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## **ROLE OF SERVICE SECTOR IN MIZORAM ECONOMY**

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# Role of Service Sector in Mizoram Economy

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**Abstract – The paper examined the role of service sector in Mizoram economy. It described its contribution to the state NSDP, the financial burden incurred towards maintenance of law and order, the availability of public services like communication, Banking, lodging, Education and health facilities.**

**Keywords: Service Sector, NSDP, CD Ratio, Literacy, Density.**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Service sector includes the public administration, transport, communication, banking, education, health, trade, hotel and restaurant, insurance etc. In Mizoram, Public administration is the main sector in the service sector. Service sector always accounted for the highest contribution to the state's economy for a number of years.

Infrastructure has played a key role in a developmental process of any country. The four layers of connectivity (viz. economic connectivity, physical connectivity, electronic connectivity and knowledge connectivity), good banking facility, quality education, better health services, favourable law and order condition etc are the key ingredients for a healthy and sustain economic growth. The absence of these services quickly and radically reduces quality of human life and their productivity.

In certain area, Mizoram occupied a place of pride in national level. These areas include literacy, village electrification, provision of safe drinking water, infant mortality rate etc. However, in other areas Mizoram is still lacking behind as compared to other states.

## 2. ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE MIZORAM ECONOMY:

The contribution of tertiary/ service sector to the state economy is illustrated in the following table. The table reveals that its contribution is hovering around 58% to 60% over the years. It was 59.90% in 2004-05, 58.07% in 2005-06, 59.64% in 2006-07, 59.00% in 2007-08, 59.44% in 2008-09, 59.96% in 2009-10 and 59.73% in 2010-10 to the Net State Domestic Product (NSDP).

Table No.

(Percentage contribution of service sector to the state economy)

(in 2004-05 series at current prices)								
Sl. No	Tertiary Sector	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
1	Public Administration	18.46	16.72	16.68	15.78	17.30	19.01	18.65
2	Transport, storage & communication	2.68	2.63	2.69	2.64	2.29	2.16	2.07
3	Banking & insurance	2.72	2.60	2.73	2.66	2.58	2.51	2.46
4	Trade, hotel & Restaurants	9.59	9.71	10.02	10.25	10.50	10.30	10.43
5	Real estate, ownership of dwelling & Business Services	13.62	14.34	15.10	15.25	15.46	15.61	16.08
6	Other services	12.84	12.08	12.43	12.42	11.32	10.38	10.03
	Total of tertiary sector	59.90	58.07	59.64	59.00	59.44	59.96	59.73

Source: Statistical handbook of Mizoram 2010

## 3.1 PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION:

The state government employed 53,653 persons as on 31.3.2010 consisting of Group A – 4,153; Group B – 17,184; Group C – 21,425; Group D – 9,829 and MR, Contact, Co-terminus and Officiating etc- 1,062 persons<sup>1</sup>. As on March 3, 2011, there are 46915 regular employees with 2421 Contract and 8410 MRs employees while there is 7173 vacant posts. Under various boards, Council and authorities there are 6663 regular employees while 1636 posts are laying vacant. 17,362 employees<sup>2</sup> got salary under the Plan expenditure/ head as on April 2012 and the total salary payment under the Plan head for the year is Rs 125.93 crores.

The lion's share of the budget has been incurred for maintenance of government machinery. 38.58 % of the total budget was incurred for salary of government employees, 36.10% for developmental works and 25.31% for maintenance of government

<sup>1</sup> Statistical Abstract 2011, Govt. of Mizoram

<sup>2</sup> Group A - 1,476; Group B - 4,794; Group C - 1,043; Group D - 1,415; MR - 6,938; Work Charge - 717 and Contract - 979

machineries during 2001-02. After 10 years, ie for 2011-12, the percentage share of salary is almost the same, ie. 37.76%, and 44.94% for maintenance of government machineries leaving 17.28% only for developmental works. Again, the percentage share of salary is 39.75% for 2012-'13 year (BE), however, the actual payment can be known only after the financial year (RE). The actual payment for the salary is expected to rise beyond the earmarked figure of 39.75%<sup>3</sup>. At the same time, as on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012, there are 15,877 persons who enjoyed pension/ family pension from Mizoram government, and Rs 272.80 crores has been earmarked for the pension bill during 2011-12.

In 2009-10, the state government spends Rs 1080.60 Crores for payment of salary of her employees. Apart from the salary, various components like MR, wages, rent for offices, vehicle expense, TA, stationary etc consumed a large part of the budget leaving a merge pie for economic development.

For 2012-13 (BE), Rs 2057.76 is earmarked for salaries (Rs 1615.64 crore under Non Plan, Rs 416.15 under Plan and Rs 25.97 crore under CSS/NEC/NLCPR), and this salary component constitutes 39.73% of the total budget of Rs 5176.25 crore.

Less than 20% of the total budget has been spent for the development works while more than 80% is used for running the government machinery like salary, wages, rent, vehicle maintenance, TA, MR, OC/OE, minor works, office furniture etc.

At the same time, the contribution of public administration to the state economy was the highest as depicted in the table. It was hovering between 15% and 19% over the years.

### 3.2 TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION:

Road communication is the most important mode of carrying goods and passengers within the state, inter-state and international borders along the Bangladesh and Myanmar. Therefore, roads serve as the most important means of communication, transportation of goods and passengers, and the lifeline of the State's economy.

The total length of all types of roads in Mizoram up to 31.3.2009 is 7805.46Km and road density is 37.03 Km/100 Sq Km. approximately, whereas the total length of roads in the beginning of 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan (i.e 2007) was 6059.83 Km which was 28.36 Km/ 100 Sq Km. The density of road in Mizoram is still very low as compared to the average national level of 96.57 Km/ 100 Sq Km. There is a need for a quantum leap of investment in road sector to catch up with the national level of road density. Details of road density and

various categories of road as well as district wise are available in table No. 2

Table No. 2

#### Road length and density (District wise)

(as on 2008-09)							
Sl. No	District	NH	State road	District road	Village road	Town road	Length per 100 Sq.km
1	Mamit	130.00	93.50	461.80	26.50	67.76	779.56
2	Kolasib	263.31	60.42	263.14	79.14	92.02	758.03
3	Aizawl	386.41	209.62	362.22	248.88	344.98	1552.11
4	Champhai	Nil	404.85	459.92	316.05	133.52	1314.34
5	Serchhip	164.55	90.70	195.96	63.38	40.14	554.73
6	Lunglei	242.00	201.55	543.49	130.50	170.07	1287.61
7	Lawngtlai	85.00	188.55	489.89	109.69	34.40	907.53
8	Saiha	171.36	108.00	242.88	100.50	28.81	651.55
	Mizoram	1442.63	1357.19	3019.30	1074.64	911.70	7805.46

Source: JV. Nunchunga (2011), Inter District Developmental Disparities of Mizoram, India, UGC Sponsored MRP.

#### 3.2.1 National Highway:

Six (6) National Highways is passing Mizoram. NH No. 54 has been taken over by Mizoram PWD from BRO since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010, 2-laning Projects with an investment of Rs. 90.55 crores on various National Highways viz. NH-154 (Bairabi- Bilkhawthli), NH-54 (Aizawl-Silchar) and NH-44A (Aizawl - Mamit - Tripura) of approximately 210.00 kms is in progress since the last 5 (five) years and is expected to be completed shortly.

A new 2-lane Highway of about 100.00 kms under Kaladan Multi Modal Transport Project costing Rs.502.24 crore is being undertaken and work is in progress, and it is targeted to be completed by 2014.

#### 3.2.2 Mizoram State Road Project (World Bank Project):

The implementation of World Bank Funded, Mizoram State Road Project was started from the last quarter of 2001-02. The final sanction amount of this project is Rs. 541.30 crores, the project includes the main project i.e. Aizawl-Lunglei Road via Thenzawl (168.00 kms) improvement and re-surfacing of the following roads:- (1) Kawkulh - Ngopa Road, (2) Khawzawl-Biate Road (3) Chekkawn-N.Vanlaiphai Road (4) Lungsan-Chawngte Road (5) Zobawk-Haulawng Road, (6) Damdai-Sialsuk Road, (7) Selesih-Thuampui Road and (8) Road Project under NEC

There are 7 (seven) nos of on-going projects with a total sanctioned amount of Rs. 201.03 crores under NEC which are spilled over from 10<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan. These are expected to be completed within 2012. Besides there are 3(three) numbers of road projects approved and being implemented during 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan with a total approved cost of Rs. 214.03 crores. The project is targeted to be completed by March 2011.

<sup>3</sup> Budget-a mipui chan, PRISM Publication

### 3.2.3 PMGSY (Bharat Nirman):

PMGSY (Bharat Nirman) Programme was started in 2000-01. The main objective of the programme is to provide connectivity to all habitations with population of 250 & above for desert and hilly area, and 500 & above for plain area by way of making all weather road to promote their socio economic development. The scheme is a 100% Centrally sponsored scheme.

In Mizoram, there are 251 villages to be connected under PMGSY and the approximate length for connecting the villages is 2608 km. 164 villages out of 251 villages for a length of 1780 km (including 550 km of black topping) has been sanctioned by the Govt. of India. Out of which 108 villages have been connected and 1398 km (including 257 km of Black topping) has been completed.

### 3.2.4 Commercial Transport:

At present, a large number of private transport operators are in operations. The Maxi Cab service has taken possession of the earlier Bus services in almost every route, superseding the services of buses for passengers travelling throughout the length and breadth of Mizoram and to the neighbouring states. Till 2008-09, there were 1297 nos of Maxi Cab and 2901 nos of Trucks & Lorries on roads. The number of Motor Cab (Taxi) and Commercial Auto Rickshaw registered and servicing were respectively 4697 and 2103 up to 2008-09. The estimated contribution made by Transport (other than Railways) to the GSDP during 2008-09 is Rs. 76.36 crores.

### 3.2.5 Operation of MST Buses in Transport Department:

The State Transport Buses carrying passengers and mails are plying in various routes, even to the far flung remote areas of the State in the interest of public service where private operators are reluctant due to uneconomical nature of operating a bus service.

As on December 2010, the total strength of MST fleet was 53. In the meantime, regular routes covered by MST Buses are 17. During 2009-10, these Buses performed 6,028 trips travelling 12.21 lakh Kms. carrying 1,12,919 passengers. The revenue earned during 2009-10 was Rs. 198.44 lakhs against the target of Rs. 188.00 lakhs.

**Table No 3**

### No. of vehicle (all types<sup>4</sup>) as on 31.3.2011

Sl. No	District	Non Govt. vehicle	Govt. vehicle	Total	No. of vehicle per 100 persons
1	Mamit	820	17	837	0.98
2	Kolasib	4914	29	4943	5.95
3	Aizawl	64926	3920	68846	17.04
4	Champhai	3750	7	3757	3.00
5	Serchhip	2419	28	2447	3.77
6	Lunglei	7942	90	8032	5.21
7	Lawngtlai	985	2	987	0.84
8	Saiha	2022	51	2073	3.68
	Mizoram	87,778	4,144	91,922	8.43

*Source: Directorate of Transport, Govt. of Mizoram*

### 3.2.6 Motor Vehicles:

The total number of motor vehicles on road in the State up to the end of 2009-10 for both private and government vehicles was 80,135, the number of vehicles on road has increased by 10,304 (14.75%) over a period of one year as against 69,831 at the end of the previous year. Of the total number of vehicles in operation during 2009-10, 52.33% are two-wheelers while 36.94% were light motor vehicles (Motor Cab, Maxi cab, Motor Car, Jeep, Gypsy, Taxi etc), Truck and Lorries constituted 3.8% of all vehicles on road.

### 3.2.7 Rail Connectivity:

Railway line extends to Mizoram at Bairabi, near the Assam border measuring only 1.5 km from Katakai Junction. Passengers and goods arrive at this station once a day. Railways also play a vital role in carrying essential commodities to the State. Since all major towns are far off from Bairabi, the role of railways in the economy of Mizoram till today is almost negligible.

The new railway line project from Bairabi to Sairang having a length of 51.38 kms was sanctioned in the railway budget 2008-09 at a total cost of Rs.510.34 crores. A Task Force on National Railway Project has also been constituted to function as a mechanism of continuous interaction between the Railway and the State Government.

### 3.2.8 Postal services:

The total number of Post Offices at the end of the year 2008-09 was 405. However, the number of post office as on March 2011 decreased to 400 as some post offices have been merged with the parent offices under the 'matching saving scheme'. Some POs are being proposed to merge with revenue earning Post

<sup>4</sup> This includes all types of vehicle registered in the state



offices and Dak Ghar which are running on loss are likely to be closed down in the near future.

**Table No. 4**

**No. of Sub-Post Office plus Post Office as on 2008-09**

Sl. No.	District	Rural	Urban	Total	No. of SPO + PO per 10,000 population
1	Mamit	36	2	38	4.43
2	Kolasib	20	3	23	2.77
3	Aizawl	94	33	127	3.14
4	Champhai	57	3	60	4.79
5	Serchhip	24	2	26	4.01
6	Lunglei	67	13	80	5.19
7	Lawngtlai	19	1	20	1.70
8	Saiha	29	1	30	5.32
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>3.70</b>

Source: JV. Nunchunga (2011)

**3.2.9 Telecommunications:**

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited is the largest Telecommunication Services provider within the state of Mizoram. As on February 2011 there are 6,01,169 mobile phone connections in the state while there was 5,61,917 connection during February 2010 which is an increase of 6.98% from the previous year. Airtel has the majority of subscribers with 2,30,000 connections followed by BSNL with 1,32,436 connections. Detail district wise information is presented below.

**Table No. 5**

**Number of Telephone Subscribers/ Connections**

District	Mobile Connection up to 31.3.2009					WLL connection	BSNL Landline connection	Grand total	Connection per 100 persons
	AIRTEL	BSNL	RELIANCE	AIRCEL	TOTAL				
Mamit	6160	1241	736	10320	18457	1900	907	21264	24.80
Kolasib	13280	3207	9399	12900	38786	1589	4271	44646	53.76
Aizawl	130280	55030	92502	21500	299312	3084	33458	335854	83.12
Champhai	2270	3441	2216	12900	20827	3565	3609	28001	22.33
Serchhip	7000	2607	7215	11180	28002	853	2946	31801	49.02
Lunglei	27300	17636	10118	17200	72254	2858	7984	83096	53.93
Lawngtlai	6000	3029	5308	-	14337	837	1172	16346	13.92
Saiha	5020	4102	7342	-	16464	706	2373	19543	34.67
Total	197310	90293	134836	86000	508439	15392	56720	580551	53.21

Source: JV. Nunchunga (2011)

**BSNL Land line Telephone:**

The Secondary Switching Area (SSA) or Telecom District which is also the LDCA (Long Distance Charging Area) is made up of 9 SDCAs (Short Distance Charging Areas) and covers the entire Mizoram State. BSNL, Mizoram provide WLL (Wireless in Local Loop) telephone service through CDMA technology to the rural areas and scattered areas.

**Village Public Telephone (VPT):**

Village Public Telephone (VPT) rental free Telephone connections are provided through WLL under USO funding. In this project one telephone connection rent free have to be provided at all the villages. Where the signals of WLL are not available VPT are provided with Direct Satellite Phone Terminal (DSPT). VPT have to be utilised by the villagers with a minimum call charges. Under this, 705 villages are provided VPT with WLL and 67 villages are provided VPT with DSPT.

**3.3 Banking Services:**

The total bank branches functioning as on 31.3.2011 stood at 113 while there were 109 bank branches in February 2010, which is an increase of 4.59%. Up to February 2011, there are 62 branches of Mizoram Rural Bank, 29 branches of State Bank of India, 11 branches of Mizoram Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd., 2 branches each for UBI and Vijaya Bank. Bank such as IDBI, UCO, Bank of Baroda, Punjab National Bank, Syndicate, Central Bank of India, ICICI, Axis, HDFC Ltd and Yes Bank have one branch each. Developmental Financial Institutions like NABARD, SIDBI and NEDFi also have their presence in the State.

The population served per branch comes to around 8175 in 2010 which is good when compared with the national average of 15,000. However, the location of branches in the State has been skewed in cities and urban centres. There are still many villages devoid of banking services even with a radius of 80-100 kms. The main reason being that there is generally small number of household in a village making branch banking unviable

**3.3.1 Credit Deposit Ratio:**

The credit deposit (CD) ratio generally gives an idea about the extent to which deposit resources have been locally deployed to propel the economy. Though, in itself, it has its own limitations, nevertheless it gives a clue regarding the credit absorption capacity of the local economy provided other things remain favorable.

The deposits, advances and CD ratio of the Commercial Banks, Rural Banks and Cooperative Bank in the State are given below.

**Table No. 6**

**District- wise No. of Bank branches and Credit – Deposit ratio as on 31.3.2010**

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	District	No. of Bank Branches	Total Deposit	Total Advances	C:D Ratio	No. of branch per 1,00,000 persons
1	Mamit	9	38.1	21.22	55.70	11.42
2	Kolasib	10	90.77	52.92	58.29	12.22
3	Aizawl	50	1932.28	828.64	42.88	12.54
4	Champhai	10	90.55	53.83	59.44	7.67
5	Serchhip	9	71.03	34.38	48.35	13.43
6	Lunglei	15	182.11	132.47	72.74	8.99
7	Lawngtlai	6	99.82	136.04	136.29	6.07
8	Saiha	4	78.81	74.11	94.04	5.23
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>2583.47</b>	<b>1333.61</b>	<b>51.62</b>	<b>10.28</b>

Source: JV. Nunchunga (2011)

The CD ratio in 2008-09 is 60.53% which declined to 51.62% in 2009-10. This is very low as compared to the national average of 75%.

There are 36 ATMs in the State, of which 25 belong to State Bank of India and 5 belongs to Axis bank. 10 ATMs are in the rural area

### 3.4 TOURISM SECTOR:

Tourism exist a vast potential for promoting tourism in Mizoram. The picturesque landscape, the salubrious climate, the unique culture, the hills and forest could offer a vast scope for adventure-tourism, eco-tourism and the like. However, the State is yet to exploit these potential to transform Mizoram into an ideal tourist destination.

**Table No. 7**

**Number of Tourist Arrived & Amount of revenue collected**

Year	Tourist Arrival		Revenue (Rs in lakh)
	Domestic	Foreign	
2005-06	45,999	313	62.11
2006-07	50,244	542	82.07
2007-08	44,226	735	-86.41
2008-09	56,793	842	110.17
2009-10	57,639	675	123.51
2010-11 up to Dec. 2010	43,107	424	NA

Source: Economic Survey of Mizoram 2009-10

The state received 46,801 domestic tourists and 1,795 foreign tourists during 2008-09, as against 44,226 domestic tourists and 735 foreign tourists during the previous year (2007-08), there is a significant increase in the number of foreign tourists during 2008-09.

**Table No.8**

**Number of Tourist accommodation in the state**

Sl. No.	District	Tourist lodge (2009-)	Highway restaurant (2009-)	Departmental Rest House (2003)	IB (2003)	Hotel (2003)	Total	Accommodation per 100 Sq Km
1	Mamit	4		21	13	28	66	2.18
2	Kolasib	3		26	5	45	79	5.72
3	Aizawl	8		34	3	63	108	3.02
4	Champhai	5		26	12	26	69	2.17
5	Serchhip	1	1	10	11	25	48	3.38
6	Lunglei	5	3	28	12	50	98	2.16
7	Lawngtlai	3		19	2	17	41	1.60
8	Saiha	2	1	12	8	8	31	2.22
	<b>Mizoram</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>2.56</b>

Source: JV. Nunchunga (2011)

During the current 11<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan State Government has undertaken development of 3 nos of Tourist Circuit & Destination viz. Sothern Tourist Circuit Phase II, Tourist Destination - Sakawrdai & Kanmun through funding by Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India under 100% CSS. The State Government has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 2874.95 lakhs for completion of these projects.

The State Government has also identified another 5 nos of Tourist Circuit and destinations for which sanction has been obtained from Govt. of India.

### 3.5 SCHOOL EDUCATION

#### 3.5.1 Literacy:

The literacy rate of Mizoram has jumped from 36.23 % in 1951 to 88.8 % in 2001. The figure is further increased to 91.58% in 2011 occupying the 3<sup>rd</sup> position in the country. As per census of 2011, Serchhip district with 98.76% of literacy is the highest district literacy percentage all over the country.

The male - female differential in literacy is very narrow figuring only 3.96% and 4.32% in 2001 and 2011 census respectively.

#### 3.5.2 School Education:

The main objective of School Education is the development of human resource to achieve academic excellence through education. Since the opening of the first experimental school in 1901 by the Christian Missionaries, the progress of education has been tremendous such that Mizoram occupied the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> position in literacy percentage in 2001 and 2011 respectively. With continuing efforts made by the state government through SSA programmes, implementation of Mid-Day Meal scheme and Computer Aided Teachings (CAT), etc., there is a gradual advancement in the field of education.

Table No. 9

**Population, growth rate, sex ratio and literacy percentage (2011)**

Sl. No	District	Population	Growth Rate	Sex Ratio	Literacy %
1	Aizawl	4,04,054	24.07	1009	98.50
2	Saiha	56,366	-7.68	978	88.41
3	Serchhip	64,875	20.45	976	98.76
4	Kolasib	83,054	25.92	956	94.54
5	Mamit	85,757	36.59	924	85.96
6	Champhai	1,25,370	15.66	981	93.51
7	Lawngtlai	1,17,444	59.53	945	66.41
8	Lunglei	1,54,094	12.29	944	89.40
	Mizoram	10,91,014	22.13	975	89.40

Source: Census of India 2011 (Provisional Population Totals)

**3.5.3 Primary School:**

The number of Primary Schools (Class I - IV) has increased from 1,084 in 1989-99 to 1,782 in 2009-10 and enrolment has increased from 98,023 in 1989-99 to 1,56,396 in 2009-10, the increase rate of enrolment is 5.41% over the years. The number of teachers in Primary Education has decreased from 8716 in 2008-09 to 8477 in 2009-10.

**3.5.4 Middle School:**

The number of Middle Schools (Class V - VII) has increased to 1313 in 2009-10 as against 1253 in 2008-09 and the number of students has increased from 64887 in 2008-09 to 66776 in 2009-10, the increase rate of enrolment is 2.91 % over the previous year. The number of teachers has decreased from 7754 in 2008-09 to 7564 in 2009-10.

**3.5.5 High School:**

The number of High Schools (Class VIII - X) stood at 521 during 2009-10 as against 502 in the previous year. Number of enrolment has increased from 44576 to 48811 during the last two years which is 9.50 % increased; while the number teachers has fallen to 3853 during 2009-10 against 3886 in the previous year.

**3.5.6 Higher Secondary School:**

The number of Higher Secondary Schools (Class XI & XII) has increased from 86 in 2008-2009 to 95 in 2009-10. The enrolment has correspondingly increased from 14649 in 2008-09 to 17049 in 2009-10, which is an increase of 16.38 %. The number of teachers has also gone up from 1058 to 1224 during the last two years.

**3.5.7 Management of Schools:**

Up to 2009-2010, there were 3711 number of schools at different level of education in the State. Out of these, 37.75 % are owned and managed by Central/State Governments; 31.50 % are Private Un-Aided; 25 % are Private-Aided and the rest 5.75 % which comprised of Primary and Middle Schools are

run by Local Body, i.e., 3 Autonomous District Councils.

**3.5.8 Teacher-Pupil Ratio (TPR):**

The Teacher-Pupil Ratio means the average number of students per teacher at a specific level of education during a given school year. At present, one teacher is considered to teach approximately 18 students at Primary School, 9 students at Middle School, 13 students at High School and 14 students at Higher Secondary schools.

The availability of trained teachers is one of the most important indicators of quality education. While the percentage of teachers trained in Schools under State Government and local bodies is as high as 81.8%, the percentage of trained teachers in private unaided School is merely 5.6%, and that of Private Aided School is 25.2%

**3.5.9 Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER):**

GER means the total enrolment in a specific level of education regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the eligible official school-age population corresponding to the same level of education in a given school year. An increase in GER indicates a decrease in the number of drop-out students and out of school children in the state.

Table No. 10

**Status of GER during 2008-2009 & 2009-2010**

Stages	2008-2009	2009-2010
Primary School	119.4	108.22
Middle School	82.79	105.89
High School	56.67	74.61
Higher Secondary School	21.03	23.34

Source: Directorate of School Education, Aizawl

**3.5.10 Drop-Out Rate:**

Drop-Out Rate is the percentage of students/pupils who dropped-out from a given grade or cycle or level of education in a given school year. As per reconstructed Cohort method the dropout rate during 2009-10 has been worked out to be 18.7% for Primary School, 6.5% for Middle School and 11.8% for High School.

**3.5.11 Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA):**

SSA is being implemented in Mizoram since 2001-2002 with the objective of providing effective and relevant elementary education for all children between 6-14 years of age group

**Table No. 11**

**No. of educational institutions (as on 31.3.2009)**

Districts	Total of elementary schools	Elementary schools per 10,000 persons	Total of secondary + Sr. secondary School	No. of Sec. school per 10,000 population	No. of College per 1,00,000 population
Mamit	144	18.26	34	4.31	2.54
Kolasib	219	26.75	31	3.79	1.22
Aizawl	1003	25.16	230	5.77	3.26
Champhai	325	24.93	74	5.68	2.30
Serchhip	174	25.97	39	5.82	1.49
Lunglei	573	34.34	103	6.17	2.40
Lawngtlai	379	38.37	43	4.35	2.02
Saiha	219	28.62	34	4.44	1.31
TOTAL	3,036	27.63	588	5.35	2.46

Source: JV. Nunchunga (2011)

**3.5.12 Rashtriya Madyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA):**

The objective of the scheme is to achieve a Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of 75 % for Class IX - X within 5 years by providing a Secondary School within a reasonable distance of every habitation, to improve quality of education imparted at Secondary level by making all Secondary Schools conformed to prescribed norms, and to remove gender, socio-economic and disability barriers and to make universal access to Secondary level education by 2017, ie., by the end of 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan and Universal Retention by 2020.

**3.5.13 Higher and technical education:**

The State is having one Central University known as Mizoram University. At present, there are 20 Government Colleges, 2 Deficit Colleges, 2 teacher training colleges, i.e., College of Teachers' Education (CTE) and Mizoram Hindi Training College (MHTC) [where degree courses in education is imparted for both in-service and pre-service], Collegiate Boys' & Girls' Hostel at Aizawl and Shillong, etc., 2 Polytechnics, i.e., Mizoram Polytechnic, Lunglei (MPL) and Women Polytechnic, Aizawl (WPA).

**3.5.14 Mizoram education reforms commission (MERC):**

In order to reform the system of education, Government of Mizoram set up the Mizoram Education Reforms Commission (MERC) to recommend ways and means to raise standard of education and improvement of quality. This Education Reform Commission is the 2<sup>nd</sup> reformed commission ever constituted in India since Independence, the first one is the Indian Education Reforms Commission (1966) which is also known as The Kothari Commission (1966). The Mizoram Education Reforms Commission (MERC) had submitted its report to the government on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2010

The Government of Mizoram constituted Group of Experts (GoE) which comprises of Chairman, Secretary<sup>5</sup> and 3 Members on 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2010 to scrutinize and make recommendation to the Government from the Report of the Mizoram Education Reforms Commission, determine those actions which are necessary to be taken up on priority basis from the recommendation of the Commission, prepare road map for implementation of the report of the Commission. The Group of Experts had submitted its report to the Chief Minister on February 28, 2011.

**3.6 HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES**

**3.6.1 Health Services:**

Health Services has been provided by the State Government through a network of 370 Health Sub-Centre, 57 Primary Health Centres, and 12 Community Health Centre. Despite the expansion of health delivery system in the State access to quality Health Services need improvement especially in rural areas where there are no private health providers.

**Table No.12**

**Number of registered medical and para-medical personnel for 2008-09**

Sl. No	District	Doctors	Nurses	Health Workers	Pharmacists	Lab. Technicians	Grand total	No. of curative + preventive staff per 10,000 persons
1	Mamit	16	43	78	9	4	150	19.03
2	Kolasib	26	51	69	9	5	160	19.55
3	Aizawl	150	349	318	34	28	879	22.05
4	Champhai	31	74	138	12	9	264	20.25
5	Serchhip	16	46	61	8	3	134	20.00
6	Lunglei	37	102	184	11	11	345	20.68
7	Lawngtlai	15	21	82	3	3	124	12.55
8	Saiha	9	40	62	4	3	118	15.42
	Mizoram	300	726	992	90	66	2174	19.78

Source: JV. Nunchunga (2011)

The three major causes of death (medically certified or not) are Cancer, Asthma & Bronchitis and Malaria.

**Table No. 13**

**Number of births by sex and sex ratio at birth (2008-09)**

Sl. No	District	Total No. of Births	Rural			Urban			Female Per 100 males
			Persons	Mal	Female	Persons	Male	Female	
1	Mamit	1,901	1,694	892	802	207	114	93	86
2	Kolasib	1,913	1,039	571	468	874	447	427	89
3	Aizawl	8,102	2,075	1,02	1,054	6,027	3,102	2,925	98
4	Champhai	2,667	1,816	883	933	851	425	426	103
5	Serchhip	1,152	647	340	307	505	266	239	90
6	Lunglei	3,356	2,135	1,08	1,048	1,221	626	595	95
7	Lawngtlai	2,883	2,883	1,50	1,378	NA	NA	NA	92
8	Saiha	1,320	723	372	351	597	345	252	83
	TOTAL	23,294	13,012	6,67	6,341	10,282	5,325	4,957	95

Source: Economic Survey of Mizoram 2010-11

<sup>5</sup> Fortunately, the author is the Secretary of the Group of Experts (GoE)



### 3.6.2 Hospital:

Up to 2008-09 there were 12 nos. of Government Hospital with bed strength of 1101 and 12 nos. of Private Hospital/Nursing Homes with total bed strength of 828. The number of patient treated in Government Hospital OPD had increased from 4,83,269 during 2004-05 to 6,64,082 during 2008-09, an increase of 37% within 5 (five) years. With the ever increasing patient load in all District Hospitals there is an urgent need to upgrade the District Hospitals.

Construction of two Accident & Trauma Centre one each, at Kolasib and Serchhip has been completed. Up to 2008-09 there were 300 Doctors, 726 Nurses and 992 Health Workers catering to the health of the people in the state.

**Table No. 14**

#### Number of births by sex and sex ratio at birth (2008-09)

Sl. No	District-wise	No. of population (as 1.2.2008)	No. of death	Death rate
1	Mamit	85547	299	3.50
2	Kolasib	82666	325	3.93
3	Aizawl	388238	2492	6.42 <sup>6</sup>
4	Champhai	116352	535	4.60
5	Serchhip	67477	274	4.06
6	Lunglei	164977	841	5.10
7	Lawngtlai	68697	388	5.65
8	Saiha	48418	429	8.86
	Mizoram	10,22,372	5,583	5.46

Source: JV. Nunchunga (2011)

### 3.6.3 Medical Education:

There is still now has no Medical College in the State either under the Central Government or State Government undertaking. There is one College of Nursing recently established affiliated to Mizoram University and one Regional Institute of Paramedical & Nursing Science (RIPANS) at Aizawl funded by Central Government.

Sl. No.	Name of Institution	No. of Students
01.	Presbyterian Hospital, Aizawl Nursing School	120
02.	College of Nursing, Aizawl	117
03.	Nursing School/Civil Hospital, Lunglei	63
04	School of Nursing, Christian Hospital, Lunglei	74
05.	Apollo Nursing School, Aizawl	113
	RIPANS	115

	Multipurpose Workers Training Institute, Aizawl	42
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Recently, the State Government has decided to established 1(one) ANM School and 4 (four) GNM Schools in four District Capitals.

Under National Cancer Control Programme, Regional Cancer Centre had been constructed at Zemabawk and inaugurated on 19.9.2010. Around 40 patients are given Chemotherapy treatment every day.

**Table No. 15**

#### Number of medical institutions and beds (2010-11)

District	Hospital		CHCs	PHCs	Sub-Centres	Grant Total	Total no. of beds	No. of beds per 10,000 persons
	Govt.	Private						
Mamit	1	-	1	7	30	39	130	16.49
Kolasib	1	-	1	5	28	35	140	17.10
Aizawl	4	9	12	10	94	129	1641	41.17
Champhai	1	-	2	11	58	72	230	17.64
Serchhip	1	-	1	5	27	34	130	19.40
Lunglei	2	1	1	9	71	84	390	23.37
Lawngtlai	1	1	1	5	35	43	160	16.20
Saiha	1	-	-	4	27	32	111	14.51
TOTAL	12	12	12	57	370	463	2732	24.86

Source: JV. Nunchunga (2011)

### 3.6.4 Mizoram State Health Care Scheme (MSHCS):

Government of Mizoram is implementing the so called the Mizoram State health Care Scheme (MSHCS) in 2008 for all its population excepting Government Servants and their dependents.

At the same time, RSBY and BPL Scheme for the unorganized sector under the Ministry of Labour & Employment being implemented all over the country is linked with the MSHCS from 2010. Under the two schemes, a BPL family can now avail the usual RSBY cover of Rs. 30,000/- and an additional cover from MSHCS of Rs. 2.7 lakhs, thereby, making the total cover upto Rs. 3.00 lakhs. Moreover, APL (Above Poverty Line) families could avail critical illness cover up to Rs. 3.00 lakhs under MSHCS.

### 3.6.5 National Rural Health Mission (NRHM):

National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) was launched in Mizoram on June, 2005 by setting up a State Health Mission brought the Scheme of Reproductive and Child Health (RCH-II) as well as National Disease Control Programme and various family related activities under its umbrella.

There are now altogether 943 ASHA under NRHM. 815 numbers of Village Health and Sanitation Committee has already been constituted each under the Chairmanship of Village Council President. As many as 512 personnel have been recruited on contract basis for programme management support out of which 147 were recruited during 2009-10.

Eight more PHCs has been upgraded to 24X7 PHC in addition to 32 PHC (24X7) already functioning. Besides construction/reconstruction of Sub-Centre and staff quarters, the State Government has released Rs. 55.05 lakhs as untied fund and Rs. 43.50 lakhs as Annual maintenance fund to 370 Sub-Centres, 57 PHCs and 9 CHCs during 2009-10.

The State Government has also released Rs. 79.00 lakhs to 8 Districts Hospital and 9 CHCs under Rogi Kaligan Samiti (RKS).

### 3.6.6 Ayush:

The State Government emphasis on upgradation of AYUSH educational standards, quality control and standardization of drugs, improving the availability of medical plant material, research and development and awareness generation about the efficiency of the system domestically and internationally. The State Government has constructed AYUSH building at Civil Hospital, Aizawl and 10 (ten) bedded AYUSH IPD ward at seven other Hospitals.

### 3.7 MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER:

Congenial law and order condition is pre-condition for economic growth of a country/ state. Mizoram is the most peaceful state in India. The state has 38 police stations, 13 out posts, 9 check posts and 95 Wireless stations in 2010-11. Aizawl district has the highest number of police stations with 9 PSs while Serchhip district has only 3 PSs. However, there are only 9.78 PSs for Aizawl district while 39.32 PSs for Mamit district for 1,00,000 population. The following table presents the overall scenario of the state.

**Table No. 16**

#### **No. of Police station, Outpost, Wireless stations (2010-11)**

Sl. No.	District	Police station	Out Post	Check post	Wireless station	total	No. of PS+OP+WS per 1,00,000 population	No. of PS+OP+WS per 1,000 Sq. Kms
1	Mamit	5	1	1	24	31	39.32	10.25
2	Kolasib	4	1	2	12	19	23.21	13.75
3	Aizawl	9	2	-	28	39	9.78	10.91
4	Champhai	3	2	4	7	16	12.27	5.02
5	Serchhip	3	-	-	4	7	10.45	4.93
6	Lunglei	6	1	1	8	16	9.59	3.53
7	Lawngtlai	4	2	-	7	13	13.16	5.08
8	Saiha	4	3	1	5	13	16.99	9.29
	Mizoram	38	13	9	95	155	14.11	7.35

Source: JV. Nunchunga (2011)

### 4. CONCLUSION:

The increasing tendency of percentage of salary and government maintenance bill from the total budget is economically unhealthy and untenable. This calls for urgent administrative reforms by way of-

- Right sizing of the government to reduce administrative cost
- Abolition of vacant posts lying unfilled-up for 3 years with the exception of Education, Health and maintenance of law and order
- Intra and inter – departmental rationalization of manpower
- Review of expenditure on its effectiveness on project/ programme wise
- Review of entitlements of officials/ Public leaders
- Efficient use of available resources and,
- Mobilization of state owned resources.