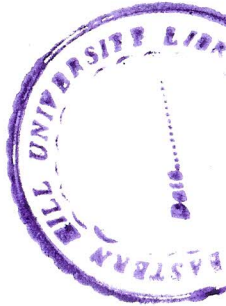


STATE ENTERPRISES IN MIZORAM: ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGERIAL DIMENSIONS



THESIS SUBMITTED FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

BY

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This is to certify that Shri.F.Lalhwingsanga, Senior Lecturer in Political Science, Champhai Govrenment College, Champhai, Aizawl District, Mizoram, worked under my supervision on the topic 'State Enterprises in Mizoram: Administrative and Managerial Dimensions' for the degree of doctor of philosophy in conformity to the Rules / Regulations / Ordinances relating to the degree of Ph.D. of North Eastern Hill University, Shillong. The thesis is a product of his own original work and it does not form a part of any other thesis. He is allowed to submit the thesis for examination.


(R.N.PRASAD)

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CHAPTER - 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Nature and Scope:

This research study aims to analyse the organisation-
al, administrative and managerial dimension of Public Sector
Enterprises in Mizoram. There is practically no written documents
nor systematic study on the working of Public Sector Enterprises
in Mizoram. This issue has not yet attracted the attention of
scholars. This is because of the fact that Public Sector Enter-
prises, both departmental and extra-departmental have come up in
Mizoram only in recent years. It is in this context that the
present study of Public Sector Enterprises in Mizoram are taken
up and this study represents a first step in the direction of
further researches on Public Enterprises in the state of Mizoram.

1.2 Geo-Political Profile of Mizoram:

Mizoram is one of the seven states in the North
Eastern Region of India. Earlier Mizoram was known as Lushai
Hills District and it was one of the Districts of Assam state
till it became a Union Territory in 1972. Mizoram attained full
fledged statehood on 20th February 1986. It is a small hilly area
lying approximately between 21.58° to 24.35° North Latitude and
 92.15° to 93.29° East Longitude. The total area of the state is
21,087 sq.km ¹ constituting about 0.64 percent of the total

geographical area of India. It has a strategic location having International boundary with Myanmar in the East and North, and Bangladesh and the Indian state of Tripura in the West. Again, it is bounded by Cachar District of Assam and Manipur in the Northern side. Mizoram is divided into three Districts, namely, Aizawl, Lunglei and Chhimituipui with their respective headquarters being at Aizawl, Lunglei and Saiha. Each district is under the charge of a Deputy Commissioner. Chhimituipui District has three autonomous district councils - (1) Mara Autonomous District Council (2) Lai Autonomous District Council, and (3) Chakma Autonomous District Council with District Council Headquarters at Saiha, Lawngtlai and Chawngte respectively.

There are 20 Development Blocks, each under a Block Development Officer. According to the 1991 census, there are 698 habited villages and 22 towns. The general welfare of the people in the villages are managed by Village Councils who are democratically elected for a period of three years. In 1994, there were 681 villages in Mizoram having Village Councils.

1.3 Demographic Characteristics of Mizoram:

The population of Mizoram, according to 1991 census stood at 689,756 consisting of 358,978 males and 330,778 females.² A growth rate of 38.98 percent has been registered during the decade 1981 to 1991. The decennial growth rate registered during 1971 to 1981 was 48.55 percent. This shows that

there has been a significant drop in the growth rate of the population in Mizoram.

The literacy rate of Mizoram is 81.23 percent. Male literacy and female literacy rates being 84.06 percent and 78.09 percent respectively. Density of population in Mizoram is 33 per sq.km. against 267 per sq.km. in India. The sex ratio in Mizoram is 924 females per 1000 males.

Of the 689,756 persons in Mizoram, 369,177 live in the rural areas and 317,040 in urban areas. This indicates that 53.80 percent of the population live in rural and the rest 46.20 percent in urban areas. While the population in the urban areas, during the decade 1981 to 1991 has registered a phenomenal growth rate of 160.27 percent, the decadal growth rate in respect of rural had fallen by 0.74 percent.

1.4 Socio - Economic Feature of the State:

Agriculture is the backbone of the state economy. According to 1991 census - 61.3 percent of the working population of Mizoram are cultivators. Shifting cultivation is the major agricultural system except in some valley plains where permanent wet rice cultivation are practised. Recently, the state government introduced New Land Use Policy (NLUP) in order to control and replace shifting cultivation by providing the rural population with alternative income generating activities. This policy is

expected to bring about progressive reduction of areas under shifting cultivation and bring prosperity to the rural people.

The state is industrially backward and the contribution of the industrial sector in the economy in term of output and employment generation is very low compared to other Indian states. The principal characteristics of Small Scale Industrial (SSI) Unit in Mizoram as on March 1988 are summarised in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 Principal characteristics of SSI Units in Mizoram (March 1988)

| Sl.No. | Particulars | Units | Total |
|--------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. | Units registered | Nos. | 917 |
| 2. | Employment | Persons | 4223 |
| 3. | Fixed investment | Rupees in lakh | 1386 |
| 4. | Investment in plant and machinery | Rupees in lakh | 472 |
| 5. | Working capital | Rupees in lakh | 457 |
| 6. | Production | Rupees in lakh | 1470 |
| 7. | Capacity utilisation | percentage | 71.88 |

Source : Basic Statistics 1992, North Eastern Council, Shillong.

The state has low infrastructural base. Some of the important indicators of infrastructural development of the state

are summarised in Table 1.2.

Table 1.2 Indicators of Infrastructural Development of Mizoram.

| Sl.No. | Particulars | Units | Total |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Road length per 100 sq.km. 1989 | Kms | 22.99 |
| 2. | Road length per 1000 popu- lation 1989 | Kms | 9.82 |
| 3. | Population per doctor | persons | 5123 |
| 4. | Villages electrified March 1982 | percent to total villages | 71.7 |
| 5. | Per capita consumption of electric power 1989 | KWH | 57 |
| 6. | Per capita budgeted expen- diture on education (Reve- nue account) 1989 to 1990 | Rupees | 466.00 |
| 7. | Per capita expenditure on health 1989 | Rupees | 434.00 |
| 8. | Per capita plan outlay (VII Plan) | Rupees | 5200.00 |

Source : 1. Basic Statistics of North East Region 1987, 1982, North Eastern Council, Shillong.

2. Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, Basic Statistics Volume 2. September 1989.

The Mizos are highly homogenous ethnic group and they belong to Mongoloid stock. They came under the influence of Christian Missionaries in the 19th Century and a majority of them now practise christianity.

The Mizo society is a close knit one and it attaches

