

EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN NE-INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MIZORAM

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796001***ABSTRACT**DOI URL: <https://doi.org/10.36713/epra3097>

Human development has been considered as the foremost in the development process as it constitutes the ultimate basis for the wealth of nations .Education is an important and basic input required to improve the quality of human resources. It is emphasized that education raises the quality and correspondingly the productivity of the labour force and it also accelerates the rate at which society's stock of knowledge itself advances. Indeed, education is the most important factor required to make labour, a productive factor. In this study, it is observed that even though education helps the people for better livelihood, the problem of underemployment is still an alarming rate in the state of Mizoram.

KEYWORDS: *human development, education, livelihood, employment, unemployment, development***INTRODUCTION**

Human development through education can help in promoting socio-economic development of any society. People with extensive, well developed capabilities have the tools which they need to make their vision of a "good life" reality. Those poor in capabilities are less able to chart their own course and to seize opportunities. Without basic capabilities, human potential remains unfulfilled (Handerson). It is generally argued that human capital embodied in a person is the main determinant of his livelihood situation. In this regard, education is often accepted as an important tool for human development through its interaction with labour market opportunities. Development in the quality of human beings especially of the working population expedites the development activities. An educated healthy and wealthy individual has better prospect for invention, innovation and entrepreneurship (Utpal,2011). United Nations Development Programme has been defining human development as "the process of enlarging people's choices", said choices being allowing them to "lead a long and healthy life, to be educated , to enjoy a decent standard of living " as well as "political freedom, other guaranteed human rights and various ingredients of self-respect" (UNDP-1997).

The human development scenario of the North Eastern Region is not very satisfactory. The first and foremost aspect of human development is education, and this region is very much lacking in this respect (Das, 1969). The relationship between human resource and economic development has been widely recognized at all levels. North East- India, despite having plenty of natural resources fails to accelerate the economic growth of the region. Sometimes, poor infrastructure

and human resources are responsible for this. Human resource development is conceived to be an integral part of the process of economic development of any region.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- (i) To examine how education helps the people to be employed in order to get a better standard of living in the state of Mizoram.
- (ii) To examine the importance of human development in order to achieve socio-economic development of the state.

Sources of Data: The study is based on secondary data.

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE

The essence of human resource development is education, which play a significant and remedial role in balancing the socio-economic fabric of the country. It is generally argued that human capital embodied in a person is the main determinant of his livelihood situation. In this regard, education is often accepted as an important tool for human development through its interaction with labour market opportunities. Human capital considers education and health as a means to increase labour productivity. They are an integral to human well-being because only when people have the ability to read and write and the ability to lead a long and healthy life, they will be able to make other choices which they value. Human capital treats human beings as a means to an end; the end being the increase in productivity. Thus we can understand that how workers have been engaged in different sectors in the State of Mizoram.

Table-1:Percentage of workers out of the total workers in different Sectors (District-Wise)

District	Primary Sector		Secondary Sector		Service Sector	
	2001 Census	2011 Census	2001 Census	2011 Census	2001 Census	2011 Census
Mamit	77.51	79.22	0.80	0.72	18.39	13.01
Kolasib	61.52	60.58	1.13	1.96	33.52	17.53
Aizawl	31.41	25.93	1.47	2.21	64.61	64.31
Champhai	70.19	72.16	1.12	1.84	22.31	15.02
Serchhip	72.77	73.07	2.64	3.10	22.27	19.53
Lunglei	65.23	73.27	0.59	1.31	32.65	8.23
Lawngtlai	71.52	76.64	0.99	1.60	24.40	13.49
Saiha	67.66	60.62	0.80	2.13	30.26	30.74

Source: Economic Survey-2013-14. Government of Mizoram

Data incorporated in Table-1- represents the district-wise percentage of workers in different sectors. As shown in the table, most of the workers are engaged in the primary sector in Mizoram. Mamit district is the highest as recorded as 77.51 per cent(2001 census) and 79.22 per cent(2011 census). Apart from this, other districts like Champhai, Serchhip, Lunglei and Lawngtlai also proved that more than 70 per cent of the total workers are employed in this sector as per 2011 census. It is also observed that less number of workers are employed in the secondary sector. In the service sector, Aizawl District, being the state capital contributed the highest i.e., 64.31 per cent (2011 census).

Census 2011 revealed that 44.36 per cent out of the total state-population were workers while 55.64 per cent were non-workers. The proportion of workers was decreased from 52.57 per cent in 2001 census to 44.35 per cent in 2011 census. It also revealed that proportion of workers was higher in the rural areas (52%) than in the urban areas (48%) of all workers. Female working population constitutes about 40 per cent of total workers and the share of male working population is about 60 per cent. It also shows that 65 per cent of the total workers are engaged in agricultural activities while almost 30 per cent (22.7 %) in the service sector.

Occupational distribution of the workforce is an important element in the development process in the State. It is generally argued that the work force shifts from the primary to the secondary and then to the tertiary sectors as development occurs. It is shown that there is structural shifts in the pattern of workforce but it is still in its initial stage. Most of the workers are predominantly engaged in primary sector i.e., agriculture. Another major arena which give employment to the people are trade and commerce including hotels and the construction sector. However the share of the primary sector in the workforce has been decreasing while that of the manufacturing sector has been consistently increasing.

Table-2-Employment rate- Based on Age Groups in Mizoram (2009)

Age Group	Employment Rate		Unemployment Rate	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
15-24	35.1	17.6	33.1	52.2
25-40	84.1	46.5	12.0	31.1
41-60	93.0	48.3	3.8	24.8
Above 60	2.4	N.A	55.2	N.A

Source-Gender and Age-Wise Work Participation and Employment Situation, HRD -Mizoram 2013.

It has been observed that the employment rate is the highest for the age group of 41-60 years. The unemployment rate is highest in the age group of 15-24 years. About one-third of the young males and more than half of the young females in the work-force are without employment. The unemployment rate for the female is higher than males.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR

As per the Census of Government Employees, 2012, the number of employees working under the State Government were 55,465 (5%) out of which 44,557 were regular employees and 8013 were Muster Roll and 625 were work-charged.

The 6th Economic Census (2013) shown that 32.08 per cent out of the total workers in the state were employed in rural areas and 67.92 per cent in urban areas. The 58,407 hired workers were engaged in both agricultural and non-agricultural sectors. Out of the total hired workers, 60.37 per cent employed in the urban areas and the remaining 39.63 per cent in the rural areas.

The issue of high unemployment is detectable across the state, the economic and social effects of youth unemployment should be carefully considered to understand the gravity of the issue. Unemployment has a negative effects not only on the future employability of young people but also on their self-esteem, their role in the society and can represent a serious economic burden on state finances.

Unemployment among youth people can lead to increase in the risk of poverty and social exclusion as well as cause loss of motivation and mental health problem. Being employed is important for young people in order to feel accepted in the society, thus not having a job can cause economic, cultural and social isolation. Social exclusion, stress and employment worries can cause mental health problems, such as depression. Moreover studies have found that youth unemployment is associated with increase in drug and alcohol use as well as higher levels of crime among youth people. Moreover, having a large share of the young workforce unemployed, not only leads to reduce productivity and gross domestic product but also increase the economic cost for the state. In connection to this, the rate of employment and unemployment on different age -group in Mizoram is shown in Table-2.

Among the age group 25-40 years -which is the most target group, the employment rate is 84.1 per cent and 46.5 per cent for male and female respectively while the unemployment rate is 12 per cent and 31.1 per cent.

Education is a composite discipline must confirm to the socio-economic, socio-political and socio-cultural conditions, therefore, principles of education encompassing all these aspects become a pre-requisite and thus arises the need to develop the thoughts and knowledge on these aspects. Educated youth should change their mind for self-employment. In this way, a very serious problem of

unemployment may be saved to great extent. Many occupations require a certain level of qualification in order to be eligible to work in that profession. It is generally argued that education helps the people in securing job opportunities for their livelihood. Consequently, the educational qualification and employment opportunities in Mizoram can be seen from the following table.

Table-3-Educational Qualification and Employment in Mizoram (2009)

Educational Qualification	Employment Rate	Unemployment Rate
HSLC	50.4	26.8
HSSLC	36.5	29.1
Graduate	64.5	13.5
Post Graduate	73.6	12.5
ITI Certificate	56.3	33.6
Management/Vocational Degree	96.3	0.6
Technical / Professional Degree	66.6	13.5

Source-Employment Scenario-HRD 2013(Mizoram)

Data in the above table-3 reveals that the incidence of unemployment is substantially lower among those with Technical/Professional/Management/Vocational degrees. It is thus evident that education helps in securing jobs for the workers and higher achievements are associated with lower unemployment. Higher Education also provides greater protection against job loss and greater ability to find new works during slow economic periods. Since the number of educated persons increasing day by day, the state government is not in a position to offer jobs for this growing number. As such our educated persons are very much disappointed when they wander dark roads in search of employment. It is very difficult to get a better job for those who do not possess any technical skills and professional training. Education is a very good thing and one must be educated but the irony of it is that we offer education to young people when we are not in a position to offer jobs to them. This is cause of disappointment among our educated youths. So, unemployment has become a very ticklish problem which is being faced by State government.

FINDINGS

- (i) In spite of giving efforts to reduce the problem of unemployment, it is still an alarming feature of the state. Job-seekers have been increasing over the years and there is a persistent problem of unemployment especially among the educated youths.
- (ii) The unemployment rate for the female is higher than males and it is highest in the age group of 15-24 years in the state.
- (iii) About one-third of the young males and more than half of the young females in the work-force are without employment.
- (iv) Education helps in securing jobs for the workers and higher achievements are associated with lower unemployment. The incidence of unemployment is substantially lower among those with Technical/Professional/Management/Vocational degrees. Our Education system needs to change towards Professional technical knowledge oriented in order to solve the problem of unemployment.
- (v) Proportion of workers was higher in the rural areas at 52% than in the urban areas which has about 48% of all workers.

CONCLUSION

Human Development is a well- being concept within a field of international development. It involves studies of the human condition with its core being the capability approach. Improvement in human beings- in their capabilities, skills and opportunities have a substantial effects as greater capabilities lead to higher productivity levels, increased income levels, and a wider scope for further human capital formation. Thus, the concept of human development aims at ensuring the well being of the citizens and strong egalitarian flavor is built into the concept. Consequently, the removal of social deprivation and discrimination that restrict the capabilities of, and deny opportunities for, participating in normal economic and social activities becomes a major thrust area of any human development programme. Human development through education can help in promoting socio-economic development of any society. Education contributes to economic growth, poverty reduction, development of mental faculties, and growth of general awareness in all human societies. In Mizoram, education helps the people in securing jobs for better standard of living but it is not upto the satisfaction. The problem of unemployment is still a serious concern. Therefore, it is necessary for the State government to improve the quality of education for imparting better knowledge to the students in order to survive in this challenging world today. This can lead to increase the efficiency level in human capital and further to achieve sustainable economic development of the State.

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