

Economic Base and Level of Development a Case Study of Zawngin Village, Saitual District, Mizoram, India

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Submitted: 15-10-2021

Revised: 26-10-2021

Accepted: 28-10-2021

ABSTRACT – Zawngin is a medium sized hilly village in Mizoram. The study is focused on understanding the socio-economic conditions and the level of development of the village from 1981 to 2001. Analysis of age and sex distribution, level of education, sex ratio and growth of population revealed the level of Socio-economic development of Zawngin and it shows that the village has a higher literacy rate in comparison to other rural areas as well as state literacy rate. The study shows that a majority of the people are engaged in agriculture for their livelihood and trade being least dominant which trails very near to livestock. The percentage of people going for higher studies is low comparing to the high literacy rate. This can be attributed to government service not being a dominant work for their livelihood. The present study has pointed out the various socio-economical and developmental hindrances faced by the village. Keyword: Zawngin, Saitual district, Mizoram, Socio-economic, development.

I. INTRODUCTION

The theme of the study is based on understanding the structure, landforms, lithology, climatic conditions, Social and Cultural, Economy and drainage system of the study area. Studying of social and economic settings cannot be neglected where geographical studies include social aspects to understand the spatial variations of human cultural traits. Socio economics and cultural aspects influence the productivity of the land and occupation of the people, by the service and the facilities available to the people and the capacity to utilize them. The level of income and expenditure on various items of daily needs are varying. The pattern and the purpose of movement of the people to different places are influenced by the varying living conditions of the people. Better

understanding of the village and its population and their socio-economic characteristics of the area is thus an important task to be fulfilled. The physical settings will include geographical location, land use/land cover and climate. The study is focused on social structure, population composition, work force and occupational structure, sex composition and expenditure, which will help us to better understand the identity of the people on the study area.

STUDY AREA

The study area is a medium size village situated in the northern part of Mizoram and lies in the co-ordinates of 23° 54' 10" N and 93° 1' 5" E. It is located in Phullen RD Block of Saitual district, Mizoram with a total of approximately 130 families residing. According to Survey (Dissertation) information, the location code or village code of Zawngin village is 271221. Zawngin village is located in Phullen Tehsil of Saitual district in Mizoram, India. It is situated 11km away from sub-district headquarter Phullen and 155 above km away from district headquarter Aizawl (i.e Via Aizawl to Suangpuilawn at 150km and Via Aizawl to Phullen Road at 130 km. Agriculture is the main profession of this village.

GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING:

Zawngin is situated at the hilly terrain like most of the village in Mizoram. This is due to the fact that the hills of western slope of the mountain ranges have higher degree of slope than the eastern part. The climate of the region is characterized by monsoon type of climate. The area enjoys moderate climate throughout the year. Generally, the climate of this village is humid tropical characterized by short winter, long summer with heavy rainfall. The village received adequate

amount of rainfall with an average annual rainfall of approximately 200mm. The onset of Monsoon generally begins from May through October followed by winter in the early months of November. Driest being December and January.

The temperature generally varies between 16 degree to 32-degreeCelsius. During winter, temperature varies between 8-16-degreeCelsius, while in summer it varies between 20-32 degree Celsius respectively. Besides, other attribute like soil, vegetation etc. are all consider similar to the other part of Zawngin due to the lack of proper studies and observation and we also not fully explain about in vegetation and soil.

II. METHODOLOGY

To understand their economic base and level of development of the rural areas of the survey area, extensive field survey of the study area was carried out for understanding the socio-economic condition of the Village. First hand data collection was done at the village. Scheduled data collection was incorporated. Besides Schedule, some secondary data has been collected through book published by Village NGO(VanphungaThlantlang ah by Zawngin Student union,Silver Jubilee Souvenir by Presbyterian Church Zawngin,INLENG weekly Magazine published by Branch YMA Zawngin and GILGAL weekly magazine published by KTP Zawngin Branch), Education Department and other governmental bodies as well as private bodies.The scattered data and information available in the various report, census report, village council record etc. have also been collected and utilized whenever possible. The data and information obtained from both primary and secondary data are together framed on a single chart paper and compilation was done. The economic and social and demographic aspects are developed, analyzed and this analytic work in turn point out the economic base and the socio-economic development of the village.

III. RESULTS

Analysis of human resource like age and sex distribution, level of education, sex ratio and growth of population revealed the level of Socio-economic development of Zawngin. Most of the rural areas are considered to be low in educational pattern. Zawngin village has low literacy rate i.e. 79.04% as compare to other rural areas and as also compared to the state literacy rate i.e. 88.8% in the 2001 census reports. In spite of these, the proportion of population who has studied upto middle school is quite high. This is supported by the presence of primary and middle school and

high school in the village. However, the lack of institution for higher studies has accordingly decreased the proportion of population who studied up to Post-graduate level and even Graduate levels. Pursuing further studies is limited for majority of the people because of the location of the village and also, their means of daily income is not wholly dependent on higher classes of education levels.

The analysis of age structure of the study village reveals that there are more productive population than dependent population. High proportion of productive population means higher income, high level of fertility potential and more potential for socio economic development.Although the fertility potential of the village is high, growth rate of the population in the study are decline from 24.04% of growth during 1981-1991 to 16 % growth in 1991-2001. The reason behind this is mainly due to awareness among the people about the important of family planning. In addition to this the educated people are likely to keep their family size small because they are more keenly aware or material wealth and have greater financial aspiration.

Around 53.4% of the population is engaged in agriculture. Rice is the dominant crop and is mostly cultivated by jhum cultivators. Settled cultivation is also practiced by 37% of the households. This form of cultivation is more productive than jhum cultivation. Horticultural crops like Banana, orange,ginger, etc. are cultivated in this form of cultivation. Agricultural productivity of Zawngin Village is quite high and is self-sufficient in terms of agricultural productions.Surplus productions are plenty yet unprofitable as the lack of good market and regular transportation has depleted the chances of such benefits.

This is considered to be a serious reason behind the underdevelopment of the village.

Livestock rearing and animal husbandry act as an important subsidiary occupation and means of income generation. Development of livestock is of vitalimportant for economic development of the village and can be used as a better alternative to traditional jhum practice. Absence of mineral resources and non-availability of adequate power supply has restricted the construction of even small-scale industry in the study village. The only industry available being household industries such as tailoring, furniture workshop etc. Since the area is endowed with rich forest resource like wood, bamboo etc., there is a great scope for establishing agro based industries like paper and pulp, plywood industries etc. The differences and variations in the economic, social

and cultural characteristic of different strata of the region are being crucially studied, which are mainly influenced by productivity of the land, occupation of the people, its location, facilities available to the people and the capacity to utilize them.

IV. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The present work is particularly devoted to analyze the growth of rural areas in Mizoram, their economy and level of Development. Like other states, the development of Mizoram greatly depends on the level of development of the economy of the rural areas. Therefore, as far as possible, the rural development is one of the major aspects of the government of Mizoram for the development of the state economy.

Ever since the introduction of economic planning in India, various programmes and approaches have been adopted for rural development, since rural development play a crucial role for the development of a country or nation. With the introduction of various government schemes like PMGY, IAY, NLUP, SEDP etc., the socio-economic state of rural areas is being developed. Therefore, the study of economic base and their potential development is very important for the upliftment and development of rural areas.

As there is a positive relationship between education and rural development, creation of awareness and motivation of the villagers to pursue higher studies is an important task for the development of the study village. Higher education level would surely help the villager to adopt new technology in the agricultural sector, better land use practice as well as optimum utilization of local resource. Agriculture plays a dominant role not only in the rural area but also at the state as a whole, because it occupies an important position in the economy of Mizoram.

Also, the route to economic development and alleviation of poverty in the study village is through the development of transportation network and agriculture and allied activities. It is only by increasing productivity of agriculture, horticulture and development of small-scale industry like agro based industries, handloom and handicraft that the income of the households can be increased. The everincreasing population leads to added significance of development of rural areas like Zawngin, which have high potential for development.

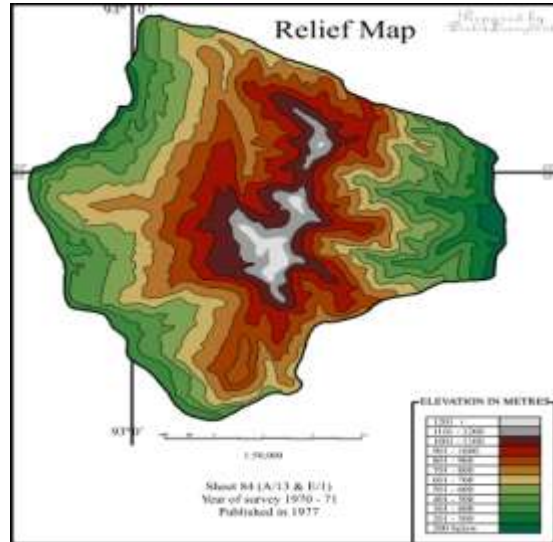
The description of the social and economic characteristic of the village gives a clear picture of the distinction that exists in different rural villages and may bring out the tendency to study in detail the major causes and hindrances in the imbalance and spatial inequality existing in Mizoram. The clean analytical work of this study will represent a clear picture of the present rural economy of Mizoram.

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List of Maps, Tables and Figures:

MAP 1: Relief Map of Zawngin Village



MAP 2: Satellite Map of Zawngin.

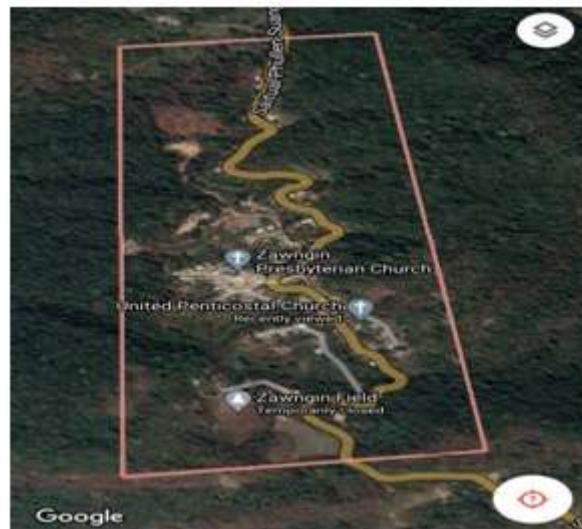


Table 1: Age Sex Composition of Zawngin Village, 2011

AGE GROUP	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
0-10	59	54	113
11-20	46	43	89
21-30	43	40	83
31-40	39	34	73
41-50	34	31	65
51-60	28	26	54
61-70	15	14	29
71-80	6	6	12
Above 81	2	4	7

TABLE 2: Details of Education, 2011

Sl.No		Male	Female	Total	% of male population	% of female population	% of total M+F to total population
1	Illiterate	51	59	110	19	23.4	20.8
2	Primary	71	67	138	26	26.6	26.2
3	Middle	68	57	125	25	22.6	24.0
4	High school	38	30	68	14	12.0	13
5	Higher	25	22	47	9	8.6	9
6	College	13	12	25	5	4.8	4.7
7	University	7	5	12	2	2.0	2.3
	Total	273	252	525	100	100	100

TABLE 3: Literacy Rate of Zawngin, 2011

	No.of Male	No.of Female	Total	% of Total
Illiterate	51	59	110	20.95
Literate	222	193	415	79.05

TABLE 4: Consumer Durable Item Possessed in the Family, 2011

Sl.NO	Items	No. of Families
1	Pressure Cooker	120
2	Radio	25
3	Almirah	80
4	Gas oven	55
5	Tape recorder	10
6	Sewing machine	25
7	Bicycle	20
8	Television	85
9	Mobile phone	95
10	Refrigerator	60
11	Scooter/Bike	30
12	Car	10

TABLE 5: Average Income of Zawngin, 2011.

Sl.NO	Occupational Category	Average Monthly Income (in Rs)	Average Annual Income (in Rs)	% of Income
1	Jhum	130000	1560000	58.96
2	Settled	7500	90000	3.40
3	Service	58000	696000	26.30
4	Trade	10000	120000	4.54
5	Livestock	15000	180000	6.8
	Total	220500	4206000	100

FIG 1: Population Growth of Zawngin.

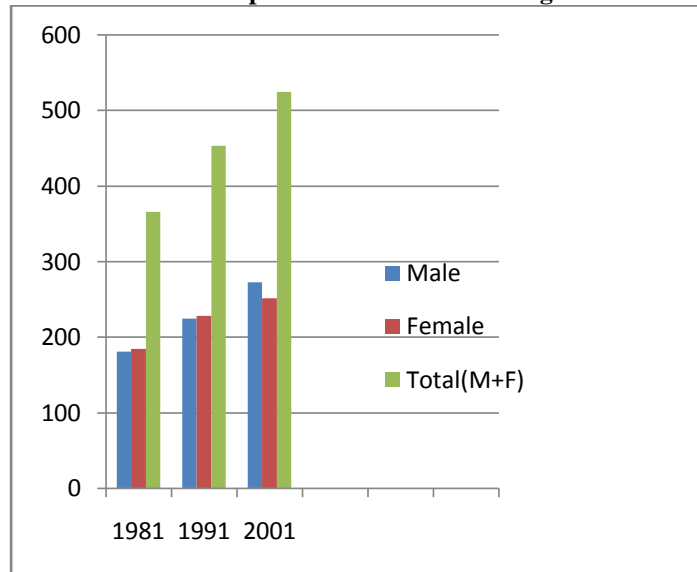


FIG 2: Level of Education, 2011

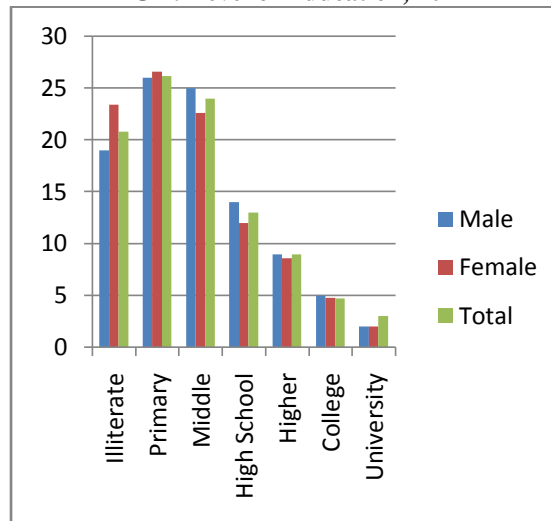


FIG 3: Comparison of Male and Female Literacy of Zawngin (2011)

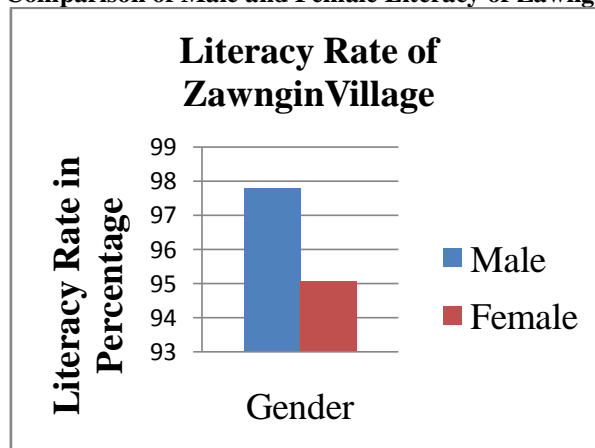


FIG 4: Average Family Size of Zawngin, 2011

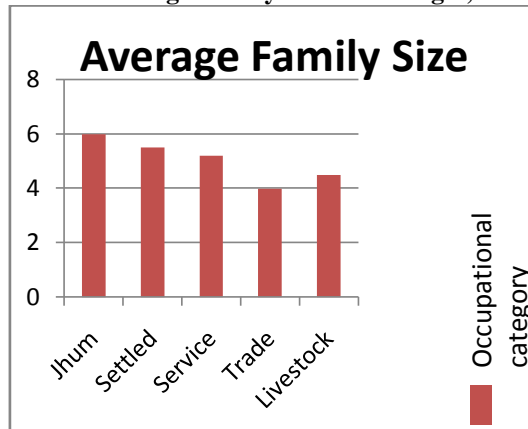


FIG 5: Occupational Pattern, 2011

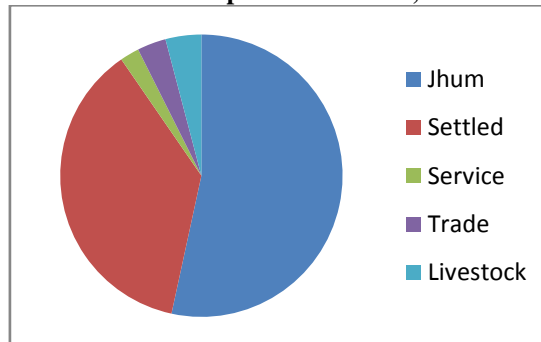


FIGURE 6: Income versus Expenditure, 2011

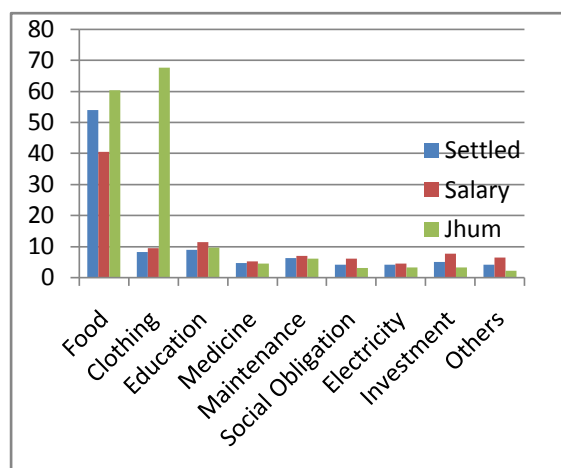


FIG 6: Occupation Based Expenditure, 2011