Till the attainment of Union Territory status by Mizoram (21 Jan. 1972) the close-knit Mizo Society continued her own way of life with its in-built voluntary organisation for the relief of those in need or distress. The Mizo Autonomous District Council under Assam State Government did not receive any worthwhile contribution in the Social Welfare activities, inspite of the fact that the Directorate of Social Welfare Department was well established in Assam in 1960. However, the Social Welfare Department of Assam State Government appointed Mr. Dengchhuana as the District Probation Officer in 1963 and was posted at Cachar District, Assam, who later became ACS Class I and further promoted to IAS, presently working as Secretary Education in the Government of Mizoram. Mr. Dengchhuana as the District Probation Officer Social Welfare was transferred to Aizawl and placed him under the Deputy Commissioner Aizawl Mizoram with one clerk. Although the District Probation Officer Social Welfare was placed under the Deputy Commissioner Aizawl, he had different sources of
income and functions in his own field of welfare activities through the Directorate of Social Welfare Department Assam. But the Social Welfare activities came to stand still in Mizoram due to the break up of political disturbance on 28 Feb. 1966 and the District Probation Officer, Social Welfare was reverted to Shillong in 1966. 2 The dark period of Mizo Society which begun on 28 Feb. 1966, and the gloomy days continued till the Central Government of India took over the Administration in Mizoram. The presence of the large contingent of Armed Forces in Mizoram to deal with the M.N.F. gave no scope to solve the problem of the Society. The problem being political in nature, required political solution which finally was achieved by signing what was called "The Peace Accord of Mizoram" on 30 June 1986. 3 With the expansion of Administration and raising its level from District administration to Union Territory administration, Social Welfare Activity began in Mizoram, State Social Welfare Officer post was created Mr. Bonthanga Poonte was trained in the Tata Institute Bombay, who was then working as the District Development Officer in Aizawl was appointed State Social Welfare Officer and took over the charge of District Social Welfare
Officer from Mr. A. Sobhan, the Superintendent of District Jail Aizawl. Mr. Bonthanga Poonte did all spade work of Social Welfare works for Mizoram in two years, who unfortunately expired on 12 Sept. 1975, prior to implementation of the various schemes that he proposed. He was succeeded by Mr. J. Lalduhawma, the Social Education Officer of the Education Department Government of Mizoram for three years. Subsequently, Mrs. Zodinpuii, ACS who also possessed a degree of M.S.W. from Tata Institute Bombay, working as under Secretary in the Government of Mizoram took over the charge of State Social Welfare Officer in addition to her own work. Frequent change in the Officer of the Social Welfare Board caused slow progress in Social Welfare Programme.

The State Social Welfare Board has been functioning as a Wing under the Department of Education. This Department was called Education and Social Welfare Department under a Director. The policy of the Central Government was to have a separate department of Social Welfare charged with the responsibilities of implementing the policy and programme for the protection of Children, Women,
the handicapped and Social deficient. Mizoram being a tribal area predominantly inhabited by tribal people where Social Welfare activities are paramount and therefore need utmost attention. In pursuance of the above policy the U.T. Government of Mizoram felt the need of having a separate department to be known as "Social Welfare Department", with a Directorate for efficient management of the works connected with Social Welfare. In view of this, the Government of Mizoram had therefore agreed for the creation of the post of Director with minimum complementary staff.

The Lt. Governor, the administrator of Mizoram accorded sanction for the establishment of the State Social Welfare Office Mizoram consisting of 5:-

1. Director 1 Scale of pay Rs 1200-50-1600 PM

2. Superintendent 1 " " " Rs 550-25-750-EB-30-900 PM

3. Assistant 1 " " " Rs 425-15-500-EB-15-700 PM

4. Stenographer 1 " " " Rs 425-15-500-EB-Grade II

5. U.D.C. 1 " " " Rs 330-10-380-EB-12-560 PM

6. L.D.C. 1 " " " Rs 260-6-290-EB-6-400 PM
7. Cinema Operator -1 Scale of pay Rs 260-6-290-6-400 PM
8. Grade-IV -2 " " " Rs 196-3-220-3-232 PM

On the creation of the post of Director of Social Welfare Department with its complementary staff the existing posts of Social Welfare Wing were simultaneously designated as under:

(a) State Social Welfare Officer as Deputy Director.
(b) Programme Officer as Assistant Director of Social Welfare Department.

The existing Staff of Social Welfare Wing also moved from the Education Department to the Directorate of Social Welfare.

As Independent Department

The Social Welfare Department was entrusted with the following functions:

(1) Welfare of women and children
(2) Welfare of the handicapped persons which includes Economics rehabilitation, Prosthetic Aids to physically handicapped persons and their training in income
generating trades.

(3) Grants-in-aid to Voluntary organisations
(4) Homes for orphans
(5) Welfare of poor and destitutes
(6) Implementation of Children's Act,
Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls
Act and such other social security
schemes.

(7) Integrated child development services
and functional literacy for Adult women.

(8) Components of Health, Nutrition and
non-formal Education of Children below
6 years and pregnant and nursing mothers.

With the increase of responsibilities and
expansion of the welfare activities, the infrastructure
also had been strengthened considerably. The
Department was then declared a full fledged
Directorate in 1983.

Today, the three wings of the Directorate
of Social Welfare had improved its financial
position for effective functioning. The financial
sanction in the Department for the year 1991-92
as under:

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE
GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM

Director
   /\   /
Jt. Director
   \  /   
Dy. Director (Admn)

Supt-1
   /\  
Admn & ICDS

Asst-6
   \  /
UDC-5

LDC & Typist-3
   \  /
Apprenticeship-2

Insp, Stastistic-1
   \  /
Gr-iv-7

ICDS
   /\   /
P.O.-1(State)

P.O. (Div Cell)
   /\  
Lunglei

C D P O
   /\  
One in each Blocks

C O (3-5)
   /\  /
Anganwadi

Workers-6-8

N.B. There are 20 Rural Development Blocks in Mizeram
and 19 C D P O's are posted in 19 Rural Development
Blocks. The existing post of Asst. Dy. Director vacant
is not shown in the tree plant of the Organisation.
(a) **ICDS**

(i) 1st instalment  -  Rs 56,78,000.00
(ii) 2nd instalment  -  Rs 43,70,000.00
(iii) 3rd instalment  -  Rs 65,00,000.00

Total:  -  Rs 1,65,48,000.00

(b) **Social Welfare**

Non-Plan ' & Plan  -  Rs 2,09,00,000.00

(c) **Nutrition**

Non-Plan & Plan  -  Rs 1,71,00,000.00

Grand Total:  -  Rs 5,45,48,000.00

**INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (ICDS)**

**IN MIZORAM**

The people of Mizoram living in the eastern most port of the Indian Union with no proper communication to the mainland faces various economic problems which compel the Society to continue to live in an under-developed society. Therefore the Mizo Society has a high rate of infant and maternatal mortality. According to 1981 Estimates in India, there were about 121 million children in the age group of 0-6 years; constituting one-sixth of the total population of 685 million. In India, a baby is born every second and a half...
or 21 million births a year and some 8.6 million persons die every year. Of this death 3 million are infants below the age of one year. India has extremely high rate of infant mortality. Infant mortality in 1921 was 220 per thousand live births which has been brought down to 120 per thousand live births in 1981 as against the rate of 70 in China and 7 in Japan. Not only infant mortality is high, but also maternal death rate particularly in rural areas. A mother and her child is considered as one unit and the child health is closely related to maternal health. The National policy for children adopted in August 1974 was one of the most significant developments in the field of child welfare. The policy recognised children as the Nation's supremely important asset and declared that the Nation is responsible for their nurture and care. In pursuance of the National policy for children welfare, emphasis was laid on the integrated development of childhood services and, services for expectant and nursing women. Thus, the scheme of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) was evolved to make a co-ordinated effort for an integrated programme of delivery of a package of such services under the ministry of
Social Welfare, Government of India in 1975. The scheme called for co-ordinated and concerted effort by the different ministries, departments and voluntary organisations. The magnitude of the task called for a number of projects and, the Central Government decided to set up 33 projects on an experimental basis in 1975 - 1976, which was formally launched on 2 Oct'1975.

The Integrated Child Development Services Schemes has the following main objectives:

1. To improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age group 0-6 years.

2. To lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of children.

3. To reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school drop-out.

4. To achieve effective co-ordinated policy and its implementation amongst the various development to promote child development and,

5. To enhance the capability of the mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of the child through proper nutrition and health education.
The scheme of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) is centrally sponsored by the Ministry of Social Welfare. The Government of India is responsible for budgetary control and administration of the scheme. The Ministry of Social Welfare releases funds for ICDS to the States and the Union Territories so as to enable them to install projects. However, active co-operation and effective co-ordination of all concerned ministries and the departments at the Centre and the States level is the basis of the Welfare Services function. The Central Social Welfare Board and the Social Welfare Advisory Board in the states and the voluntary organisations are important agencies for implementing ICDS schemes. Therefore, ICDS programme is basically an inter-departmental endeavour in setting up co-ordination forums at all level State, District, Block and local unit levels.

The Central Government allotted one ICDS project to Mizoram in 1978-1979, after three years of launching nation wide 33 ICDS projects on experimental basis. The Union Territory
Government of Mizoram directed two departments to take up the work of implementing the project, namely the Department of Health and Social Welfare Department. The nature of ICDS scheme was certainly concerned with the working of Health Department particularly in the rural areas. The Government of Mizoram decided that the Department of Social Welfare should administer the project in one of the twenty rural development blocks. However, it was obvious that the success of the ICDS project does not rest on either of the two departments but on all departments concerned and on the full support of voluntary organisation at the grass-root level of social administration. The Social Welfare Department was directed to launch the first ICDS project in one of the rural development blocks for the reason that the fund was sanctioned by the Ministry of Social Welfare. Another decision which the Union Territory Government of Mizoram had to make was to select one rural development block out of 20 blocks as the ICDS project centre. One of the criterion of selecting a project centre was that the selected blocks should have 10,000 adult population and 7,000 should be for tribals. In the spares and
thinly populated area of Mizoram there was no block in the whole of Mizoram which had 7000 adult population. The Central Government on special consideration allowed the Government of Mizoram to open ICDS projects in a block even though it did not satisfy the population criteria. So the Government of Mizoram selected East Lungdar Block for the ICDS project centre in 1978. Dr. Vanchungnanga, District Social Welfare Officer (now Dy. Director) of Social Welfare Department was assigned the task of launching the ICDS project at Lungdar East. On the following year another ICDS project was opened at Hnahthial. At present there are as many as 19 ICDS projects in the State.

Sanction has already been received for another two projects, one at Chawngte block in Chhimtuipui District and the project meant for urban area. Mizoram has 19 ICDS projects centrally sponsored or State funded projects are as below:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Project</th>
<th>No. of ANCS</th>
<th>No. of ANWC</th>
<th>No. of CDPO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Lungdar (E)</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Hnahthial</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Lunglei</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mizoram, like many other State carries out ICDS through the State Social Welfare Department. Nutrition Wing under the same Department actually executes Nutritional works through ICDS for there are CDPO in each of the rural development blocks. Supervisors and Anganwadi workers at village level. Thus the Social Welfare Department
coordinates various functional activities of welfare, ICDS and Nutrition in Mizoram.

ICDS Staff

Government of India recommended for the ICDS staff at three levels (viz. AWW, Supervisor and ICDPO) should as far as possible be women. Mizoram has a good number of male workers and there are more male AWW along the border areas. As Mizoram State has international boundary with Burma 404 km and 306 km with Bangladesh. This also speaks out its important strategic location. As in all cases of the areas and the villages along the international border are backward economically and their literacy rate being low, educated women being not available in the areas for Anganwadi workers the State authority and the community are compelled to take the help of educated male members for ICDS staff at the village level. The staff are trained. As regards the training of AWWs, there is only one Anganwadi Worker's training centre at Aizawl for the entire Mizoram and is run by the State Government. As for CDPO, educated women with the degree of MSW or BA in Home Science are recruited.
Training for the CDPOs is conducted by the Department which imparts pre-service training, in-service training and refresher courses. Uniform curriculum has been developed in this regards by the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD). The Regional Office of NIPCCD being located at Premtolla, Guwahati, Assam conducted training for Government employees and voluntary workers who are involved in Social Welfare works. However, the family welfare staff of the Health Services under the Department of Health Services though not being the ICDS staff, take care of the component of Health through dispensaries and primary health centres in the rural areas.

Function of the ICDS

As already reflected in the objectives of the ICDS, mothers and children are considered as one unit and they form supremely important asset to the nation. To improve nutritional and health status of mothers and children in the age group of 0-6 is the supreme task of ICDS. In accordance with the report submitted by the All India Institute of Medical Science in 1978, 77 percent
of the children in rural areas and 72 percent in the tribal areas are malnourished, and of these 23 percent in rural and 27 percent in the tribal areas suffered from acute malnutrition. The resultant deficiency of malnutrition makes 25,000 children become blind every year.

In order to promote the health of children and nourishing mothers, the Government of Mizoram sanctioned food items as special nutrition programme during the year 1991-1993:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food items</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Soya Milk Powder</td>
<td>50,741,783</td>
<td>20.75</td>
<td>1,052,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Soya Cereal Powder</td>
<td>50,864,347</td>
<td>14.95</td>
<td>7,60,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Multi Vitamin</td>
<td>175 tins</td>
<td>110.00</td>
<td>19,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) High Protein Biscuit</td>
<td>77,625,386</td>
<td>27.85</td>
<td>21,67,437</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: Rs.40,00,000
(4 millions)
Food items
(Flan)

(e) High Protein Biscuit
54,372,487 27.65 15,14,274

(f) Lactogen
65,284,665 96.00 62,67,328

(g) Cerelac
33,148,280 29.76 9,86,492

(h) Vishana
98,937,292 19.00 17,50,006

Total:- Rs. 1,05,48,961

Grand Total:- Rs. 1,45,48,961

Over and above this provision for nourishment to children of the age group 0-6 years, the Family Welfare wing of the Director Health Services supplies I.A.F tablets large and small, and Prophylax against blindness due to Vitamin 'A' deficiency through multipurpose workers (M.P.W.) numbering 655 workers in Mizoram, who are actually the working hands of Doctors at various Health Centres. The care of mothers was also taken up through the Health Workers.

The working of the Social Welfare Department in Mizoram concerned with the activities of ICJo, are Project Officers (P.O.) at the District, CDFO, Supervisors and AWHs at the blocks and village
levels. Distribution of the special nutrition items procured by the Directorate with the help of Nutrition Special Officer is carried out by CDPO, Supervisors and ANMs at the village level.

**Non-Formal, Pre-School Education under ICDS**

The main aim of ICDS is to promote all round development of a child through integrated packet of services. The importance of early childhood development and proper care under ICDS lay emphasis on children in the age group of 3-6 years. Early childhood is a period of vulnerable and susceptible at the same time responsive to environmental influences which are essential for the development of a child. In an early childhood no child can differentiate what is good and what is bad. Therefore, a child needs to be properly nurtured and guided during the first few years for better foundation of life. In the early formative stage of a child, physical and mental development take place very rapidly. A proper care at the right stage of a child is what ICDS aims to implement through the function of Anganwadi is in the rural and
tribal areas of the country. Non-formal Pre-School Education through Anganwadi function has a great advantage on the life of a child for it reduces wastages and stagnation in Primary School. A child develops confidence in himself or herself for joining Primary school where one has to start basic studies. In the stage of Non-Formal Pre-School Education a child is given maximum opportunity to develop his/her skills and learn socialising pattern which is an essential mechanism of School. Activities in Anganwadis are play oriented and the play way method is applied to achieve the desired objectives of Non-Formal Pre-School Education. In the spontaneous and natural activities of children they develop physical, social emotional and intellectual abilities. At this stage of life, children are never burdened with studies. It is essential for parents to have right kind of perception of the Non-Formal Pre-School Education. They should not expect and believe that Anganwadi function is the substitute to Primary School. They should rather be convinced that a child at this stage learns by doing things i.e. sensory motor stage. A child develops his
language and learns to interact socially with others. Anganwadis is a place which provides a rich environment conducive to optimal overall development of a child. Children of 3 - 6 years old attend to the Anganwadis for three hours a day. Toys are given to the children for play.

The perception of Non-Formal Pre-School Education among the Mizo is still not very clear and considered it as 'Nauawmna' meaning of a place for keeping young children for three hours during which a mother is free to do her works. On the whole, the level of awareness by beneficiaries and community leaders about ICDS scheme is still low. However, nutritional service is the main attraction of all other activities of Non-Formal Pre-School Education programme.

A study by Paranjpe and Bhagwat showed that even though supplementary nutrition was the most widely known. Non-Formal Pre-School Education and immunisation were the most appreciated services. Also a study on 'Awareness and Utilisation of ICDS scheme by women beneficiaries' conducted by Geetha Natarajan (1988) in Thane,
Maharashtra State showed that general awareness of women beneficiaries is quite high comparing to the low level of utilisation and the awareness of nutrition and Non-formal Pre-School Education service.

As for the State of Mizoram, village leaders take low interest in the Non-Formal Pre-School Education which is a very crucial component of ICDS. However, the Social Welfare Department finds access through KHIP (Mizo women Federation) in implementing the scheme.

KHIP had branches in all the well established villages. For this simple reason, many who are not aware of the sponsors of the scheme, opine that the scheme was sponsored by the KHIP. They do not understand that the KHIP is only helping in the implementing the schemes. The beneficiaries felt the need to involve village leaders and voluntary organisations like the Y.M.A in the scheme, mainly for the provision of accommodation and assisting such centres in their functions. A worker so selected locally is given an honorarium of Rs.250 per month by the Social Welfare Department. He could not be expected to
function efficiently at the centre for the meagre amount had to be supplemented by doing other works to earn his/her livelihood. This has necessitated more helping hands in the centres.

In 1989 Ms Chuauzikpuii carried out analytic studies of the second oldest ICDS projects in Mizoram launched in 1979 at Hnahthial block in Lunglei District. The study revealed that NFPE had been to a great extent successful. This project has 70 AWCs. The beneficiaries expressed their satisfaction about the scheme that the children from Anganwadis socialised better and did not have problems of adjustment when they joined formal primary school. The children in the AWCs were better qualified and better prepared for formal primary school. 15 beneficiaries of Hnahthial AWC were asked in 1989, if they were satisfied with the method of conducting AWC. The respondents expressed their frank opinion of the function of AWC to the Researcher that play and singing activities had really satisfied them. However, difficulties experienced in the administration of AWC were pointed out to the researcher that AWC being paid an honorarium of very meagre amount of
Rs.250 PM could not fully devote their time to the works of AWC; they had to work extra to supplement the honorium for survival. Secondly, the maintenance of attendance and other records of all the children at the AWC required the worker to spend valuable time. Thirdly, water had to be fetched for AWC from water point from a distance of about a km away. Above all, the worker needs to keep the centre neat and clean.

Though the work of Anganwadi centres is voluntary in nature an honorium of Rs.250 PM is too small amount remembering the purchasing power of a rupee in Mizoram. All the respondents are of the opinion that an honorium to the AWC should be raised to four times more of the existing rate, so that all the AWCs could fully devote their time for AWCs and do justice to themselves. This may bring forth better result and clarify the perception of ICDS programme among the members of the society. Some of the important observations made by Ms Chuauzikpuii on functioning of the NFPE in Mizoram are as follows:-
(a) Lack of awareness of NFPE among the community leaders and the parents of children. The reluctance of children between the age group between 3 - 6 years to go to Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) due to the non-availability of nutritional items. The parents are not well motivated to take their children to AWCs. In the absence of nutritional items attendance of children in the AWCs suddenly falls.

(b) Educated parents have better awareness of NFPE and are benefited more than the uneducated.

(c) Invariably AWCs located at the block headquarter where CDPO, Supervisors are posted are better organised and attended.

(d) Community leaders, like the members of village council, NHRIP and YMA have yet to play a vital role in deriving the correct perception of NFPE among the lower strata of the Mizo Society. And take more interest not only in the construction of Anganwadi Building for which materials and equipments
are provided by the Department of Social Welfare but also take responsibility for the regular functions of AWCs.

(e) Attendance of children in NFPE in the AWCs where no school existed for this age group is extremely good, irrespective of whether nutritional items are made available to them, though nutrition is found to be most important incentive and attraction of NFPE programme.

Like any other society, the Jiwizo society has grown but at a very slow pace. Poverty persisted in the society after Kautam Famine in 1959/1960 and then followed by the political turmoil which broke out in 1966 and it lasted till the attainment of U.T. in 1972 and then subsequently the statehood in 1987. The period of anguish in Mizoram was over but poverty took its deep root in the life of the rural poor. The rich become richer and the poor become poorer in the society thereby dividing the society into two, have and have not. The influx of rural population to Aizawl town between 1966-1972 caused sudden increase of population in Aizawl town. The village poor migrated to Aizawl mainly for security and
protection against the extremist activities of the underground K.N.F. and the high handedness of the Armed Forces. However, migration of village poor to Aizawl continues for seeking educational facilities and the basic amenities of life which are still missing in the villages or even in the so called sub-towns in Mizoram.

In this process of life, what had emerged in the fast changing and free society; many women and young people specially the teenagers fall into the prey of economic poverty and they are the victims of the societal changes. The State Government of Mizoram had taken steps to economically uplift such persons through various activities of the Department of Social Welfare. Home for Women in distress and Protective Home for young girls had been established by the Social Welfare Department in recent past. The two different homes basically aim to rehabilitate such women who are socially discarded and economically deprived of normal human life. A woman who may be compelled by the circumstances to live in such pathetic condition of life due to marital problem or may be because the husband is
an alcoholic, loosing his balance of mind to protect his wife and children which compel his wife to leave him. In such a case a woman had to stand on her own feet to support herself and her children if any although in normal situation children belong to their father.

Another peculiar case, commonly found in the permissive and frank Mizo society is that a girl without officially getting married conceived a child, thereby loosing her credibility in the society who is then normally unable to stand herself; such a girl belongs to a poor family who would add problems to the family. These women need care, protection and economic upliftment. In most cases such poor and destitute women have no relatives to fall back upon.

Home for Women in Distress (Ramhlun, Aizawl)
(Residential Institution and Training Centre)

Home for Women in Distress is an institution where training particularly tailoring is imparted to such women who had no economic support in the society. Home for Women in Distress was established in August 1984 under Social Welfare Department. The
primary aim of this Home is to economically back up such women who are socially discarded and economically deprived of the basic need of human life. The establishment of the Home under Social welfare Department had the following staff:

- Superintendent - 1
- Warden - 1
- Instructress (Tailoring) - 3
- LDC/UDC - 1
- Group 'D' employees - 7

The residential institution has a capacity for 25 inmates initially but its capacity is perforce increased to 36 today. This Home provides training for the inmates in Tailoring. The sewing machines and cloths are provided to the home inmates. This institution is equipped with hostel facility. All the inmates are provided with free accommodation and food during their stay in the Home. The cost of maintenance of the hostel is at the rate of Rs.250 per month per head.

**Selection of Candidates**

Basic educational qualification is class VIII passed and a candidate should be 18 years old.
and above. But educational qualification is relaxable on the basis of economic position of a candidate, specially to destitutes, widows, divorced women and victimised women etc. In the selection of candidates the Director of Social Welfare Department and the members of the team do give importance to the recommendations of voluntary organisations like KHIP and YMA.  

The period of training is 12 months. It begins in the month of June and ends in the next year June. On termination of the training, the successful inmates are given certificates to the effect that they had successfully completed the training under the institutional home. These certificates help them in settling themselves after they had qualified in tailoring. On termination of the training; the successful inmates are given one sewing machine, certain quantity of cloth, threads and other accessory items of machine for their resettlement. The Superintendent of the Home, Miss Vanlaldini was asked, as to what would be the percentage of women who really made good use of their training and resettled well. The Superintendent finds it difficult to answer this
query for there is no record of such information nor feed back has been obtained officially from any sector. She, however, estimated out of 263 women successfully completed the training till 1991 so far. 5 percent of them established shops of their own and run business, 20 percent of them work as private employees, 70 percent of them made good use of their sewing machines for domestic works and the remaining 5 percent of them either sold out their sewing machine and made no use of their knowledge of tailoring. Further queries to the Superintendent was raised on how the cloths stitched by the trainees are disposed of, if such product are sold out what is the system of sale of the items, who fixes the prices and what would be the total sale in a year. The Superintendent stated that the first three months performance of the trainees had never been good and as such their product could never fetch money, but gradual improvement of tailoring would fetch more money later. The instructress are made responsible to fix the prices and sale of the products under their supervision. Over all performance and fetching of money in a year on an average is Rs.18,000.00 and the money is deposited to the Cashier, Department
Protective Home for Girls

A new dimension of problem in the fast changing Mizo society is girls involving in alcoholism, drug addiction and immorality. This is an acute problem of the new society. Those girls are different from that of the women in distress. These girls leading immoral life would avoid their relatives and they do not hesitate to extract money for their easy and immoral life by any means even to the extent of giving themselves away. To them chastity and the value of life mean nothing. They are desperate. This new problem of life in this society has an adverse effect on the society. Desperate girls leading such life avoid their relatives and try to find place in hotels, restaurants or houses of their friends where they have freedom of life. Some of them do not have parents to go back after realisation of life nor relatives to fall back.

The Government of Mizoram felt the need to provide correctional helping hand to those girls in the society. The Department of Social Welfare
established Protective Home at Vaivakawn, Aizawl in October 1991 with the capacity of 34 inmates. Counsellors are appointed to look after their spiritual and psychological needs. Training facilities for weaving carpets and knitting are also simultaneously opened for the inmates of the Protective Home. This new correctional institute received as many as 34 inmates and the Government provides free food and accommodation to the inmates of the Protective Home. The Joint Director, Department of Social Welfare was asked as to what are the various possible reasons or circumstances which forced the 34 inmates of the Home to fall into such desperate condition of life. The Joint Director who is in charge of the Protection Home found from the records of individual inmates stated that 15 of them received no parental love and care due to the loss of mother or divorce. On remarriage of either by the father or the mother the girl was ill-treated and was forced to leave home. 6 of them belongs to very poor family and they were forced to earn not for one self but for the family as such, working under bad characters finally led them to immoral life. 5 of them married
early against the will of parents and their relatives and later, marital problem forced them to lead desperate life. 4 of them were school dropouts due to either failure in studies or falling into bad company, who continued to live immoral life and could not return to normal life. And last of all, with deep concern the Joint Director stated, 4 of them were raped at their young age which were unproclaimed due to threat to kill them. The Joint Director further stated that these 4 girls had psychologically suffered even after they are grown up. She stated that these 4 girls are found mentally imbalanced and their response to counselling and correctional helps are poorer than the rest of the inmates of the Protective Home. 17

The Protective Home is only 6 months old, It is too premature to expect result or its performance. However Mrs. Lalzarliani, the Joint Director, Department of Social Welfare is hopeful to have good result in the near future.

Handicapped Female Training Centre

Adult Handicapped Female Centre opened by the
Department of Social Welfare, Government of Mizoram offered residential facility. It was opened in June 1980. The training centre not only aims to provide vocational training but also seeks employment for female handicapped. This centre has a capacity of 34 girls. As on 1st May 1992, there are 15 girls in the hostel and 19 girls attend classes from outside. There are 3 Instructresses and 2 Wardens posted in the Training Centre. The classes are run separately for Knitting and Tailoring simultaneously in the same building rented by the Department at Khatla, Aizawl. The trainees who stay in the hostel are provided free accommodation and free food whereas the trainees attending classes from outside are given Rs.75.00 per month as stipend. The period of training is for one year and it begins in June and ends in the next June.

Selection of candidates for training is done in the office of Directorate of Social Welfare Department. As the name itself suggests the handicapped female adults are to be trained in this centre for their future employment. It is, however, not possible to give training to visually handicapped. Orthopaedically handicapped
handicapped is less and fall short of the required numbers, then girls belonging to economically distressed family and socially handicapped are selected for training. The batch of 1991-92 which would terminate in June 1992 has 34 trainees in total out of which 2 are deaf and dumb and 2 are ortho-paedically handicapped. The rest of them belong to economically distressed, seeking economic rehabilitation through the help of the centre. The senior Instructress was asked if she herself had any training specially for such handicapped persons in teaching knitting and tailoring. She replied 'No'. However, she manages to teach them by giving practical demonstration. She interestingly stated that the handicapped girls, specially the deaf and dumb who had undergone training so far in the centre were basically intelligent and they learnt things by observing. Most of them, in the opinion of the senior Instructress possessed a very good power of observations; and as such the centre managed to teach them well so far.

The produced items of cardigans and cloths by
the centre are sold out by the trainees after fixation of prices on each item by the instructress and, the income during the last year on knitting was Rs.16,685 and, on tailoring it was Rs.20,000. The money was deposited with the Cashier in the Department of Social Welfare.

On termination of the training, like any other institutional home or centre in Mizoram the trainees were given certificate, machine, cloths or wool and necessary items which ever is necessary to the trainees for their future settlement.

Male Handicapped Training-cum-Production Centre

Male Handicapped Training-cum-Production Centre was opened by the Department of Social Welfare, in Jan. 1982 in a rented building at Venghlui, Aizawl. This centre has the capacity for 30 trainees with hostel facility. There are 8 trainees living in the hostel who are provided with free accommodation and food. All the non-hostellers are given stipend of Rs.75 per month. Like any other training centres under the Social Welfare Department, Government of Mizoram, the trainees in this centre are provided with necessary
machines, equipments and tools of their respective choices of training. Selection of candidates is done by the Directorate of Social Welfare Department, while selecting candidates for training the handicapped candidates are given priority for admission and other candidates such as socially handicapped and economically distressed are taken only when the number of handicapped fall short of the capacity of the centre. Orthopaedically and hearing handicapped are generally given training in this centre. The centre could not extend facility of any training in the Bamboo and Cane works, tailoring and leather works. The senior Instructress, Miss C. Rozami looks after tailoring and Mr. Rinawma is the instructor for leather works. The section of Bamboo and Cane works did not function for want of instructor during 1991-92. But this centre had a leather works section in which 6 male handicapped are engaged for leather works. Training in the leather works is confined to shoe repair and hand-stitching of leather items. The instructor, Mr. Rinawma was asked, as to why such limited items of training is given to the trainees of leather works. The reason given by
him was that physically handicapped persons take abnormally long time to pick up the art of handling equipments and tools and on the other hand the works of a cobbler is simple and there is quick return of money for works. He further stated that during the last year the leather work trainees earned Rs.1500/- on repair of shoes in the process of training where as the trainees on tailoring had earned Rs.1000/- in the same centre. The amounts were deposited with the Cashier, Department of Social Welfare. On the termination of training a cobbler is given a certificate of having successfully completed the training in the centre. He is equipped with an anvil, a hammer and other accessory items for him to start working by himself. The number of qualified handicapped persons for leather works during the period (1982 - 1991) was:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Number of Trainees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) June 1982 - June 1983</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) June 1983 - June 1984</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) June 1984 - June 1985</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(d) June 1985 - June 1986</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>(e) June 1986 - June 1987</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>(f) June 1987 - June 1988</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(g) June 1988 - June 1989</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(h) June 1989 - June 1990</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thus 52 handicapped persons had successfully completed and qualified in leather works at the centre. But the centre did not have information of their settlement after completion of training at the centre, nor there is a feedback system adopted for obtaining such informations of their settlement. However, Mr. Rinawma the Instructor of leather works maintains personal contact with some of them who established themselves in Aizawl Town. Some of the handicapped persons established themselves as cobblers in the town as under:-

(a) Mr. Lalbiaksanga, who is physically handicapped established himself at Khatla, Aizawl who, according to Mr. Rinawma could earn Rs.150 - 200 per day.

(b) Mr. Rochhawna is a hearing handicapped who established himself by the side of Mr. Lalbiaksanga at Khatla, Aizawl. He too earned on an average Rs.150 - 200 per day.

(c) Mr. Hamchhana established himself at
Treasury Square in the heart of Aizawl town on an average earns ₹5,200 per day.

(d) Mr. Lalhmachhuana established himself at Chandmary, Aizawl could earn ₹100 per day. He being dumb is assisted by his relatives in his works.

(e) Mr. Romuana lives at Sihpui Electric Ramthar, Aizawl works in his place of living. He manages to maintain himself.

On the basis of personal information of Mr. Rinawma, two trained handicapped persons namely Mr. Neka, a polio case and Mr. Vartha socially handicapped are doing well at Baktawng village on the way to Lunglei. Mr. Siama, a hearing handicapped established himself at Kawlkulh village in the eastern part of Mizoram. In the opinion of Mr. Rinawma handicapped persons trained in leather works are better placed economically in the society than other handicapped persons trained in Bamboo and cane works and tailoring. Some of the reasons as given by him are that every one wears a shoe or a chapal today, which often requires repair; and the cost of petty repair works is not heavy to pay. Further there
are not many cobblers in the Mizo society and it is rather considered by the Mizo to be a menial work. Most of the cobblers in Mizoram are non-Mizo coming to Aizawl from outside and as such the work demand in the society so far not met by the outsiders. It offered a much better avenue for employment to the trained and qualified handicapped persons in leather works.  

The researcher further observed that among the trainees of female handicapped in the Training Centre under Social Welfare Department, for the year 1991-92 there are a greater number of socially handicapped and economically distressed persons than the number of real handicapped persons in the centres. Mrs. Hmingthanzauvi, Deputy Director, Social Welfare Department, stated that there are a good number of handicapped persons in Mizoram either orthopaedical, hearing, mental, visual or deaf and dumb. But the Deputy Director of Social Welfare Department pointed out that parents and relatives do not allow the handicapped persons to come forward for training; for the simple reason that the handicapped son or daughter may not be able to stay in a hostel and
do training without their care. Therefore, all the handicapped persons did not come for training. A large number of the second category of people come to the handicapped Training Centres.

However, there had been so far no reliable record of the number of grown up male and female handicapped in Mizoram. This demands a proper survey of the whole of Mizoram for the preparation of future plans.

**Old Age Home**

The Social Welfare Department, has expanded its activities recently. It provides welfare services not only to the children of the age group 0-6 to mother and women under the scheme of ICDS, but also to the aged people by giving them old age pension. Recently the Department of Social Welfare, opened Old Age Home initially at Mission Veng, Aizawl on 1st February 1989. This Home was shifted to Durtlang occupying an area of approximately 60ft x 36 ft. The Department constructed the building with a capacity for 25 inmates. But on 4th April 1992 there were only 9 inmates at the Home. Three are female and
six are males. The oldest among them is Mr. Zakamlova who is 95 years old. He belongs to Hmuntha village. He has no wife nor children. The Y.I.A. of Hmuntha village approached the authority of Social Welfare Department for his admission into the Home. Similarly, other aged and old people of the Home inmates are guided and brought to this Home mostly by the voluntary organisation like H.I.P and Y.M.A. The age specified for admission to the Home for women is 60 years and, 65 and above for men respectively. It is found that the inmates of old age home are mostly without children or grand children. They could neither look after themselves nor they have children of their own to look after them. More than that, some of them are found with infirmity. Almost all of them have poor hearing and eye sight. They are short tempered and easily get annoyed over a trivial thing. Personal hygiene and sanitation of the Home need special care but they give no importance to them. The care of the inmates and maintenance of the Home demand dedicated workers. The inmates of the Home once admitted continue to live in the Home till he or she leaves it or voluntarily withdraws from the Home. The Social
Welfare Department and the village leaders of Durtlang Hmar Veng made good arrangements for carrying out various formalities of Mizo customs, as and when an inmate died such as digging grave by the Y.M.A and funeral service by the Church leaders of Durtlang village. The Home warden Miss Lalnummawii was asked about the medical care of the inmates. She stated that there is no qualified nurse in the Home. Medical coverage by a Doctor is yet to be made though proposal for the same had been made long ago by the Department. However, the service of a nearby qualified Medical Officer are availed of and there is no restriction on the purchase of medicines for the inmates of the Home.

The Researcher found the inmates of the Home not being friendly to each other inspite of being of the same age group. They rather keep themselves aloof from one another. The atmosphere among the Home inmates is neither pleasant nor cordial; may be because most of the inmates are infirm. They have a lot of leisure time with hardly any recreational and welfare activities.

In respect of welfare activities provided to
the aged persons in India, is still far from satisfactory. Old persons in the affluent nations are mostly assured of fairly decent living owing to the comprehensive Social Security measures. Unlike in the Western nations, at present there is hardly any worthwhile planned effort for organising welfare activities for the aged persons in India. Shri Narendra Gopal Naq is of the opinion that the effort made in India for the well being of the aged persons as compared to what has been done by the Western countries are not even a drop in the ocean; this mainly attributed to financial constraints. There is hardly any worthwhile provision for the care and amenities provided to the aged persons other than old age pensions. The amount of old age pension as recommended by the Seventh Finance Commission is raised from Rs.30 to Rs.60 per month. The beneficiaries are about 2.5 million aged persons in the country.23

There is need for setting up a large number of old age home with adequate amenities for those who have no close relations to look after them. The inmates of old age home at Durtlang in Mizoram lack amenities though most of them could
not avail of such facility for they are infirm. The nature of work at the Home demands a high degree of dedication and a missionary zeal. The inmates of the Home have neither wealth nor health and strength any more, which they might have had in their youth. They now fall in the hands of the missionaries (workers) looking for their assistance, love and care. The Bible says, "The glory of young men is their strength and the beauty of old men is the grey head". Greatness they have is the grey head. They have nothing to look forward in life but draw near to their grave day by day which none could avoid. "For dust thou art, and unto dust shall thou return".

Remand Home : Correctional Institution

Juvenile delinquency in Mizo society is gradually increasing. This is due to poverty. Poverty is self created by breaking up individual families where children had not received love, affection and care of mother or father. Apart from these, lack of general discipline among the children and school drop outs developed a desire to defy the existing social order and thereby become social maladjustments. This kind of social
problem is on the increase with the growth and changes of society. New dimensions of life which is difficult to contain by the so-called modernising the Mizo society lead to juvenile delinquency. The phenomenon of juvenile delinquency is present in every area, group, class, religion, and caste. There is very thin line of demarcation between deviance and delinquency because if effective interventions do not take place at the appropriate time, there is every likelihood of a deviant turning into a delinquent. Juvenile delinquent is considered to be the one who is in the age group of 7 - 16 years (18 years in the case of girls) and take part in any act that is prohibited by the Indian Penal Code or local and special Acts relating to arms, opium, excise, gambling, prohibition, corruption, customs, motor vehicles or violates the institutional code of conduct; cognizance by police emerges as a major criterion of distinction between deviance and delinquency. An act which is taken into cognizance by police turns out to be a delinquent act whereas another which goes unnoticed may continue to be a deviant act. From the available data (1973-1974) "Crime in India" published by the Ministry of Home
Affairs indicated that monthly income levels of parents/guardians of delinquents was below Rs.1000/- per month. More than 95 percent of the children were drawn from the families having monthly income of Rs.500/- or less, where more than 70 percent came from having an income less than Rs.150/- per month. The majority of the juvenile about 70 percent were educated up to the primary level only and about 20 percent of them could reach the education level up to middle standard. Only 3 percent were educated beyond matriculation. The rate of juvenile delinquency is increasing and participation of girls in delinquency is also showing an upward trend.26

Delinquents has been defined in the International Encyclopaedia of Education as 'law breaking behaviour' on the part of those who by virtue of their being young are not yet considered fully responsible for their actions.27

Juvenile delinquent and adult criminal, even if committed the same offence are given different care. A juvenile delinquent receives rehabilitation, informal and personalised care. But an adult criminal is given formal and rigorous treatment.
A juvenile delinquent when arrested still not be handcuffed except in a murder case. He will be produced before a special kind of court for trial. Parents or guardians of a juvenile delinquent may accompany him even on the days of attending the Juvenile court. A juvenile delinquent is kept separated from the adult criminal undergoing trial. During and after trial a delinquent is kept at the corrective centre called 'Remand Home'. Remand Home, a corrective institute aims to bring him back to normal life. A delinquent is put to study his lessons and take up vocational training to enable him to earn his living when he attains the age of 16 years or when he comes out of Remand Home. Thus he is self-sufficient and useful to the society.

The Children Act 1960 (Central) was implemented by the Department of Social Welfare on 4th Feb 1986. The Act not only provides for the special needs of children who commit crimes but also extends a protective umbrella to the vulnerable under situational compulsions, with the enforcement of the Children Act in Mizoram, all
cases concerning children up to 16 years for boys and 18 years for girls are to be dealt with by the Child Welfare Board in the case of neglected children, and the children's Court in the case of delinquent children.

With the passing of Juvenile Justice Act 1986, and the Mizoram Juvenile Justice Rules of 1986 as passed by the Mizoram State Legislative Assembly much efforts for correctional services have been made by the Government of Mizoram through the Department of Social Welfare. In Mizoram, each village has a Village Defence Party which acts as a police auxiliary. They are required to be registered under the District Superintendent of Police. The members of V.D.P. (Village Defence Party) extend helping hand to the Police; they themselves cannot exercise such powers over an offender. Police take the help of V.D.P. in dealing with anti-social activities that may take place in the locality.
The members of V.D.P. are also essentially the members of Young Hizo Association (Y.H.A.) which is oriented towards socialisation whereas V.D.P. is organised in line with a force to give support to correctional services to the society. Practically, the functions of Y.H.A. and V.D.P. cannot be distinguished from each other. With the nature of these organisations in Hizoram there is a great deal of potential for organising preventive programmes at the community level as well as protection. It is rather felt that potential of these organisations has not yet been effectively exploited. Juvenile delinquency could best be checked by such voluntary organisation like Y.H.A and V.D.P within their respective localities or 'Veng' if the potentials of these organisations are correctly and constructively channelised to correctional services in the changing Hizo society. They are required to remain free from the influence of politics both at the state and local level.
Inspite of all efforts put in by the various agencies in Mizoram, Juvenile Delinquency is increasing. This has necessitated the Department of Social Welfare to build Home for Juvenile delinquents for correctional services. It was started in 1985 in a rented house at Mission Veng, Aizawl and it was shifted to Zemabawk, then finally established in its own building at Durtlang in an area of 15 Bighas allotted by the Durtlang Village Council. The home has the capacity for 50 inmates. But there are now 34 boys at the home. The Remand Home has the following staff:

(a) Superintendent - 1
(b) Case Worker - 1
(c) Warden - 2
(d) L.D.C-cum-typist - 1
(e) Fourth Grade - 9
(f) Watchman - 0
The Superintendent is in overall charge of the Home. He is assisted by the above mentioned staff in various works of the Home. The work of Probation Officer and the case worker are being carried out by the case worker, as Probation Officer is not appointed. The Mizoram Juvenile Justice Rules 1988 prescribed clearly the procedures for admission of a delinquent to the Home; institutional programmes and the procedure to follow in case of death of any inmates or release of inmate after attainment of specified age or handing over the inmate to parents or police authority. The procedures as laid down for new admission into the Remand Home are as follows:

(a) Receiving and search in the receiving unit.
(b) Issue of a cap and disinfectant lotion and hair cut.
(c) Disinfection and storing of Juvenile personal clothing and other personal effects.
(d) Bath.
(e) Issue of disinfected clothes, beddin, and other outfit and equipment.
Accommodation.

Medical Treatment as required.

Attending urgent needs of Juvenile.

Registration, identification, documentation of properties.

Assessment of the inmates for suitable works.

Issue of clothing, bedding and other essential articles for his use at Home.

**Juvenile Programme**

Daily routine is chalked out by the Superintendent and informed all the inmates. Physical exercise is carried out and recreational facilities like Radio, Television, Library and Games are made available to them. Educational programme has to be developed as an integral part of education routine with emphasis of social morale and ethical aspects.  

Case Work Services are provided to the inmates to deal with individual problems. The case worker, Miss. Zodinpuii W.S.W. prepares Case History of all the inmates and carries out counselling of the inmates and keeps their records upto date. With the help
of Miss. Zodinpuii the case worker studies every individual case of the inmates. Out of total 34 inmates, 27 of them were admitted to the Home by Police with the case under Registration mainly of Theft cases. Remaining 7 of them are admitted by their father/mother or guardians for correctional services.

5 Cases studies at random out of 34 Home inmate boys

Two cases of 7 voluntary admissions and 3 cases of 27 police admissions studies had been made by the Researcher as follows :-

Case Study No. 1
Name : Lalrotlinga Age : 15 Sex: Male.

Rotlinga was admitted to the Remand Home by his mother because he was uncontrollable. He did not want to go to school. He absconded from home and remained away for about three months.

Rotlinga's father died when he was only 3 years old. His mother now has 4 children from four different men, all born out of wedlock. The mother works in the jhum of other
people and somehow manages to feed her children. Rotlinga was not happy with his mother and so he ran away from home.

He has passed Class-III attending school from the Remand Home and is now studying in Class-IV. He is happy and adjusted in the Remand Home and is showing definite sign of improvement in his behaviour.

Case Study No.2

Name : 1. Lalmalsawma   Age : 10   Sex : Male
2. Lalremruata   Age : 12   Sex : Male
Date of admission : 16.7.90. Voluntarily admitted by parents.

Police case, if any : Nil.

Sawma and Ruata are two brothers. They are the youngest of all, voluntarily admitted to the Remand Home by their father's uncle, as they were uncontrollable. Parents divorced because the father was an alcoholic and ill-treated them under the influence of liquor. The father was a truck driver and remained away from home most of the days.

The two brothers were admitted to Class-II. They are now quiet and seem to be adjusted with the life in the Remand Home.
Case Study No.3

Name: Darchhingpuia Age: 16 Sex: Male
Date of admission: 11.9.90. Admitted by: Police
Police case, if any: Aizawl PS Case No.636/90
CR No.940/90 u/s 457/380 IPC

Dara was arrested by the police for breaking into the office of Sub-Divisional Educational Officer and stealing money from the Cashier's drawer which he could manage to open with a key.

He has been put into the custody of the Remand Home since his arrest.

Dara's parents are still alive. The father is a carpenter and mother manages a small shop. Dara is the eldest of their four children. His parents visit him regularly in the Remand Home. He is penitent for his offence, and promises to lead a normal life on release from the Remand Home.

Case Study No.4

Name: Raju Zolawma Age: 15 Sex: Male
Date of admission: 20.9.90. Admitted by: Police.
Police case, if any: Aizawl PS case No.681/90
CR.994/90 u/s 454/330 IPC
Raju along with his friend Lalzova stole a Radio from a neighbour's house. They were arrested by the police for this offence and put under the Remand Home.

Raju comes from a broken family. Father is a Gorkhali and mother is a Mizo. Both father and mother are alive, but are separated through divorce. None of them take interest in the boy. Raju stayed with his eldest sister who is married. He dropped out of school and just roamed without anything to do and fell into evil company.

Raju opted for the carpenter's work in the workshop maintained by the Remand Home instead of attending school. He is learning the trade sincerely and is expected to lead a normal life in the society after his term of confinement in the Remand Home is over.

Case Study No.5

Name : Lalthanliana Age : 15 Sex : Male
Date of admission : 8.2.91 Admitted by : Police
Police case, if any : Azl.PS case No.87/91
u/s 376 IPC

Thanliana was accused of rape of a minor girl of about 5 years of age near the Boys' Middle School in Sikulpuikawn, Mission
Veng, Aizawl where he works in the tea shop of Pu. Lalhmuakliana. Thanliana is originally from Burma and does not know the whereabouts of his parents nor their address in Burma. He is being provided with vocational training in carpentry in the Remand Home.

A random study of the case of the Home inmates separation of husband and wife through divorce which is rather common in the Mizo society and alcoholism are the root causes for increasing the number of Juvenile delinquency in Mizoram. Apart from these, factors there are some other factors that lead adolescents to delinquency. Parents fail to give love, affection and their concern to their children which are the primary needs of children. Thereby home condition is not conducive to children's emotional development. Parents having no knowledge of adolescent psychology often fail to understand the hopes, aspiration, interest and inclinations of their children. They impose adult interest and aspiration upon children, and dominate in all their activities lead them to miserable life. Scolding and punishing children for
every infraction of their behaviour would lead children to tell lies in order to escape scolding and punishment from their parents. In due course of time lying becomes habitual. This ultimately lead children to more serious delinquent acts like stealing, cheating and all kinds of unfair means. An alcaholic father or drug addict loses all moral right to give good advices to his children eventhough he knows good norms of life. Such a father can never expect his children to be good and law-abiding citizens.

**Affluent Parents**

In the fast changing Mizo society, quite a number of parents have become rich in the last decade, particularly in Aizawl town. The affluent parents do not know how to use their wealth wisely and purposefully. They lead a wasteful life. They are ostentatious in spending money and developed false sense of pride and vanity. The children of such affluent parents often become obdurate and grow with a false notions of life. Wealth assures them with a sense of security by force of which they do not hesitate to commit any delinquent act. So much so, such children of affluent
parents think money can buy everything and can do anything in the society. Children of affluent parents are exposed to evil influence which was not heard in the last decade. They have money which offers them easy access to sensational pornographic books and video films showing all kinds of sensational pictures depicting violence, crime and sex. The adverse effects of such obscene films and reading sex books in the building stage of character would lead the Juvenile to delinquency.

**Drug Addiction**

Drug addiction has added a new dimension to Juvenile delinquent acts. Drug trafficking to Mizoram from across the International Border has caused alarming increase in drug addiction among the Juveniles. Deviant behaviour of adolescents is a great concern to public life. This has resulted in the defiance of parental authority at home and law enforcing authorities in public. Drug peddlers and drug consumers are found even among the poor adolescents. They find a source of earning in this deviant acts which finally resulted in increasing
Juvenile Delinquency.

Observations

1. The Researcher observes that 11 of the Home inmates all boys completed 16 years of age the upper limit for boys to stay at the Remand Home. The case worker informed the Researcher that Juvenile Court could not be held because the Principal Magistrate with Magistral powers was not appointed so far.

2. Educational facility is extended to all the inmates of the Home upto Primary school level in the Home itself. 6 boys joined middle school outside the Home.

3. There are no girl in the Home. No provision for girl Juvenile delinquent has been made at the Remand Home. Shri.Vanchungnunga informed the Researcher that there is no intention of keeping boys and girls Juvenile together in the same Home. Provision for women delinquents had been made at the Protective Home for Women at Vaivakawn, Aizawl. However, the Officer expressed his view that girl Juvenile delinquents are much less as compared to the boys delinquents in Mizoram.
4. The Researcher had verified from the admission register that there were more than 100 boys who had undergone through this correctional services since its establishment. From the case studies and personal interview of few inmates the Researcher finds that the performance of Remand Home is encouraging but there is still much to be done to improve it.

Remedial Measures to reduce Juvenile Delinquency

1. It is the duty of every individual member of the society to make every effort to minimise Juvenile delinquency. There appears a mis-conception in the society that Government agencies are responsible for this task. Every individual family is more effective and more responsible to minimise Juvenile delinquency than the Government agencies if a father and a mother or a husband and a wife stand united to build a family or a sweet home. However, efforts of neither individuals nor Government agencies could ever be adequate for this responsibility. It demands a very special effort of all.

2. Separation of husband and wife through divorce is common among the economically poor
strata of the society and it also exist among the affluent members of Mizo society due to mis-conception of life and lack of mental adjustment. They should rather take a stand to fight against poverty and the affluent parents should stabilise family instead of ruining themselves and their children. The Mizo Customary Law of marriage need review and bring forth legislation to suit the changing needs of the society, and also to control and minimise the number of wedlock children in Mizo society.

3. Addiction of either liquor or drug should be condemned openly by the society. And the law enforcing agency should be suitably empowered to deal with illegal sale of such items and to check trafficking of drugs. Stringent punishment should be given to such offenders. On the other hand, Government agencies and local voluntary agencies should try to provide alternative means of livelihood to those who need and deserve the same. Narcotic drugs and psychotropic substance Act 1985 be effectively implemented in the state.  

4. Low economic status of Parents/
Guardians has also been one of the prominent causes of delinquency. So long poverty remains in the society, delinquency persists. Therefore, economic uplift of the poorer strata of the society remains the prime task of the Government.

5. Health recreational facilities at home and school for adolescents is very essential. Pleasant atmosphere in the society would avoid the school drop outs which is an important factor of delinquency.

6. The important role of parents and teachers of schools can not be over-emphasised for minimising Juvenile delinquency in the society. Realisation of this fact, is the realisation of their high responsibility to produce good citizens of tomorrow.

7. Many evil attractions to the children and adolescents which lure them away from the truthful life causes immense harm, thereby leading adolescents to Juvenile delinquency. To avoid such contacts one has to inculcate good habits at an early life. Teach children to differentiate what is good and bad. What is transient and what is permanence and what is true and what is false.
8. Video Cassettes of Video library and Home video library should be strictly censored by Government authority in order to avoid keeping of obscene film. Similarly, pornographic books and posters sale by book sellers should also be banned and enforce such order strictly. For what we see lead us to evil deeds which is one of the main factors of adolescents leading them to juvenile delinquency.
NOTES & REFERENCE ON CHAPTER - 3


9. ibid p.16


13. ibid pp.24,25

14. ibid pp.107,113

16. ibid

17. Researcher interview to Joint Director, Mrs. Lalzarliani, Social Welfare Department, Government of Mizoram on 4 Apr'1992.

18. Researcher interview to Mrs. Tlangthangmawii, Senior Instructress Female Handicapped Training Centre, Ahalte, Aizawl on 1.5.92.


23. Encyclopaedia of Social Works in India Vol-III pp.343-352
26. Encyclopaedia of Social Works in India Vol-II pp.133,134
31. S.L.Goel and R.K.Jain, op cit p.71