	13.33	13.33	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Fieldwork by the Author 2005-06*

Service-based establishment and enterprise units consist of all the government offices, banking and financial intermediaries and educational institutions. Enterprises include all the units of private production of goods as well as services. The workers of such units have contributed significantly to production. Larger towns have more units in service-based activities and private enterprises that lead to higher growth of the economy of the town. Serchhip town is the districts headquarters of the Serchhip district and this town has shares more than half of the total urban population of the district. Serchhip town also shares approximately half of the total public establishments and due to its market size, more of private enterprises compared to the other two towns.

### **6.5 Characteristics of Urban Occupations**

The characteristics of urban occupations could be like time spent, time devoted to work, work out of home, which taken together may determine the productivity and the intensity of main and secondary occupations. Some of the occupations like government office-based occupations and teaching professionals have fixed working hours but businesses work on longer working hours. Some of the second occupations like subsistence crops production, subsistence and market oriented animal husbandry etc do not have specific work time, the workers carry out work only in the morning and evening hours.

### 6.5.1 Working Hours

Generally, the government servants especially office workers spend 8-9 hours but workers in businesses spend more than 10 hours of work daily. The primary occupations like daily-wagers, agricultural labourers, manufacturing labourers etc. spend a shorter duration of work, because of the time spent on travel from home to work and return, which is invariably at a distant location from home.

**Table 6.3 Times Spent for Main Occupation**  
(Occupation in Percent)

Hours	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
5 - 7	16.31	9.34	15.39	14.69
8 - 9	64.92	75.70	80.00	69.22
10 - 12	18.76	14.95	4.62	16.10
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 6.3 shows that town-wise distribution of times spent for main occupations: 14.69 percent of the workers in all occupations work generally for 5-7 hours and another 16.31 percent 10-12 working hours. Private enterprise workers like i.e. sale and market workers spend the longest time at work , i.e 10-12 hours/day , accounting for 18.76 percent, 14.95 percent and 4.62 percent, respectively in the three townships.

**Table 6.4 Convenience of Work at Home**

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Possible	14.46	20.56	12.31	15.49
Impossible	85.54	79.44	87.69	84.51
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 6.4 shows the distribution of occupations, which are not to carried out at home. A small proportion of occupations are home- based, like household industries and cottage industries, subsistence agriculture, subsistence animal husbandry etc.

### 6.5.2 Out-of town Occupations

Some of the occupations require travelling outside the town itself because they are incorporate with other towns and villages. Plant and machine operators (823), Shops and market sales, carpentry and other occupations pursuit outstrip outside the town but the ranges of distance are not uniform.

**Table 6.5 Distribution of Out-of Town Occupations**  
(Persons in percent)

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Respondents travelling	13.85	18.69	10.77	14.49
Not Travelling	86.15	81.31	89.23	85.51
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 6.5 shows the distribution of occupations which require travelling out-of-town in short or longer distances. In 13.85 percent cases at Serchhip town workers require travelling, for Thenzawl town and N.Vanlaiphai towns, the figures are 18.69 and 10.77 percent, respectively.

**Table 6.6 Distance Travelled for Out-of town Occupations**  
(Occupations in percent)

Distance in Km	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
< 10	24.44	40.00	14.29	27.78
10 -50	66.67	25.00	71.43	55.56
<50	8.89	35.00	14.29	16.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 6.6 shows the distance outstrips in carrying out occupations, more than two-thirds of occupations in Serchhip town and N.Vanlaiphai town need to outstrip in adjacent villages and towns. Nearly one-fifth of occupations of Thenzawl towns are carried out in adjacent villages. Far distance outstrip occupations are very less in number, such occupations are comprise of handicraft in wood, market sales, motor vehicle drivers etc. Collection of raw material and disposal of the finished product stimulate far distant outstrip.

## 6.6 Subsidiary Income Generation

In low income households, often persons have to hold two occupations or more, either on a daily basis or based on seasonal occupations depending on economic opportunities available and/or skills available with the person concerned. However, in most cases, it is the primary occupation that sustains the income of the bread-earner of the family and there could be a secondary occupation. Most of the government servant and people in businesses carry-out subsidiary occupations in small towns, as under the current study. Urban centres under study are still largely based on a rural economy and the relationship of the surrounding rural areas and the urban centre are explicitly intimate. Whereas, many worked in Government establishments whole-time, they also practised farming in land in neighbouring areas or other forms one generation as a secondary or subsidiary occupation.

### 6.6.1 Subsidiary Income from Agricultural land:

Agricultural land is often the source of additional income for many town-dwellers of the district. Usually, the average size of land holding is very small, i.e. 2.1 hectares. The productivity of agriculture is also low due to the rugged topography and traditional way of farming. Most of the farming operations are carried-out during the *Kharif* season; however winter-crops (*Rabi*) are also sown in the season.

**Table 6.7 Agricultural Land Ownership among Govt. Servants and Businessmen**  
(Households in percent)

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N. Vanlaiphai
Having farm land	28.49	57.41	51.61
No land	69.83	42.59	48.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 6.7 shows the land ownership pattern of town dwellers. More than one-fourths (28.49 percent) of the all government servants and businessmen own agricultural land in Serchhip town, whereas three-fifths in Thenzawl and about half possess agricultural land at N.Vanlaiphai towns.

Many of the government servants and businessmen get additional income from agricultural land as a subsidiary occupation. However, agriculture land operation is carried out by employing children or other members of the family or by leasing out the land to tenants.

**Table 6.8 Agricultural Land Operations among Government Servants and Businessmen**  
(Persons in percent)

Mode of Operators	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N. Vanlaiphai
Self	11.76	19.35	18.75
Children	19.61	38.71	50.00
Other relations	31.37	35.48	25.00
Leased out	21.57	6.45	6.25
Others	15.69	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 6.8 indicates that nearly one-fifths of the government servants and businessmen are involved in farming. At Serchhip town, 21.57 of the government servants and businessmen leased out the land. Nearly one-thirds of such people operate through employing labours. At Thenzawl town, more than one-thirds of government servants and businessmen operate agriculture land through engaging other members of the household, another one-thirds operate through employing labourers. As indicated by table 6.4, leasing out of agriculture land is common in Serchhip town because of limited time available for self operation.

Table 6.9 shows that 15.91 percent of the total government servant and businessmen at Serchhip town earn marginal income (i.e. less than Rs.1,500) from agricultural land; so is the case for 13.33 percent in Thenzawl and 12.05 percent in N.Vanlaiphai town. More than Rs.10,000 income/year is earned by 6.82 percent of the total government servants and businessmen in Serchhip town, 3.33 percent in Thenzawl and 26.67 percent in N.Vanlaiphai

towns, respectively. Some of the households possess rented house (or room) and other assets that adds to their incomes.

**Table 6.9 Annual Incomes from Farming**

(Persons in Percent)

Income in Rs.	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Less than 1,500	15.91	13.33	33.33	12.05
1,500-6,000	50.00	46.67	33.34	49.39
6,000-10,000	29.55	43.33	26.67	36.14
More than 10,000	6.82	3.33	26.67	9.64

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

### 6.6.2 Income from Rented houses/other assets

Urban centres possess accessibility of market for rented houses that may help to secure additional incomes. These towns also provide opportunity of shelter for migrants and therefore, demand on rented properties.

**Table 6.10 Distribution of Rental Income per Month**

Rental income	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Less than Rs. 1000	90.53	90.48	50.00	87.90
Rs.1000-2000	6.32	9.52	37.50	8.87
More than Rs.2000	3.16	0.00	12.50	3.23

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 6.10 shows the distribution of rental income: 29.23 percent of the total household possesses rental income, among which 90.53 percent of rental income is below Rs. 1000 per month in Serchhip town, whereas the figures are 90.48 percent and 50 percent at Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns, respectively. It seems that income from rented properties does not contribute significantly towards the household income. Nearly 10 percent of all the rented houses generate significant amount of income per month in Serchhip and Thenzawl towns.

## 6.7 Second Occupation:

Some of the important second occupations are market-oriented animal husbandry, personal services, operating mills, market gardening, furniture and crafts-ware and its related trade and subsistence agriculture.

**Table 6.11 Distribution of Second Occupations**  
(Occupations in percent)

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
With second occupation	21.85	63.55	35.38	<b>32.60</b>
No second occupation	78.15	36.45	64.62	<b>67.40</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 6.11 shows that more than one-fifths (21.85 percent) of the total head of the household possess a second occupation in Serchhip town, more than three-fifths (63.55 percent) at Thenzawl town and 35.38 percent at N.Vanlaiphai town.

Table 6.12 shows that market oriented animal husbandry is the most prevalent second occupation; it accounts nearly four-fifths of the total second occupations in Serchhip and Thenzawl towns, but it accounts three-fifths of the total second occupations in N.Vanlaiphai town. Some of the population also perform subsistence animal farming, keeping small amount of fowl in smaller towns.

**Table 6.12 Town-Wise Distribution of Second Occupations**  
(Occupation in percent)

ILO Occupations	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
612 Market-oriented Animal Rearing	73.24	73.53	60.87	<b>71.60</b>
621 Subsistence Agriculture	7.04	8.82	6.35	<b>6.79</b>
614 Subsistence Animal Rearing	1.41	10.29	13.04	<b>6.17</b>
611 Market Gardening	7.04	2.94	4.35	<b>4.94</b>
733 Craft Making and Related Trade	7.04	0.00	4.35	<b>3.70</b>
722 Foraging	4.23	0.00	4.35	<b>2.47</b>
827 Operation of Mill	0.00	2.94	4.35	<b>4.62</b>
615 Subsistence Fishery	0.00	1.47	1.26	<b>2.62</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

### 6.7.1 Work Durations in Second Occupations:

Second occupations are generally carried out in the mornings and evenings for those people who pursue carpentry, subsistence agriculture and animal rearing, cane work etc. However, cottage industries and shop-outlets are carried out typically at night time in their second occupations.

**Table 6.13 Work Durations in Second Occupations**  
(Persons in percent)

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Morning	12.50	5.88	17.39	10.43
Evening	85.72	88.24	82.61	86.67
Others	2.78	5.88	0.00	3.68
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 – March 2006.*

Table 6.13 shows that only 10.43 percent of the total people carry out their work on morning, 86.67 percent of the total people carry out their works at evening hours and only 3.68 percent worked at other times for second occupation. Most of the morning work occupations are foraging, subsistence agriculture and subsistence animal rearing, while other works like carpentry, cane-work etc. are carried out at the evening time. Occupation like pan shops, and cottage productions are carried out at night or at free time. Some of the workers carry out their occupations at home, particularly, in cottage productions, carpentry, subsistence agriculture and animal rearing etc.

### 6.8 Migrants and the Urban Economy

Migration is one of the most important factors indicating the dynamism of the urban economy. Migration takes place due to search of better occupations, accessibility to facilities and access to earn livelihood.

A Table 6.14 shows that nearly one-third of the households belong to migrants in Serchhip town, 28.04 percent at Thenzawl and 24.62 percent at N. Vanlaiphai towns. It

simply expresses that larger towns attract more migrants due by accessibility to facilities and occupational opportunities, whereas smaller towns are incapable to provide such economic conditions.

**Table 6.14 Town-wise Distributions of Migrants**

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Migrants	32.92	28.04	24.62	<b>30.78</b>
Permanent inhabitants	67.08	71.96	75.38	<b>69.22</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

### 6.8.1 Change of Occupations among the Migrants

The dynamism of urban economy is manifested by occupation mobility; larger proportion of the migrants seeks better occupations, which could be different from occupational practices they come from. Low incomes and limited economic opportunities or social unrest often propel people to move to urban centres from rural areas, which necessitate occupational changes due to the very difference in the economies of urban centres. Table 6.15 indicates occupational mobility in these three towns, larger towns provide more opportunities to change occupations due to the diversity of occupations available in the town as well as the need of change due to relocation of the migrant in a different economy altogether as compared with earlier ones.

**Table 6.15 Occupational Mobility among Migrants**

(Population in percent)

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Changed occupations	82.69	86.67	62.50	77.29
Unchanged	17.31	13.33	37.50	22.71
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006*

### 6.8.2 Migrants in Urban Economy

A large number of migrants have settled in the three towns within the past 20 years. Provision of new public establishments, expansion of public establishments and

entrepreneurship environment can impact the accessibility to improvements in lives of such people.

**Table 6.16 Condition of Migrants in Urban Centres**  
(Population in percent)

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Improved	83.81	73.33	75.00	80.67
No improvement	15.24	26.67	25.00	18.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006*

Table 6.16 indicates the perception of migrants in the three towns about their own living conditions. More than four-fifths of the migrants of Serchhip town state that they observe improvements in their life after they settled in the town. Approximately, three-fourths of Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns also express their view on improvements in their economic conditions after they have re-settled in the towns.

## 6.9 Urban Economic Influences

Most urban specialists agree that the principal purpose of urban function is to facilitate production and exchange by proximate locations of producers and consumers. In this view, a town that grows as a seat of administration is to be explained by the advantages of proximity to agencies producing public services and by the related private activities of locating closer to the seat of governance. Urban centres are regarded as permanent markets, and a significant proportions of the inhabitants earn their livelihood from urban related production systems and service activities. In small towns as in the instant cases, many depend on farming for a livelihood.

In this context, the recognition of different types of towns on the basis of their functional specializations may enable identification of spatial regularities in the distribution and structure of urban functions. The composition of labour force in a small town has traditionally been regarded as the best indicator of functional specialization, and different

types of functions have been most frequently indentified from the analysis of employment profile of the town.

The influence of towns and its economic activities is manifest by myriad economic and non-economic factors. Other important influences include external economies, public policy and personal preferences. Although it is difficult to evaluate precisely the effect on the market, two considerations are involved for this observation, such as operational area of the public establishments and private enterprises and the flow of capital and human traffic.

**Table 6.17 Operational Areas of Public Establishments and Private Enterprises**  
(Units in percent)

Operational area	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Inside town	40.82	24.56	25.71	<b>33.16</b>
Adjacent villages	15.31	54.39	42.86	<b>32.11</b>
Other towns	42.86	21.05	31.43	<b>34.21</b>
Outside state	1.02	0.00	0.00	<b>0.53</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006*

Table 6.17 show the operational area of public and private establishments of the three towns. The public and private establishments that only feed the town itself account 40.82 percent of the total establishments in Serchhip town, 24.56 percent and 25.71 percent at Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns, respectively. The establishments serve adjacent villages which account for 15.31 percent, 54.39 percent and 42.86 percent of the total establishments in Serchhip, Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns, respectively. This reflects that public and private establishments in smaller townships serve over a larger territory as compared with the principal town of the district, Serchhip.

The movement of people reflects the relationship of urban and rural. Such movements between the urban centre and the surrounding rural areas manifestly depict the influence of urban centres over the rural economy. The migrants of these three towns used to visit their

original places of residence for reasons of owning landed property, to practice farming if not far away from the town or for social reasons of meeting relations or neighbours etc.

Table 6.18 shows that approximately two-thirds of the migrants in the towns used to visit their origination places of residence. The migrants own agricultural land and other properties and many practice farming in neighbouring villages, during free times to supplement for food and other necessities from the villages or simply sell the produce for cash incomes. This is particularly true among the first generation migrants and also more common in smaller towns, where as shown earlier occupational opportunities are limited and often a sizable proportion of town population supplement their incomes from farming activities.

**Table 6.18 Migrants Who Visit Their Original Place Residence**  
(Persons in percent)

Response	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Visiting regularly	69.81	66.67	62.50	68.42
Never visit	30.19	33.33	37.50	32.24

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006*

**Table 6.19 Reasons for Visit by the Migrants**  
(Persons in percent)

Reasons	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Land property	4.72	6.67	12.50	7.96
Social reason	15.09	0.00	0.00	5.03
Others	50.00	60.33	50.00	53.44
No response	30.19	33.00	37.50	33.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006*

Table 6.19 shows that one-thirds (30.19%) of the total migrants never visit their origination place in these three towns. Only a small proportion of migrants visit their original villages for landed property or farming activities, (4.72% at Serchhip, 6.67% in Thenzawl towns). Social reasons accounts for 15.09% in Serchhip and 12.50% in N.Vanlaiphai towns

for such visits. Other reasons account for half of the migrants at Serchhip and N.Vanlaiphai towns, more than three fifths (60.33%) of the migrants in Thenzawl town. The other reasons are principally two: (i) during mid-sixties due to administrative reasons, people were moved by the government to more accessible nucleated settlements, spawning a large number of bigger villages (now towns) along highways in Mizoram. (ii) Second, it may be noted that many of the migrants were shifting cultivators and had semi-nomadic existence prior to their movement to the towns. So, the town happens, in many cases their first ever sedentary life.

### 6.10 Summary of Findings:

The main findings of the Chapter can be summarised as follows:

1. The sectoral distribution of workforce reveals that these three towns are dominated by the primary sector, largely agriculture and allied activities. In the largest town, Serchhip, nearly half of the total workforce are engaged in primary activities. As it appears, the proportion of people engaged in primary occupations is increases with decrease in the size of the town. It may be noted, that the smaller towns like Thengzawl or North Vanlailphai are more out-grown villages, the typical *Kashwa* of Indo-Gangetic Plains, with a central *Bazar*, servicing the surrounding villages. The smallest town, N.Vanlaiphai town is absolutely dominated by primary occupations (70.19 percent). However, the proportions of workers in secondary activities decrease when the town size increases! This is not what one would expect. But it must be noted that the two smaller towns have secondary activities like hand-loom, handicraft production etc., whereas the largest town Serchhip is dominated by service activities, being the district HQ.
2. The sectoral distribution of output also reflects the economic condition of these towns. It seems that the productivity from primary activities decreases with in crease

in the size of town. Among the primary activities in small towns, the highest productivity is observed in market oriented cropping (market gardening), succeeded by market-oriented animal husbandry. On account of less of secondary sector activities in Serchhip, the total output is inevitably low from this sector. The diversified activities in the tertiary sector especially in businesses like shops, market, transport etc. increases the output, but the high productivity is observed by services like government services.

3. Public establishments and private enterprises act as the principal mechanism of production, because the tertiary sector contributes more than two-thirds of the total output in these towns. Public establishments play a very important role in creating livelihood opportunities.
4. Within the urban economy, the government servants and businessmen often practice crops production in neighbouring areas of the town, in free time to supplement incomes or for getting food items from farms for the household. Many government servants and businessmen own agriculture land.
5. In these towns, since the general levels of income of the households are low, there is prevalence of second occupations, principally to supplement incomes from the main occupation. Occupations like animal husbandry, subsistence cropping and animal rearing, foraging, carpentry etc are the major second occupations in these towns. Small scale piggery (only one or two pigs) and poultry farming (only 10-20 fowls) are very popular in the small towns.
6. The complexity of the urban economic structure influences the rural economy. Though the town and the villages are separate places, they appear merged in their ceaseless interactions—the distance and accessibility a barrier, and the human endeavour is to overcome it.

## CHAPTER VII

# ECONOMIC AND OCCUPATIONAL CHANGES OF THE TOWNS OF SERCHHIP DISTRICT OF MIZORAM

### 7.1 Introduction:

This chapter contains the dimension and pattern of changing economic systems of urban centres of Serchhip district. Such changes of production system and productivity from public establishments and private enterprises have significant implications to determine urban economic system since the capacity of employment generation influence urban economy. It also enclosed intra-generation occupational change and inter-generation occupational change. These occupational changes were explained through aggregate change of occupational groups. This chapter aims at to understand occupational change in accordance with the change of economy. For the analysis of this chapter, establishment and household surveys are used, it contained year of the establishment of the private enterprises and public offices to manifest the growth of the town. Occupational changes are observed through household survey, this survey contains inter-generation and intra-generation occupational change and its reasons. The study also aims to examine the relationship of the regional and town economies with those of the occupational structure of these towns. The economy may be changed as a result of concurrent changes in the occupational structure. This will have a larger implication of both understanding the smaller towns in general as well as to understand their economic dynamics and limitations, since it is well known that the smaller towns do not grow fast because of low threshold population and diseconomies of scale.

For the observation, household survey and establishment survey were done during 2005-06; establishment survey was designed as to observe all the public establishments and half of the private establishments and enterprises. Household survey was designed as

systematic random sampling taking 10 percent of the households of the towns. Occupational structure and its changes were study among head of the households to represent the whole town; they represent on income and occupations conditions as well. For the interpretation of this chapter, percentage changes is utilised; it reconstruct the past occupational structure of the head of households.

## 7.2 Economic Changes:

Economic changes are directly manifested by growth of population, high degree of migration, workforce distributional changes and so forth. Fundamentally, labour migration is related to the unevenness of patterns of economic change. Most grand flows of labour migrants fill a need where there has been a sharp economic change, the unprecedentedly rapid economic growth. All these changes have created high demand for labour that has not been fully met by local supply. Migration and natural growth of population induce mass movement of population to the urban centres. Urbanisation also manifests the growth of economy in this district; Serchhip was attained township since 1971, Thenzawl attained in 1981 and N.Vanlaiphai in 1991. Thus, urbanisation was took place gradually during the last three decades due to mainly economic growth.

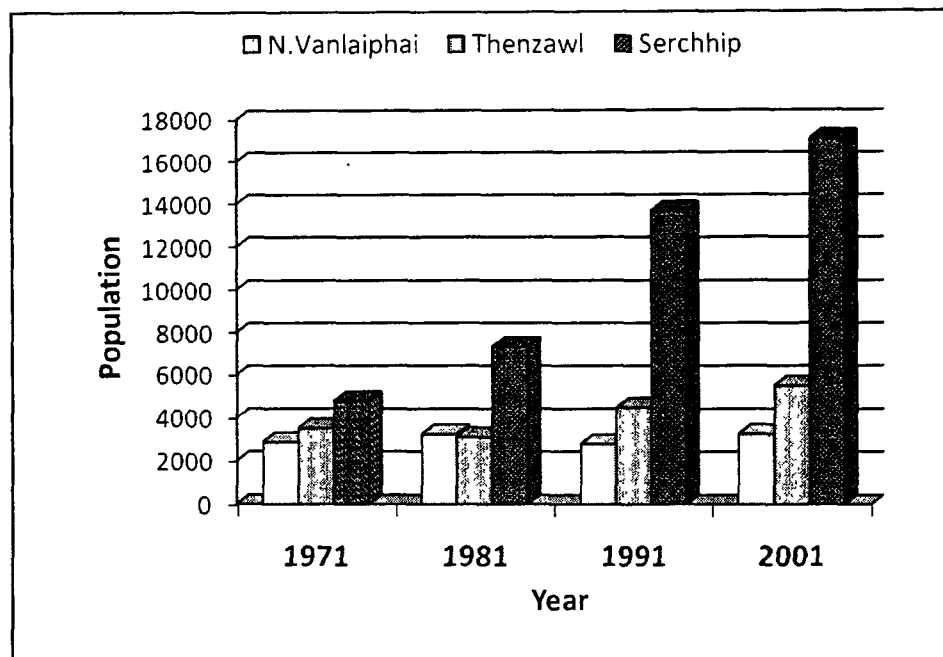
### 7.2.1 Economic Changes and Growth of Population:

The main source of population growth is natural growth and migration, which are enabled by secure economic conditions. The growth of population of the three towns is presented on the table 7.1 and 7.2.

**Table 7.1 Town-wise Distribution of Population**

Towns	1971	1981	1991	2001
N. Vanlaiphai	2895	3258	2804	3275
Thenzawl	3535	3126	4502	5507
Serchhip	4802	7329	13688	17096

*Source: Census of India, 1971, 1981, 1991 and 2001*

**Fig 7.1 Distribution of Population**

Based on Table 7.1

**Table 7.2 Decadal Population Change**

Towns	1971-81	1981-91	1991-01	Mean
N. Vanlaiphai	12.54	-13.93	16.80	5.14
Thenzawl	-11.57	44.02	22.32	18.26
Serchhip	52.62	86.76	24.90	54.76
Mizoram	48.55	39.69	29.18	39.14
India	24.66	23.85	21.35	23.29

Source: Census of India, 1971, 1981, 1991 and 2001 (Calculated by the author)

Significant growth of population is observed during 1971-81 and 1991-2001 decades, and decrease in population of N. Vanlaiphai town during the 1981-1991 decade. A significant decrease in population of Thenzawl town is found during 1971-81 decade and steady growth thereafter. The population size of Serchhip town grew steadily during the three decades. However, the overall population growth in all the three towns were in line with general population growth, since smaller towns do not get economic impetus for higher population growth by way of attracting in-migrations.

### 7.2.2 Migration:

Migration takes place due to search for better occupation, accessibility to public facilities and access to earning and livelihood. Urban centres generally provide such public facilities, like in health, education and public services. The dimension of migration in these three towns examines whether well-furnished or not with such conditions through the strength of the migrants.

**Table: 7.3 Town-wise Distributions of Migrants during Last 20 Years**  
(Households in percent)

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Migrants	32.92	28.04	24.62	<b>30.78</b>
Permanent	67.08	71.96	75.38	<b>69.22</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006

A table 7.3 shows the extent of migrants in the three towns: nearly one-third of the households belongs to migrants in Serchhip town, 28.04 percent in Thenzawl and 24.62 percent in N. Vanlaiphai towns. It simply expresses that larger towns attract migration by accessibility of facilities and occupational opportunities, whereas smaller towns are incapable of providing such economic opportunities. Human resources based occupations have grown in the larger town engendering change of occupation and due to growth of local market size and demand.

**Table 7.4 Year of Migration of the Migrants**  
(No. of households in percent)

Years	Length of migration			
	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
1year	11.21	6.67	0.00	<b>9.15</b>
2-5	28.04	33.33	31.25	<b>29.41</b>
6-10	22.43	23.33	18.75	<b>22.22</b>
10-15	17.76	13.33	31.25	<b>18.30</b>
15>	20.56	23.33	18.75	<b>20.92</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.

Table 7.4 shows the year of migration of the migrants of the three towns: recent migrants constitutes of 11.21 percent of the total migrants in Serchhip town and only 6.67 percent in Thenzawl town. The largest migration took place during last decade in all the three towns.

### 7.2.3 Change in Workforce Structure

Change in workforce distribution also denotes economic changes if the gross domestic product increases. The share of workforce in primary activities like agriculture and allied activities declined from 1981 onwards. However, the workforce in household industries did not grow also. Other workers mainly in tertiary activities grew significantly during 1981-91.

**Table 7.5 Workforce Distributions from 1991 and 1981 Census**  
(Workers in percent)

Name of towns	Cultivators		Agri. Labour		Household industries		Others workers	
	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981	1991	1981
Serchhip	68.28	61.20	1.72	1.50	1.43	1.05	28.29	36.23
Thenzawl	65.68	90.27	8.03	0.89	4.80	0.06	53.83	08.76
N.Vanlaiphai	65.07	78.79	2.02	0.30	0.62	1.67	27.86	19.19
<b>Average</b>	<b>66.34</b>	<b>76.75</b>	<b>3.92</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>2.28</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>36.66</b>	<b>21.39</b>

Source: Census of India, 1971, 1981, 1991 and 2001 (Calculated by the author)

**Table 7.6 Decadal Changes of Workforces' Distribution between 1981 and 1991 Censuses**  
(In percentage)

Name of towns	Cultivators	Agri. Labour	Household industries	Others workers
Serchhip	7.08	0.22	0.38	-7.94
Thenzawl	-24.59	7.14	4.70	45.07
N.Vanlaiphai	-13.72	1.72	-1.05	15.27
<b>Average</b>	<b>-10.41</b>	<b>3.03</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>17.46</b>

Source: Census of India, 1971, 1981, 1991 and 2001 (Calculated by the author)

### 7.3 Economic Changes and Occupational Opportunity:

Urban economic changes are generally induced through natural growth and migration enlarging the settlement size, increase and extension of public establishments through government administrative activities and increase in private enterprises, expanding livelihood opportunities.

#### 7.3.1 Growth of Public Establishment and Occupational Opportunities:

Many of the productive occupations belong to public establishments which include public administration and defence services. Public establishments are various provide public services and civil supplies. Besides financial intermediation services include banking, non-banking financial services and insurance services. The public establishments serve with expansion of the towns and the income levels of the citizens.

**Table 7.7 Growth of Public Establishments**

*(Public Establishments unit in percent)*

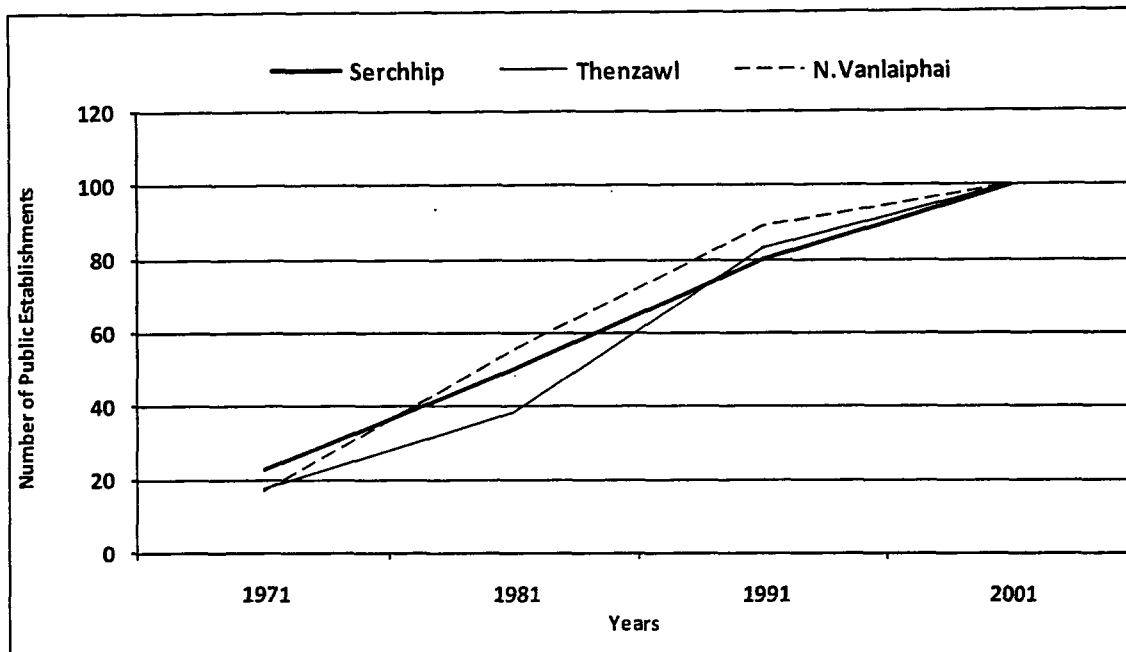
Towns	Years	Public Establishments	
		Establishments Units	Employed Population*
Serchhip	<1980	45.00	52.04
	1980-89	35.00	27.55
	1990-99	12.50	15.65
	2000>	7.50	4.76
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
Thenzawl	<1980	37.93	50.31
	1980-89	44.83	40.63
	1990-99	13.79	6.88
	2000>	3.45	2.19
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>
N. Vanlaiphai	<1980	50.00	43.87
	1980-89	38.89	52.83
	1990-99	0.00	0.00
	2000>	11.11	3.30
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

\* Percentage of the present employed population

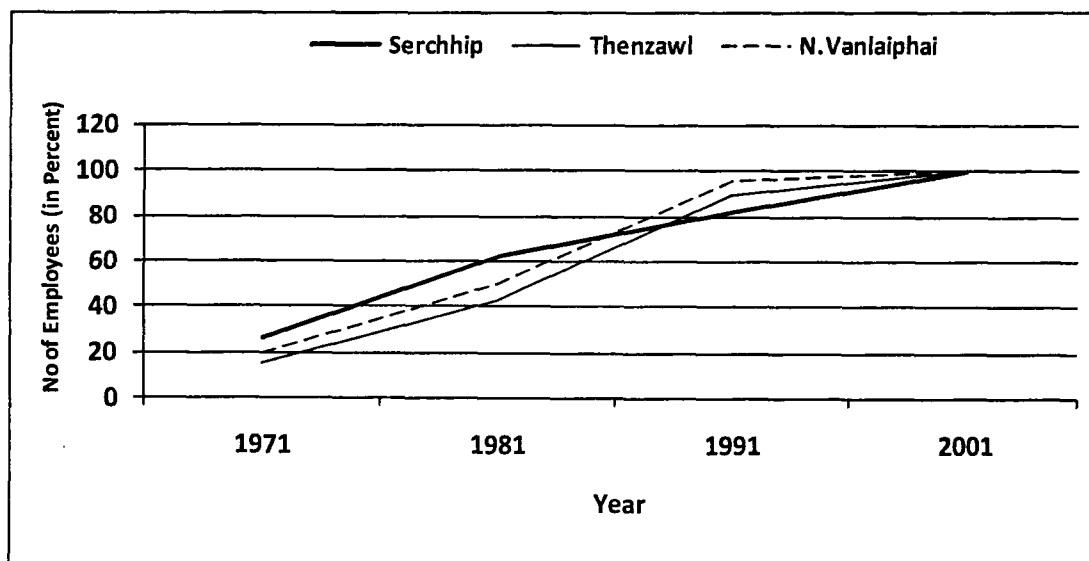
Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.

The public establishments like offices, educational institutions and other supplementary services play a dominant and dynamic role to accelerate the economic growth to increase productivity and employment generation. In the local level, public establishments are the main source of fund; the local markets are dominated by income originating from public servants. Thus, growth of public establishments is not merely the main source of changes of occupations but also determines the change of economy in the local and the regional level.

Table 7.7 shows the growth of public establishments; nearly half of the public establishments (45.00 percent) were started before 1980 in Serchhip town which generate more than half (52.04) of the total present employment capacity. However, less than half of the public establishments are recently originated, that generate less than half of the present employment capacity in Serchhip town. Again, only 37.93 percent of the total public establishments started before 1980 that created more than half of the total present employment capacity in Thenzawl town. The recent origins of public establishments are account nearly two-thirds of the total public establishments, which generates less than half of the present employment capacity. It clearly signifies the ineffectiveness of the creation of employment generation through public establishments in recent times. The public establishments that originated before 1980 and after 1980 are almost equal in the number of units and creation of employment generation. It seems that approximately half of the units of public establishments are risen before 1980 and the creation of employment generation also before 1980.

**Fig 7.2 Growth of Public Establishments Units (in Percent)**

*Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006*

**Fig. 7.3 Growth of Employment Opportunities in Public Establishments from the Present Status**

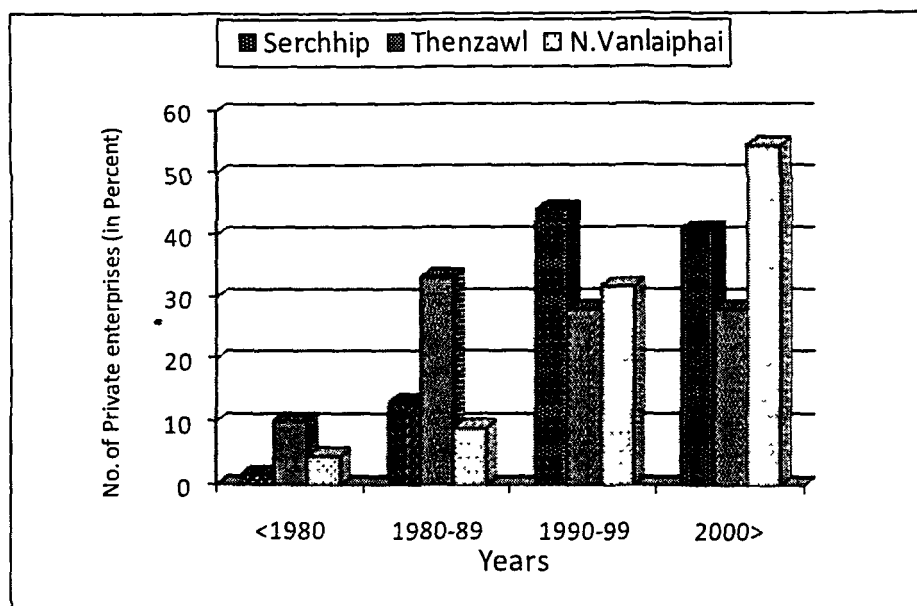
*Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006*

### 7.3.2 Growth of Private Enterprises and Occupations Opportunity:

Entrepreneurship, newly set-up small businesses induce more employment performing economic change and innovation to attain economic developments at local and regional level. Thus, in these three small towns, entrepreneurship is considered as the owner-

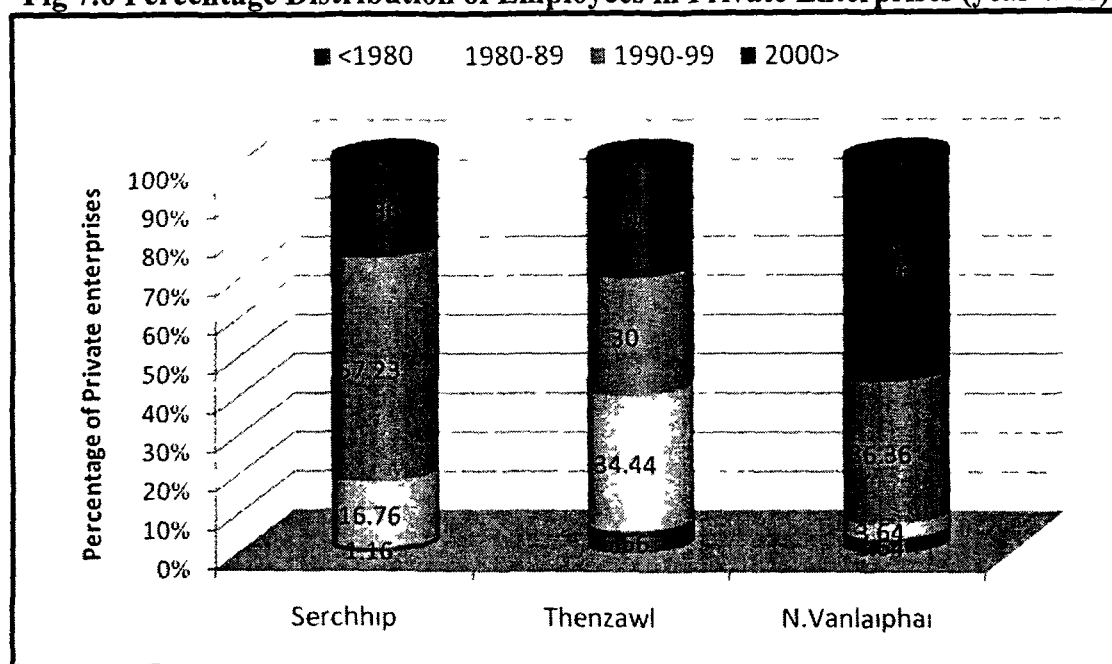
manager of small businesses. More of entrepreneurial economy is one with more self-employed people or small businesses. In addition to the creation of jobs and sustainability to alleviate poverty, the small business sector provides a vital stepping stone to the growth of the economy.

**Fig 7.4 Percentage Distribution of Private Enterprises (year-wise)**



*Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006*

Fig 7.4 shows the growth of public establishments and private enterprises; most of the units are of recent origin; half of the private enterprises at N.Vanlaiphai towns have come up in the last decade which generates 56.36 percent of the total employment in private enterprises. Some of the private old enterprises account only less than one-tenth of the total present private enterprises. The growth of private enterprise and its employment generation are fairly well distributed over decades at Thenzawl town. More than four-fifth of the total private enterprises are of recent origin in the Serchhip town.

**Fig 7.6 Percentage Distribution of Employees in Private Enterprises (year-wise)**

*Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

### 7.3.3. Occupational Opportunities:

It is obvious that the growth rate of public and private establishments and the growth rate of different occupations are strongly correlated. However, there are very few senior officers and managers, professionals in the public establishment and absolutely none in private enterprises. The changing rate is insignificant; on the contrary, plant and machine operation occupations and sales occupations have significant rate of growth when private enterprises increase. The most popular occupations like market-oriented cropping and causal/daily wage occupations belong to the occupational groups of skilled agriculture and fisheries and elementary occupations are fewer on account of the fact that many are incapable of running these enterprises, in spite of owned by self or family.

Table 7.8 shows the growth rate of private enterprises along with occupations changes. Though the growth rate of establishment and enterprise tend to decline, some of the occupation growth rates have increased; such occupations are skilled agriculture and

fisheries, craft and relate trades as well as plant and machine operators. The occupational groups like technical associate-professionals and elementary occupations have slightly decreased, whereas the growth rates of employments in occupational like senior officers and managers, professionals and clerical occupations have sharply declined. It means that the establishments and private enterprises creates employment opportunity for the occupational groups of skilled agriculture and fisheries, plant and machine operation, craft and related trades. The other remaining occupational groups have stagnated and failed to induce change in occupations.

**Table 7.8 Growth Rate of Occupations from Public Establishment and Private Enterprises at Serchhip**

*(Occupations in percent)*

ILO Occupational Groups	1980-1990	1990-2000	2000>	Average
Senior officials and managers	42.86	16.00	7.41	22.09
Professionals	22.01	25.35	2.74	16.70
Technicians & assoc. professionals	36.13	20.10	11.82	22.68
Clerks	47.83	27.37	4.04	26.41
Shop and market sales workers	52.63	38.71	12.68	34.67
Skilled agri. and fishery workers	0.00	50.00	33.33	27.78
Craft and related trades	33.33	76.92	27.78	46.01
Plant and machine operators	35.29	48.48	23.26	35.68
Elementary occupations	86.11	32.08	13.11	43.77

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

**Table 7.9 Growth of Occupations from Public Establishment and Private Enterprises at Thenzawl**

*(Occupations in percent)*

ILO Occupational groups	<1980	1990-2000	2000>	Average
Senior officials and managers	60.00	9.09	0.00	23.03
Professionals	50.00	5.62	1.11	18.91
Technicians & assoc. professionals	50.77	30.85	11.32	30.98
Clerks	53.33	11.76	8.11	24.40
Shop and market sales workers	80.00	61.54	31.58	57.71
Skilled agri. and fishery workers	0.00	100.00	71.43	57.14
Craft and related trades	6.25	15.79	5.00	9.01
Plant and machine operators	61.11	18.18	15.38	31.56
Elementary occupations	32.35	28.42	2.06	20.95

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 7.9 shows that the growth rate of different occupational groups from public and private establishments, in Thenzawl town has gone down particularly in occupations like professional, senior officer and elementary occupations. However, the growth rates of craft related trades and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations have been increasing. Within the last two decades, the growth of shop and market sales and skilled agriculture and fisheries has increased substantially.

Table 7.10 shows the growth rate of different occupational groups in N.Vanlaiphai town. It shows that the growth rate of the total establishments during the last two decades was 28.28 percent. Shop sales and market work occupations show high rate of growth. Rapid growth is visible in the occupational groups like skilled agriculture and fisheries, craft and related trades in this town. There is high fluctuation of growth in the occupational groups of professionals, senior officers, technical and associated professionals and plant and machine operators.

**Table 7.10 Growth Rate of Occupations from Public Establishment and Private Enterprises at N.Vanlaiphai**

*(Occupations in percent)*

<b>ILO Occupational groups</b>	<1980	1990-2000	2000>	Average
Senior officials and managers	66.67	0.00	0.00	22.22
Professionals	24.49	16.95	3.28	14.91
Technicians & assoc. professionals	58.70	0.00	24.59	27.76
Clerks	44.74	0.00	9.52	18.09
Shop and market sales workers	92.31	23.53	22.73	46.19
Skilled agri. and fishery workers	0.00	100.00	0.00	33.33
Craft and related trades	0.00	66.67	14.29	26.98
Plant and machine operators	90.91	0.00	31.25	40.72
Elementary occupations	66.67	0.00	6.25	24.31

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

In these three towns, structural changes have led to economic dynamics of the urban sphere. It helps to understand the changes of the urban morphological structure. Entrepreneurship is one of the economic growth stimulation in urban centres that make additions to production. Civil amenities and assets including public administration and other

public enterprises provide some kind of facilities to enable regular sale for agricultural commodities that help the diversification and modification of occupational structures of the towns.

## 7.4. Changes of Occupations

### 7.4.1 Inter-Generation Change of Occupations

Growth of establishment and enterprise units encourage occupational changes by creating demand for new occupations and create avenues for new skills and expertise. In Mizo culture, the youngest son inherits the properties of the household and parents' occupation, if possible, and elder sons invariably try to move to new occupations and establish a new household for him. In recent times, most of the parental occupations are not inherited, because, (a) old occupations are generally consist of elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fishery occupations which are not economically attractive; (b) second, most of the youth are educated and do not fancy traditional occupations. So, many of the agricultural pursuits and allied occupations are left out by the next generation. Some of the enterprises like repairing, manufacturing and shops are suitable occupations to inherit from parents.

**Table 7.11 Strength of Inter-Generational Occupational Change**  
(Persons in percent)

Town	Inherit from Parents	Change from parents
Serchhip	40.55	59.45
Thenzawl	67.53	32.47
N.Vanlaiphai	81.63	18.37

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 7.11 shows that inter-generational change of occupations of the three towns; nearly three-fifths of the total heads of the households among permanent residents have changed parental occupation in Serchhip town, nearly one-third (32.47 percent) and nearly

one-fifth (18.37 percent) in Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns. On the whole the larger town has more facilities for change in occupation than smaller towns.

#### 7.4.2 Causes of Inter-Generation Occupational Change:

Low income and possession of new property and skills are the factors responsible for the cause of inter-generational change in occupation the urban economic processes. Searching for better income is one of the most important factor for the causes of occupational change; more than half of the population is obviously looking for higher income and better occupations if his/her technical skill suits, which may result the inter-generational occupational changes.

**Table 7.12 Causes of Inter-Generational Occupational Change from Parents**  
(Persons in percent)

Causes of Separation	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Education	25.34	25.00	30.95	<b>26.25</b>
Promotion	2.74	0.00	0.00	<b>1.67</b>
Better Income	54.11	53.85	52.38	<b>53.75</b>
Acquired New Property/ Skills	3.42	5.77	7.14	<b>4.58</b>
Prestige	4.79	9.62	4.76	<b>5.83</b>
Other	9.59	5.77	4.76	<b>7.92</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 7.12 shows that causes of occupational change; most of the changes are induced by search of better income, it accounts 35.94 percent, 36.36 percent and 38.78 percent of the total respondents at Serchhip, Thenzawl and N. Vanlaiphai towns, respectively. Acquisition of new properties and skills also lead to changes in occupations; it accounts 18.13 percent, 20.78 percent and 30.11 percent in Serchhip, Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns, respectively. Prestige and promotion also induce insignificant changes of occupation.

#### 7.4.3 Intra-Generation Change of Occupations

Occupational changes occur due to the dynamics of economy; generally larger towns have a more diversified economy and provide more such dynamism. However, small towns

are stagnant and do not provide opportunities for diversified occupations. Natural calamities and disasters also compel people to leave their previous occupations and adopt to new ones. Government policies also promote to occupational change, especially in this district; *New Land Use Policy (NLUP)* adopted in 1991 by Government of Mizoram and *Mizoram Intodelh Project (MIP)* adopted in 2000 provided such impetus. These two projects introduced many occupational changes among elementary occupations, skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations, craft and related trades and shop sale market work occupational groups. Beyond these projects, agriculture markets opened opportunities for new occupations like market oriented cropping with growing gingers. Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department under Government of Mizoram also provides new facilities to change occupations on account of the introduction of poultry farming and animal rearing. This department supplies new breeding and nourishment facilities to the selected family.

**Table 7.13 Strength of Intra-Generational Occupational Change**  
(Occupations in percent)

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Not change	65.23	60.75	44.62	<b>61.57</b>
Change	34.77	39.25	55.38	<b>38.43</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.

**7.14 Reasons of Intra-Generation Occupational Change**  
(Occupations in percent)

Causes of change	Towns			Total
	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	
Low income	35.51	30.00	25.00	<b>33.33</b>
Marriage	3.74	6.67	0.00	<b>3.92</b>
Job offer	29.91	16.67	37.50	<b>28.10</b>
Natural disasters	1.87	0.00	0.00	<b>1.31</b>
Social	0.00	0.00	6.25	<b>0.65</b>
Other	28.97	46.67	31.25	<b>32.68</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.

Table 7.13 shows the share of the respondents who change occupations, in Serchhip town, (34.77 percent) of the total respondents, more than one-third (39.25 percent) at

are stagnant and do not provide opportunities for diversified occupations. Natural calamities and disasters also compel people to leave their previous occupations and adopt to new ones. Government policies also promote to occupational change, especially in this district; *New Land Use Policy (NLUP)* adopted in 1991 by Government of Mizoram and *Mizoram Intodelh Project (MIP)* adopted in 2000 provided such impetus. These two projects introduced many occupational changes among elementary occupations, skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations, craft and related trades and shop sale market work occupational groups. Beyond these projects, agriculture markets opened opportunities for new occupations like market oriented cropping with growing gingers. Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department under Government of Mizoram also provides new facilities to change occupations on account of the introduction of poultry farming and animal rearing. This department supplies new breeding and nourishment facilities to the selected family.

**Table 7.13 Strength of Intra-Generational Occupational Change**  
(Occupations in percent)

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Not change	65.23	60.75	44.62	<b>61.57</b>
Change	34.77	39.25	55.38	<b>38.43</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.

**7.14 Reasons of Intra-Generation Occupational Change**  
(Occupations in percent)

Causes of change	Towns			Total
	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	
Low income	35.51	30.00	25.00	<b>33.33</b>
Marriage	3.74	6.67	0.00	<b>3.92</b>
Job offer	29.91	16.67	37.50	<b>28.10</b>
Natural disasters	1.87	0.00	0.00	<b>1.31</b>
Social	0.00	0.00	6.25	<b>0.65</b>
Other	28.97	46.67	31.25	<b>32.68</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.

Table 7.13 shows the share of the respondents who change occupations, in Serchhip town, (34.77 percent) of the total respondents, more than one-third (39.25 percent) at

Thenzawl town and more than one-third (38.43percent) at N.Vanlaiphai town, respectively. It is estimated that larger towns lead more dynamism of occupational change, whereas the greatest dynamism is attributed to the smallest town, N.Vanlaiphai.

Most of the people search for better jobs/occupation (for better income), which propels people to change occupations. Some of the migrants, except government servant and the person possessing special skill, do not search new occupations. Low incomes account more or less one-third of the total respondents who leave their previous occupations and switch to new ones in these towns. Again, job opportunities from government and other agencies also account for a number of respondents.

### 7.3.5 Factors that Determine Occupational Changes:

**Table 7.15 Age of Persons Who Change Occupation**  
(Occupations in percent)

age groups	Towns			Total
	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	
<30	8.77	4.76	11.11	<b>8.33</b>
30-39	18.42	19.05	19.44	<b>18.75</b>
40-49	28.07	19.05	22.22	<b>25.00</b>
50-59	28.95	45.24	38.89	<b>34.38</b>
60+	15.79	11.90	8.33	<b>13.54</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Age and educational qualification of population may lead to occupational change. Table 7.15 shows that the age groups and the proportion of population who change occupations are raising up to the age group of 50-59, and decline down from the climax below 60 age. Very striking feature is late change of occupations but most of the old age are not reached High school and beyond.

Table 7.16 show that most of the population who change occupations are belongs to primary school level in educational qualification. Dynamism of occupations among low level of educational level, it can be observed that most of them will be in elementary occupational group (67.75 percent) with a higher age. More or less one-fourth of them are belonging to

matriculation level of educational qualification. Graduates also change occupation less significantly. However, the persons having high educational qualifications are also interfered in low income occupations, so that there is a greater stability in occupational choices and are less likely to change occupations.

**Table 7.16 Educational Qualification of Persons Who Change Occupation**  
(Occupations in percent)

Edn. Q	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai	Total
Primary	49.12	50.00	55.56	<b>50.52</b>
HS	28.07	35.71	25.00	<b>29.17</b>
HHS	7.02	4.76	11.11	<b>7.29</b>
Graduate	14.04	9.52	8.33	<b>11.98</b>
PG	1.75	0.00	0.00	<b>1.04</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.

### 7.5 Patterns of Occupational Changes

In these three towns, there has been a steady change in the pattern of occupations from the essentially primary activities like agriculture and allied occupations to higher levels to better incomes. It signifies growth in the economy. Most of the senior officers, professional and other blue-collars jobs do not change occupations.

**Table 7.17 Changes in Occupational Pattern in Serchhip Town**  
(Occupations in percent)

Previous Occupational Groups	New Capture Occupational Groups								Total
	P	TAP	C	SSM	SAF	CT	PMO	E	
Professionals	2.06	1.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>3.09</b>
Tech. & assoc. Professionals	0.00	1.03	0.00	1.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>2.06</b>
Clerks	3.09	1.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>4.12</b>
Shop and market sales	1.03	4.12	2.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>7.22</b>
Skilled agri. and fishery	0.00	4.12	2.06	9.28	1.03	1.03	1.03	3.09	<b>21.65</b>
Craft and related trades	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.03	0.00	<b>1.03</b>
Plant and machine operators	1.03	8.25	2.06	4.12	41.24	2.06	0.00	0.00	<b>58.76</b>
Elementary occupations	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>2.06</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.22</b>	<b>19.59</b>	<b>6.19</b>	<b>16.49</b>	<b>42.27</b>	<b>3.09</b>	<b>2.06</b>	<b>3.09</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.

Table 7.17 shows the pattern occupational change of Serchhip town; the most significant occupational change occurred in skilled agricultures and fisheries occupational group, which shifted from elementary occupational group (41.24 percent). Another important change in the feature of elementary occupational group is to technical associated professional occupations that account for 8.25 percent of the total population. Skilled agriculture and fisheries occupational groups also change significantly into shops sales and market work and technical associated professional group. Nearly 42.27 percent of the total workers change from different occupational groups.

**Table 7.18 Pattern of Occupational Changes at Thenzawl Town**

*(Occupations in percent)*

Past Occupational groups	New occupational groups								
	P	TAP	C	SSM	SAF	CT	PMO	E	Total
Clerks	0.00	2.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>2.63</b>
Shop and market sales	2.63	2.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>5.26</b>
Skilled agri. and fishery	0.00	2.63	0.00	0.00	5.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>7.89</b>
Elementary occupations	0.00	2.63	5.26	2.63	60.53	5.26	2.63	5.26	<b>84.21</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.63</b>	<b>10.53</b>	<b>5.26</b>	<b>2.63</b>	<b>65.79</b>	<b>5.26</b>	<b>2.63</b>	<b>5.26</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 7.18 shows the changing pattern of occupation at Thenzawl town; the most significant changes occurred in the elementary occupational group; it account 84.21 percent at Thenzawl town. Most of them changed to skilled agriculture and fisheries occupational groups. Technical associate professional occupational group is also very attractive for change of occupation.

Table 7.19 shows that most of the inter-generation occupational changes occur from elementary occupations in N.Vanlaiphai town, accounting for 82.76 percent of the total persons who changed occupations. It is to note that more than three-fifth of the total persons (62.07 percent) pursue the occupations of the skilled agriculture and fisheries, and 10.34 percent pursue the occupation of craft and related trades. Professional and shop and market

sale occupational groups are less attractive due to the requirement of higher educational qualifications.

**Table 7.19 Occupation Changes Pattern at N.Vanlaiphai Town**  
(Occupations in percent)

Original Occupation	New Occupational Groups							Total
	P	TAP	C	SSM	SAF	CT	PMO	
Technicians & assoc. Professionals	3.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>3.45</b>
Clerks	3.45	0.00	3.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>6.90</b>
Shop and market sales	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.45	<b>3.45</b>
Skilled agri. and fishery	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.45	0.00	0.00	<b>3.45</b>
Elementary occupations	0.00	6.90	3.45	3.45	55.17	10.34	3.45	<b>82.76</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.45</b>	<b>6.90</b>	<b>6.90</b>	<b>3.45</b>	<b>62.07</b>	<b>10.34</b>	<b>6.90</b>	<b>100.00</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

## 7.6 Occupational Changes among Heads of the Households

More or less one-thirds of the total heads of the households changed occupation during the last 20 years since some of them are ever searching for better incomes. The comparison of past occupations and the present occupations demonstrate a substantial change. Some of occupations have undergone change significantly. Elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations are declining and other occupations are gaining from elementary occupations. The larger towns possess high potential for expansion of the white and blue collar jobs with gradual shrinkage in agriculture and allied occupations. However, small towns provide opportunities in agriculture and allied occupations since local and wide-range agriculture market is possible.

Table 7.20 shows the percentage of change of occupations at Serchhip town; elementary occupation decline significantly, the proportion of skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations becoming shrinkage. However, craft and related trade, plant and machine operation, clerk, professional occupational groups are significantly increased. Other

occupations like Armed, Technical associated professional, senior officers and managers as well as Shop sale marketing occupational groups are insignificant increases at this town.

**Table 7.20 Occupational Structure in Serchhip Towns**

*(Occupations in percent)*

<b>Occupational groups</b>	<b>Previous Occupation</b>	<b>Present Occupation</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Senior officials and managers	3.92	4.58	<b>14.41</b>
Professionals	9.15	17.65	<b>48.16</b>
Technicians & assoc. Professionals	9.80	11.11	<b>11.79</b>
Clerks	5.88	16.99	<b>65.39</b>
Shop and market sales	9.15	13.07	<b>29.99</b>
Skilled agri. and fishery	16.34	15.69	<b>-4.14</b>
Craft and related trades	0.65	2.61	<b>75.10</b>
Plant and machine operators	1.96	5.88	<b>66.67</b>
Elementary occupations	40.52	9.15	<b>-342.84</b>
Armed forces	2.61	3.27	<b>20.18</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 7.21 show the percentage of occupational changes in Thenzawl town, elementary occupations is the only one of declining occupations except students. Skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations attain the highest change of occupation; plant and machine operation also get very high rate of change of occupations. Other occupational groups like senior officers and managers, technical associate professional and craft relate trade are moderate change of occupations.

**Table 7.21 Occupational Structure in Thenzawl Town**

*(Occupations in percent)*

<b>Occupational groups</b>	<b>Previous Occupation</b>	<b>Present Occupation</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Senior officials and managers	0.93	1.87	100.00
Professionals	8.41	10.28	22.22
Technicians & assoc. Professionals	7.48	12.15	62.50
Clerks	8.41	9.35	11.11
Shop and market sales	6.54	8.41	28.57
Skilled agri. and fishery	6.54	28.97	342.86
Craft and related trades	0.00	2.80	100.00
Plant and machine operators	0.93	2.80	200.00
Elementary occupations	57.94	22.43	-61.29
Armed forces	0.93	0.93	0.00

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

**Table 7.22 Occupational Structure in N.Vanlaiphai Town***(Occupations in percent)*

<b>Occupational groups</b>	<b>Previous Occupation</b>	<b>Present Occupation</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Senior officials and managers	3.08	3.08	0.00
Professionals	7.69	10.77	40.00
Technicians & assoc. Professionals	6.15	7.69	25.00
Clerks	6.15	9.23	50.00
Shop and market sales	6.15	3.08	-50.00
Skilled agri. and fishery	3.08	32.31	950.00
Craft and related trades	1.54	7.69	400.00
Plant and machine operators	3.08	7.69	150.00
Elementary occupations	61.54	16.92	-72.50
Armed forces	1.54	1.54	0.00

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 7.22 shows high percentage change in occupations like skilled agriculture and fisheries occupation, craft and related trade and plant and machine operation groups, while elementary occupations and shop sale and market work occupation indicate significant decline. However, professional, technical associated professional, personal service and clerk occupational groups are virtually remaining unchanged in N.Vanlaiphai town.

From the tables 7.20, 7.21 and 7.22 it can be observed that larger towns facilitate secondary sector occupations like professionals, technical and associate professionals, plant and machine operators, clerical and shop and market sales occupations etc. With increase in the size of the town primary occupations like agriculture and allied decline in share.

### **7.7 Impact of Occupational Changes**

Structural shift in the economy is the main consequence of occupational changes in the economy. For instance, primary sectors make greater use of unskilled or semi-skilled labour, while services make greater use of professionals. Differences in the growth of different sectors will then indirectly translate into differences in the rate of change in occupational groups.

### 7.7.1. General Output Growth:

Research question arise that if the changes of occupations take place, would the economy would bring about the growth of general output significantly? The previous section indicates that significant changes tertiary occupations have grown in all the three towns, and primary occupations are on the decline. In every progressive economy, there has been a steady shift of occupations and output from the essentially primary occupations to secondary activities of all kinds, and a still greater extent in tertiary production.

Table 7.23 examines whether the economy of the three towns are progressive or regressive; the average output of the occupational groups and the real output of the previous and present occupations of the heads of the households have been presented, since one-third of them have changed occupations.

**Table 7.23 Distribution of Earning Levels of Previous and Present Occupations in Serchhip Town**

(Output in Rs)

ILO Occupational Groups	Average earning	Previous earning	Present earning	Difference
Senior officials and managers	16805.33	50415.99	50415.99	0.00
Professionals	8240.67	181294.74	304904.79	123610.05
Technicians & assoc. Professionals	7097.33	156141.26	283893.20	127751.94
Clerks	5762.00	115240.00	207432.00	92192.00
Shop and market sales	3159.33	91620.57	135851.19	44230.62
Skilled agri. and fishery	1818.33	185469.66	212744.61	27274.95
Craft and related trades	2437.00	2437.00	12185.00	9748.00
Plant and machine operators	4015.67	16062.68	40156.70	24094.02
Elementary occupations	1109.00	130862.00	34379.00	-96483.00
Armed forces	6972.00	27888.00	20916.00	-6972.00
Total	5741.67	957431.90	1302878.48	345446.58

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 7.23 shows the average output distribution of the previous and present occupations of head of the households of the respondents at Serchhip town. The difference of monthly average output between the previous and present is more than Rs.3 lakhs. The output of elementary occupations and armed force declined by Rs. 96 thousand and Rs.6 thousand

respectively on account of declining labour forces. The output of professional and technical associated professional increase by Rs.1 lakhs and another significant change from the monthly average output is found on the occupational groups of clerical occupations, shops sales and market work and plant and machine operation occupations.

**Table 7.24 Average Monthly Output Distribution of Previous and Present Occupations at Thenzawl Town**

ILO Occupational Groups	(Output in Rs)			
	Average output	Previous output	Present output	Difference
Senior officials and managers	16805.33	16805.33	33610.66	16805.33
Professionals	8240.67	74166.03	90647.37	16481.34
Tech. & assoc. Professionals	7097.33	56778.64	92265.29	35486.65
Clerks	5762.00	51858.00	57620.00	5762.00
Shop and market sales	3159.33	22115.31	28433.97	6318.66
Skilled agri. and fishery	1818.33	12728.31	56368.23	43639.92
Craft and related trades	2437.00	0.00	7311.00	7311.00
Plant and machine operators	4015.67	4015.67	12047.01	8031.34
Elementary occupations	1109.00	68758.00	26616.00	-42142.00
Armed forces	6972.00	6972.00	6972.00	0.00
Total	5741.67	314197.29	411891.53	97694.24

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

Table 7.24 shows the distribution of monthly output of the previous and present occupations of Thenzawl town; the monthly average output of elementary occupations falls by Rs.42 thousands. The greatest change of output is seen on the occupation of skilled agriculture and fisheries, increased by Rs.43 thousands. Technical associate professional, senior officers and managers, professional occupational groups are one of the gainer of the monthly average output. Plant and machine operations, craft and related trade, shop sales market work occupations gain the monthly output marginally.

As shown in the table 7.25, elementary occupations and shop sale and market work occupational groups lose the monthly average output by Rs.32 thousands and Rs.63 thousands respectively because of shrinkage of workers. Skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations gain the monthly income in very significant rate of change, professional and

clerical occupations also gain some amount; the occupational group of technical associated professional and craft related trade of N.Vanlaiphai town gained only marginal.

**Table 7.25 Average Monthly Output Distribution of Previous and Present Occupations at N.Vanlaiphai Town**

*(Output in Rs)*

ILO Occupational Groups	Average output	Previous output	Present output	Difference
Senior officials and managers	16805.33	33610.66	33610.66	0.00
Professionals	8240.67	41203.35	57684.69	16481.34
Tech. & Assoc. Professionals	7097.33	28389.32	35486.65	7097.33
Clerks	5762.00	23048.00	34572.00	11524.00
Shop and market sales	3159.33	12637.32	6318.66	-6318.66
Skilled agri. and fishery	1818.33	3636.66	38184.93	34548.27
Craft and related trades	2437.00	2437.00	12185.00	9748.00
Plant and machine operators	4015.67	8031.34	20078.35	12047.01
Elementary occupations	1109.00	44360.00	12199.00	-32161.00
Armed forces	6972.00	6972.00	6972.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>5741.67</b>	<b>204325.65</b>	<b>257291.94</b>	<b>52966.29</b>

*Source: Based on Fieldwork by author, October 2005 - March 2006.*

## 7.8 Summary of the Main Findings

1. The observation examine economic changes in the district and the three urban centres through the growth of population, workforce distribution of the three town and migrations. The population growth of the three towns during 1971-81 was 17.86 percent, 1981-91 was 38.95 percent and 1991-01 was 21.34 percent. The decadal change of workforce distribution manifest economic change; proportion of agriculture workforce was decreased by 10.41 percent, agriculture labours are increase by 3.03, households industries was increased by 1.34 percent and other workers was increased by 17.46 percent during 1981-91 at these three towns. Nearly one-third of the total households are newly established, migrated from other place, so immigrant consisted 32.92 percent of the total households at Serchhip town, 28.04 percent at Thenzawl and 24.62 percent at N.Vanlaiphai town.

2. The observation examines the economic change and occupational opportunities through establishment survey that reveals that the public and private establishments contribute significantly in changing occupations. Most of the public establishments and employees have a long path of origin; nearly half of them have origin before 1981. However, most of the private enterprises and the workers are recent origin that change occupation significantly especially on the shop sales and market work occupational group.
3. Age and educational qualification are the determinant factor to change occupation; in these three towns, very striking features prevailed. Nearly half of the people who change occupations are belong to under high school qualification, and most of the occupational change occurred among the age group 50-59. It seems that occupational change is mostly privileged by low educational qualifications and old age; those are engaged in agriculture and allied occupations. These three towns did not favour high level educational qualification in creating employment, which means short-run fluctuation of economic changes.
3. This chapter examined the changing pattern of occupations; the elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations are the most dynamic occupations. Elementary occupations are the shrinkage occupations, most of them dispersed into skilled agriculture and fisheries occupational groups. Skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations also dispersed into shop sales and market work; some of them distributed on technical associated professional and the occupational groups itself. Most of the professional and senior officers and managers occupational groups were marginally involved in occupational change.
4. Inter-generation occupational change is observed to analyse the nature of occupational change among the head of the households of permanent residents of the towns; nearly three-fifth (59.45 percent) of the total permanent resident change occupation from the

parent's occupations at Serchhip town, nearly one-third (32.47 percent) at Thenzawl and nearly one-fifth (18.37 percent) at N.Vanlaiphai. Most of the inherit occupations are shops, manufacture, some plot of lands for agriculture and machine operations. However, huge number of population follows parents' occupations at smaller towns, because cultivation especially shifting cultivation and some of the elementary occupations are over dominant in the earlier time. More than half of the changes are incurred by capturing better income occupations; more or less one-fourth of the changes are incurred by education.

- 5 Intra-generations occupational changes is the most important to manifest economic changes; more than one-third (34.77 percent) of the total households of the respondents change occupation during 20 years cycle at Serchhip, 39.25 percent at Thenzawl and 55.38 percent at N.Vanlaiphai. The main reason behind the occupational change is shrinkage of low income occupations that account 35.51 percent at Serchhip town, 30.00 percent at Thenzawl and 25.00 percent at N.Vanlaiphai. Job offer also stimulates occupational change that accounts 29.91 percent at Serchhip town, 16.67 percent at Thenzawl and 37.50 percent at N.Vanlaiphai. Other factors like government policies like NLUP, MIP, introduction special packages and agriculture market liberalisation also stimulated significant changes of occupations.
6. Within 20 years, among the respondents who change occupation, percentage of occupational change is overstated among elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations. In particular town, the greatest growth percentage is elementary occupations that is shrunken by 342.84 percent and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations are also shrunken by 4.14 percent. The occupational groups like craft and relate trade, plant and machine operation and clerical are increased with huge amount percent, the moderate percentage of change is obtained by technical associated

professional (11.11 percent), shop sales market work occupation (29.99 percent) and professional (48.16 percent) at Serchhip town. Thenzawl town is manifested by increase of skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations, plant and machine operation with diminishing of elementary occupations. N.Vanlaiphai town also favours the growth of skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations, craft and relate trade occupations and plant and machine operations occupations and shop sales market work and elementary occupations are diminished

7. This study has indicated that while changed in the output play a vital role in initiating urban growth and promoting change. However, it seems that the local service sector is the primary determinant of long-run level of urban economic activity and of vitally or otherwise of the export base sector. According to this view, the service activities are truly permanent feature of the urban economy, the key element in the attraction of export sectors and a vital factor in their continuing efficiency and competitiveness.
8. The impact of occupational changes on these three towns is mainly structural changes of economy signifies in occupational distributions that results in two occupations i.e. elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupational groups losing out on employment of the total head of the households of the respondents. These occupation groups ended up employing 9.15 percent and 15.69 percent respectively at Serchhip town; 22.43 and 28.97 at Thenzawl town, 16.92 and 32.31 percent at N.Vanlaiphai town.
9. The most important impact of occupational changes was the growth of output (income per month), while decreasing elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations, the output is increased by Rs.3 lakhs per month among the head of the households of the respondent of Serchhip town. However, increased of skilled agriculture

has significantly rise up the output of the total households at Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns, output is increased by Rs.97 thousands and Rs.52 thousand per month.

10. In the conclusion of this part, structural change does have a significant impact on the employment of different occupational groups, demonstrating an ability to affect the growth in employment of a particular occupational group. As expected, the impact has been negative on those occupations used heavily by the primary sector, insignificant on those used extensively by the secondary sector and largely positive on those used significantly by the services sector.

## CHAPTER VIII

### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

#### 8.1 Summary

8.1.1 The main issues that concern understanding occupational structures of the small towns are that they display the processes and levels of development of the specific towns as well the broader patterns of urbanisation. The three towns under the current study, Serchhip, Thenzawl and North Vanlaiphai are located in extremely remote areas of the Indian State of Mizoram, in the far north-eastern corner of the country, the State itself being land-locked, isolated and grossly underdeveloped. The State lagged behind in human resource development (though the literacy level in the state is the second highest in the country) and other economic infrastructures because of inaccessibility, small size of population and largely constituting of hilly terrain. The occupational structure of these three towns is largely influenced by significant lack of economic opportunities, technical know-how and accessibility to modern amenities like public establishments and roads and communication infrastructure.

Under the given circumstances as stated and based on fieldworks conducted during the current study the following observations could be made:

- i. From the general distribution of occupations, larger towns have high proportion of office work-based occupations (e.g. teachers, accountants, lawyers, salespersons, market-related workers, clerks, etc.) and market-oriented occupations (market sales persons, vendors and hawkers, etc.). These occupations decline in direct proportion to the size of town, i.e. the smaller is the town the less are persons in the above

- occupations and more in primary (elementary) occupations or those associated with agriculture or agro-based occupations.
- ii. Further it appears that larger towns possess greater potentialities occupational change, because of having a bigger economy and diversified too, providing increasing opportunities in occupations like in professional, technical and associated professional areas and market-related occupations and other higher levels of occupations.
  - iii. Serchhip town, the largest among all the three towns and the district HQ, has higher proportion of diversified occupations in comparison to the other two towns (Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai). Serchhip records motor vehicle drivers (3.43%), market sales persons (3.25%), lecturer/teaching professionals (2.79%), primary teaching professionals (3.57%), other teaching professionals (4.23%) and street vendors (4.36%).
  - iv. Thenzawl town has high proportion of persons in occupations like hired/casual workers (13.13%), cultivators (12.46%) handicraft in textile workers (3.37%), clerks (4.38), and subsistence animal husbandry occupations (11.78%).
  - v. N.Vanlaiphai town, the smallest of the three, has a high proportion of occupations in market-oriented cropping (21.05%), subsistence animal farming (9.57%), (32% in Primary activities), office clerks (3.35%), casual/hired workers (8.61%) and plant and machine operators (3.35%).
  - vi. Serchhip town has the most diversified occupational profile among the three towns. As shown in diversification index, of the 100 percent diversification index, 74.46 percent of the total households are found in Serchhip town, 59.81 percent in Thenzawl town and 55.38 percent in N.Vanlaiphai towns.

8.1.2 The second issue at hand is urban economic system of the three towns. Occupational structure manifests the level of economic development and the intensity of the urbanisation process. Successive urban growth stimulates growth of public establishments and private enterprises that generate diversification of occupations. In regards to the expansion of public establishments and private enterprises in generating occupational changes, economic changes and urban development, the study concludes as follows:-

- i. The growth of urban population relates the expansion and the growth of the urban market, increased population being consumers of goods and services and a larger population requires expanded public services and amenities and therefore, would require expansion of public establishments. The expansion and growth of such public establishments and private enterprises generate growth of professionals, technicians and associate professionals and clerical occupations. However, the impacts of the growth of public and private establishments are relatively less to generate changes in occupations of senior officers and managers etc. The capacity of employments in the public establishments and private enterprises comprises of approximately one-third of total employment in teaching professionals, accountants and technician (professionals) and one-fifth in clerical occupations. As far as the employment generation is concern, most of the occupations like senior officers and clerical occupations belong to public administrations, whereas more than two-thirds of professional occupations belong to educational services, which are partly public and partly private institutions.
- ii. The creation of employment opportunities through the expansion of public establishments is one of the important objectives of Indian planning, especially in smaller states and backward areas where industrial employment are quite limited and

therefore limited scope of expansion of private enterprises. The growth of private enterprises has significantly affect occupational changes among salespersons and shop-related work, vehicle drivers etc., largely in unorganised sectors of the economy. While analysing capabilities of private enterprises, it is found that only a few of the private enterprises like educational institutions and undertakings employ hired-workers. The capacity of employment generation of private enterprises is limited because of the overall market size and also due to the limited access to capital. The high cost of operation, lack of adequate number of clients and inadequacy of governmental aid to private enterprises discourage the development of private enterprises. An ideal enterprise in small towns is characterised by less capital deployment and low cost of operation, more number of clients with higher profits. The private enterprises are characterised by preponderance of merchandise shops, animal farming, and household and cottage industries.

8.1.3 The third issue is the examination of pattern of occupational change and its intensity and its significance on the economy of the town itself:

- i. The changing pattern of occupations displays that the elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations are the most dynamic occupations of all the three towns under the study. Over a period of time persons from elementary occupations have shifted mostly to skilled agriculture and fisheries occupational groups. Persons who were in skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations changed their occupations to shop and market sales works, technical and associated professions. There were little changes in occupations of professionals (office workers), senior government officers and managers, since most of such occupations sit at the apex of the economic pyramid. This is to argue also that occupational changes may take place

in consonance with earning and income benefits accruing to the individuals; if there are no economic rewards, occupational changes are less likely to occur.

- ii. The study of inter-generational occupational changes reveals that children do not generally pursue their parental occupations (59.45 percent at Serchhip town, 32.47 percent at Thenzawl town and 18.37 percent at N.Vanlaiphai town). More than half of the change is due to preference of the younger generation for better-paying occupations as compared to the traditional occupations of their parental generation. Further it appears that in larger towns like Serchhip, younger generation gives more preference to newer occupations due to the fact that the larger towns provide opportunity for a more diversified occupational structure which provides those opportunities.
- iii. Intra-generational occupation changes indicate heads of the households change occupations to the extent of 34.77 percent in Serchhip, 39.25 percent in Thenzawl and 55.38 percent in N.Vanlaiphai. It appears that in bigger towns the older generation has less incentive to change their occupations as compared to those in smaller towns. It is possible that migrants from villages into larger towns may find opportunity in their own skills, whereas in smaller towns they may be forced to change occupations because of the limitation of smaller economies of the towns. Some respondents cite reasons like low income leading to occupational changes (35.51 percent at Serchhip town, 30.00 percent at Thenzawl and 25.00 percent at N.Vanlaiphai). Reasons like new job-opportunities also stimulate occupational change (29.91 percent at Serchhip town, 16.67 percent at Thenzawl and 37.50 percent at N.Vanlaiphai). Government policies like NLUP, MIP, introduction of special packages and agriculture market liberalisation also stimulate significant changes in occupations.
- iv. Within the last 20 years, there was a significant change in elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations in these three towns. At Serchhip town,

the greatest change is in elementary occupations (-342.84 percent, the faster the town grows, necessarily there will be a shift in occupations from primary related to tertiary related jobs), succeeded by skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations (-4.14 percent); craft and related-trade (75.10 percent), plant and machine operations (66.67 percent) and clerical occupations (65.39 percent). Persons in skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations, plant and machine operators have increased significantly at Thenzawl and N.Vanlaiphai towns; elementary occupations, shop and market salespersons have decreased at the same time.

- v. Occupational changes were accompanied by the growth of income, because elementary occupations and skilled agriculture and fisheries occupations (low paid occupations) have decreased in proportion over the time. Such shifts in occupations from primary (elementary) occupations to skilled professional and other higher order occupations might have resulted in increases of the total output/ income in Serchhip town.

## **8.2 Conclusion**

- i. The study of occupational structures of the three towns indicates that small towns in Mizoram are dominated by agriculture and allied occupations and services. The main source of domestic production is from the service sector. In developed countries, manufactures and industrial activities consist at least 20 percent of the total occupations that could maintain the consistency of the economy. The study reveals that the occupational structure of these towns are significantly less in manufacturing and construction related occupations. On the whole, the occupational structure consists of high proportion of workers in low average output in primary occupations and relative high income from tertiary occupations. It also signifies a situation of low level of occupational diversification, which implies that occupational structure of

small towns is incapable to maintain and generate sustainable development without any significant increase in manufacturing or service activities often referred to as the Urban Economic Base. Only government sector occupations and the service economy around these may not provide a long term potential for growth in the small towns. It indicates that high degree of urbanisation without firm foundation of economy brings about inconsistencies in the urban economy. However, due to the pattern of occupational changes and its consequence on the output, these towns lean on a progressive economy because low income occupations shift into relatively higher income occupations.

- ii. The study of urban economic system and growth of population exhibit that urban problems like scarcity of land, social and economic disparity and unemployment are high in these three towns, which have essentially agro-based economies. The average (agricultural) land holding size is 3.18 acres per household<sup>3</sup>. Nearly two-thirds of the total workers are engaged in agriculture and allied occupations (market-oriented cropping, fisheries, subsistence cropping, market gardening, cultivators etc.) with low income (due to low per capita productivity in agriculture, which is quite underdeveloped in Mizoram). Some workers holding high educational qualifications are involved in low income occupations due to lack of adequate work opportunities which small towns do not offer.
- iii. Urbanisation does not bring about increase in per capita income since public establishments and private enterprises provide occupational opportunities for only a small proportion of the town population. Urbanisation might have resulted in growth of educated youth in the small towns under study, who do not find suitable work opportunities in the highly restrictive economic environment of the towns leading to

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<sup>3</sup> Most of the households in these small towns happen to own farm lands in surrounding areas.

increase in unemployment; nearly three-fourth of the total workers belongs to under-matric educational qualification. A large proportion of occupations, i.e. in agriculture and allied occupations yield low incomes. Factors of occupational changes like shift from low income occupations, searching better paying occupations, government policies (NLUP, MIP, and agriculture market liberalisation) provide better opportunities to agriculture and allied occupation workers. Whereas a rapid economic change ushers in new occupational opportunities, at the same time new occupations yield higher incomes, which feeds back on the economic changes through a multiplier process. Some of the urban economic and social problems are solved through occupational changes (shifts) since it minimises economic and social disparity and unemployment through creation of new occupational opportunities.

Overall, the study brings to focus an entirely uncharted territory, i.e. the internal dynamics of the economy small towns, with little growth momentum. The study of occupations and occupational changes bring to focus how people negotiate their lives in the limited economies of small towns with little propensity to expand, except the natural growth of population, since in-migration stream is weak and often the expansion of the specific town merely incorporates the rural habitations in the fringes of these towns without any change in the economic life of the people. In the North East region the small towns (Class VI: population less than 5000) abound; out of 245 towns enumerated during 2001 census in the 7 states of the region, 46 were Class VI towns, nearly 20% of all the towns. Similarly, the Class V towns (5001-10,000) have little growth potential. In Mizoram of the 16 towns, 14 belong to class V or VI towns, though notionally, Mizoram has one of the highest levels of urbanisation in the country and nearly half of the population live in town and cities!

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**C.V. of the Candidate**

**Name: Ralte Lalmuankima**

**Father Name: Chhunhnuna**

**Mother Name: Aizingi**

**Per. Address: N.Vanlaiphai, Damdawiin Veng Mizoram**

**Education Attainment in University: BA Hons (Geog) First Class, 4<sup>th</sup> Position in NEHU,**

**MA First Class in NEHU, and**

**JRF-SRF, UGC-NET**

He had presented one paper at National Seminar at National Seminar on Human Security in North East India and attended various national seminars, Symposium and workshop.

## APPENDIX-A

## A-1 Occupational structure of different countries as ILO classification

(Occupations in percent)

	Czech Republic	Hungary	Mexico	Poland	New Zealand	Pakistan	Urban Pakistan	Pakistan Rural
Legislators, senior officials and managers	6.35	6.00	1.95	5.05	12.50	1.72	4.11	0.72
Professionals	10.00	12.10	2.65	16.20	13.90	3.3	5.63	2.33
Technicians and assoc. professionals	18.75	14.20	11.45	16.05	11.00	2.26	4.48	1.33
Clerks	8.85	7.80	6.85	11.05	12.50	1.81	3.91	0.94
Shop and market sales	12.60	15.70	22.70	7.00	14.00	27.36	43.75	20.51
Skilled agri. and fishery	2.30	2.65	20.65	0.30	8.00	37.62	5.62	51.01
Craft and related trades	19.85	22.10	11.80	21.80	8.40	3.85	7.34	2.40
Plant and machine operators	12.20	10.65	7.55	12.20	8.00	3.87	6.31	2.85
Elementary occupations	9.10	8.75	14.40	10.25	5.80	18.2	18.84	17.93

Source: United Nations Publication (St/ESA/STAT/SER.M/4/Rev.3) No.E.90 XVII.11.

**A-2 Significance level of coefficient of correlation between the growth of public establishment and the growth of population, private enterprises and government office-based occupations**

	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai
Population	0.988	0.907	0.274
Senior officials & managers	0.925	0.989	0.964
Professionals	0.942	0.975	0.983
Technicians & assoc. professionals	0.999	1.000	0.991
Clerks	0.993	0.999	0.984
Plant & machine operators	0.989	0.986	0.924
Public establishments	0.956	0.948	0.863
The growth Private enterprises and Population	0.958	0.772	0.257

**A-3 Occupational Structures of the Study Urban Centres**

ILO Occupations	Serchhip	Thenzawl	N.Vanlaiphai
1. Legislators, senior officials and managers	0.40	0.67	0.96
2. Professionals	7.98	5.70	5.29
3. Technicians and associate professionals	11.44	5.70	4.33
4. Clerks	5.45	4.70	6.25
5. Shop and market sales	11.97	8.39	3.37
6. Skilled agricultural and fishery	32.85	37.58	35.58
7. Craft and related trades	4.65	2.68	5.29
8. Plant and machine operators	3.99	5.70	3.37
9. Elementary occupations	20.74	27.85	35.10

**A-4 Distribution of Population, Households and workers in Mizoram in 2001**  
(Percentage distribution)

	Rural	Urban	Total
Households	49.37	50.63	100.00
Population	50.37	49.63	100.00
Worker	54.81	45.19	100.00
Cultivators	81.66	23.77	55.97
Agri. Labour	2.01	4.22	2.99
Household Ind.	0.73	1.80	1.21
Other Workers	15.60	70.20	39.83
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Sources: Census of India, 2001, Provisional

**A-5 Distribution of Population, Households and workers in Serchhip District in 2001**  
(in percent)

	Rural	Urban	Total
Households	51.50	48.50	100.00
Population	51.95	48.05	100.00
Worker	56.03	43.97	100.00
Cultivators	85.45	56.62	72.77
Agri. Labour	0.60	4.51	2.32
Household Ind.	1.38	4.26	2.64
Other Workers	12.57	34.61	22.27
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00

Sources: Census of India, 2001, Provisional

## APPENDIX-B

## Household Questionnaire

Questionnaire No. \_\_\_\_\_

Sample No \_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTIONNAIRE FOR HOUSEHOLDS SURVEY

Lalmuankima, Ph.D Scholar, Department of Geography, NEHU, Shillong

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- 1.1 Town Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.2 Ward/ Locality Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.3 House No (If available) \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.4 Name of the Head of the Household \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.5 Sex: M/F \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.6 Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
(In completed years)
- 1.7 Total members of the households: \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.8 M/F \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.9 Members between Age 15 and 65 years: \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.10 Property Status  
Owned:1, Rented:2, Quarters: 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.11 House Type  
(Makeshift:1, Semi Permanent:2, Assam Type:3, RCC: 4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.12 Household Income (from all sources/ year) Rs. \_\_\_\_\_
- 1.13 Agricultural Land Owned by the HH in Ha./ Acres \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. HOUSEHOLD'S DEMOGRAPHY: (Only between age 15 and 65 years)

Sl.No.	Name of the member	Relationship With HHH (2.1)	Age (2.2)	Sex 2.3	Educational Qualifications 2.4	Principal Occupation 2.5	Monthly Income in Rs.
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							

(Options: Relationships: Father, 1, Mother, 2, son,3, daughter,4, others, 5. Sex: Male, 1, Female, 2. Educational Qualifications: Illiterate, 1, Primary, 2, High School, 3, HS, 4, Graduate, 5, PG, 6, professional, 7, others, 8. Occupations: Use the ILO 3 digit code for appropriate occupational classes.

## 3. Migration Status and Occupations:

- 3.1 Are you a permanent resident of the town? (Yes/No: 1/0)  
(If, the person has lived with family more than 20 years)
- 3.2 If no, how long have you migrated?  
(less than 1 year: 1, 1-5 yrs:2, 6-10 yrs:3, 11-15 yrs:4, 16-20 yrs:5)
- 3.3 Distance of your earlier place of residence from the present town  
(in Km.)
- 3.4 What was your former occupation? (at place of origin)

(ILO 3 digit codes)

- 3.5 After you came here, did you change your occupation? (Yes/No: 1/0)
- 3.6 If yes, what was your former occupation here after you came?  
(ILO 3 digit codes)
- 3.7 Why did you migrate to this town?  
(Low income in place of origin:1, Education of self: 2, Marriage:3, job offer: 4, Natural disaster: 5, Social unrest: 6, Any Other: 11)
- 3.8 Are you better off (economically) now? (Yes/No: 1/0)
- 3.9 Do you visit your earlier place of residence? (Yes/No: 1/0)
- 3.10 If yes, for what reasons?  
(Landed property: 1, social reasons: 2, Any other: 11)
- 3.11 How frequently you visit?  
(Once a year: 1, Once a month: 2, Once a week: 3, Very frequently:4)
- 3.12 What is your income from land/ other assets at original place?  
(in Rs. Per year)

#### 4. Occupational Change in Non-migrants:

- 4.1 If you are a permanent resident (3.1) have you changed your occupation earlier? (Yes/No: 1/0)
- 4.2 If yes, what was your earlier occupation?  
(ILO 3 digit codes)
- 4.3 Why did you change your occupation?  
(Low in earlier occupation: 1, acquired new skills: 2, social reasons: 3, Any other: 11)
- 4.4 Was your parental occupation different from yours? (Yes/No: 1/0)
- 4.5 What was your parental occupation?  
(ILO 3 digit codes)
- 4.6 Why you changed from your parental occupation?  
(Education: 1, Moving to town: 2, Better income:3, Acquiring new property:4, Prestige: 5, Any other:11)

#### 5. Household level dynamics of occupation and income:

- 5.1 Do you have rental incomes from house property? (Yes/No: 1/0)
- 5.2 If yes, how much per month?
- 5.3 Do you have a second occupation? (Yes/No: 1/0)
- 5.4 If yes, what is the occupation?  
(ILO 3 digit codes)
- 5.5 How much time you devote to this occupation per day? (in hrs)
- 5.6 If you are in business, or service or profession, do you have agricultural land near the town?  
(Yes/No: 1/0)
- 5.7 Who cultivates the land?  
(self: 1, Children:2, Other relations: 3, Leased out: 4, Others:5)
- 5.8 What is the approximate annual income from the agricultural land?  
(Value of annual turnover- (labour + material costs))
- 5.9 If you are in business, do your family members work there?  
(Yes/No: 1/0)
- 5.10 If yes, who are they?  
(Wife:1, Wife & children:2, Only children:3, Everyone in family:4)
- 5.11 Do you pay separate salary/ wages to them? (Yes/No: 1/0)
- 5.12 If yes, total amount per month (in Rs.)

#### 6. Time allocation and occupations:

- 6.1 How much time you devote/per day to your main occupation?  
(in hrs)

- 6.2 What time of the day you are in your main occupation?  
(Whole day:1, Morning hours: 2:, Evening hours: 3, Any others:11)
- 6.3 How much time you give to your second occupation? (in hours/day)
- 6.4 What time of day?  
(Morning hours: 1, Evening hours: 2, Any others:11)
- 6.5 Do you carry work concerning your occupation to home?  
(Yes/No: 1/0)
- 6.6 If yes, how much time you devote for that? (Av./day in hrs.)
- 6.7 Is your secondary occupation season related? (Yes/No: 1/0)
- 6.8 If yes, how many weeks in a year?

**7. Other attributes of occupation:**

- 7.1 Does your occupation make you travel often? (Yes/No: 1/0)
- 7.2 If yes, how far every day on the average? (in Km)
- 7.3 How many times a week do you travel?
- 7.4 Does your occupation has health concerns? (Yes/No: 1/0)
- 7.5 If yes, what precautions to you take regarding your health?  
(*Medical precautions:1, mechanical devices:2, Any others:11*)

Signature of Enumerator

Date/ Place:

## APPENDIX-C

## Establishment Survey Questionnaire

Q No.
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## SCHEDULE FOR SURVEY OF ESTABLISHMENTS

**R. Lalmuankima, Ph.D. Scholar,**  
Dept of Geography, North-Eastern Hill University, Shillong

1. Town: Serchhip / Thenzawl / N.Vanlaiphai
2. Locality/ Ward: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name of the Establishment:
4. Name of Head of the establishment:
5. Designation:  
(Proprietor, Principal, Director/ DD/AD etc)
6. Type of Establishment: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Year of Establishment: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Number of Employees:
  - a. HH \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Managerial \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Tech/skilled \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. General \_\_\_\_\_
9. Total Employees:
  - i. Permanent \_\_\_\_\_
  - ii. Temporary \_\_\_\_\_
10. Area jurisdiction or operational area
  - a. Concentrated in particular town only
  - b. Connected to rural area
  - c. Connected to other urban areas
  - d. Connected to state outside
11. Source of Finance:
  - a. Government
  - b. Bank
  - c. Private finance/ Company
  - d. Others
12. In case private establishments, capital deployed (in Rs. '000):
  - a) Fixed capital (building etc) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) Equipment/ Machinery: \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) Cost of Materials (inputs)/ m \_\_\_\_\_
  - d) Wages/ Salaries/ m \_\_\_\_\_
  - e) Incidentals (rents, electricity, taxes, Repair maintenance, Insurance etc)/m \_\_\_\_\_
13. Annual Turnover (in Rs.'000): \_\_\_\_\_
14. Number of clients/ day: \_\_\_\_\_
15. Problems faced by the firm:
  - a. Financing problem
  - b. Marketing problems

- c. Raw material s
- d. Skilled Worker problem
- e. Technical problems
- f. Transport problems

16. Do you receive any governmental support (private establishments)?

- a. Capital subsidy
- b. Technical/ training support
- c. Salary subsidy (Edu)
- d. Others

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17. Give occupational classes of all employees:

Major Occupation Groups	Numbers
MG 1: Legislators/ Senior Officers/ Managers	
MG 2: Professionals	
MG 3: Tech & assoc. Professionals	
MG 4: Clerks	
MG 5: Shop and Market/ Sales	
MG 6: Skilled Agri. Fishery	
MG 7: Craft & related trade	
MG 8: Plant & Machinery operators	
MG 9: Elementary Occupations	

**\*OPTIONS FOR 6:**

- Shop: 1** (Books & stationery 1, Grocer 2, General merchandise 3, Clothe 4, Electrical 5, mechanical 6, Communication 7, Durables 8, green grocery/ meat/fish 9),
- Educational 2** (Primary 1, Middle School 2, Secondary 3, HS 4, College 5, others 9),
- Office 3** (Govt 1, Private 2),
- Agencies 4** (Transport 1, Financial 2, others 9),
- Repairs 5** (Household articles 1, electrical 2, electronics 3, transportation 4, agricultural implements 5, others 9),
- Manufacturing 6** (garments/tailoring 1, knitting/mending 2, furniture 3, metal fabrication 4, weaving 5, metal working 6, Construction materials 7, Printing & publishing 8, Others 9),
- Energy 7** (Petrol pump 1, Kerosene 2, Power generation 3),
- Animal husbandry 8** (cattle 1, poultry 2, Piggery 3, pisciculture 4, others 9),
- Banking/ Finance 9** (Commercial 1, Co-operatives 2, Insurance 3, Others 9),
- Household/Cottage Industry 10** (Tobacco proc. & rolling 1, Cane & basketry 2, tea processing (ss) 3, spices & condiments 4, Pickles 5, Meat/fish processing 6, Others 9)
- Transport 11** (Taxis 1, buses 2, trucking 3, Others 9),
- Restaurant & Hotels 12** (Restaurant 1, Hotels 2, Boarding Houses/Hostels 3, tea shops/ eateries, 4, Others 9),
- Food Processing 13** (Fruit canning 1, Bakery 2, Others 9),
- Undertakers 14** (House/ Buildings 1, Roads/bridges 2, Others 9),
- Health 15** (Druggist 1, Pharmacists 2, Doctors 3, Veterinarians 4, Others 9)