CHAPTER - 4

THE STATE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY BOARD UNDER CENTRAL SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD AND ITS ROLE IN MIZORAM

Inception of Social Welfare Advisory Board

Social Welfare programme of the Nation are an integral part of planned development in India. For the growth and development of the welfare programme the country is greatly depending on various organisations engaged in accelerating the social welfare activities. The personnel in various voluntary organisations do need to work with the missionary zeal. Lack of trained personnel and paucity of financial resources hampered the welfare works. The great need of providing specialised agencies to help voluntary organisation with financial and technical assistance in implementing social welfare programmes was realised by the National leaders. Accordingly in 1953, the central Social Welfare Board was formed by a resolution of the Ministry of Education. The CSWB was created with an allocation of Forty million rupees as Grants-in-aid to Voluntary organisations to mobilise
voluntary efforts by the Government. The First Indian Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru declared that "This attempt that we are making to encourage social welfare activities is in a sense rather unique. It is not some 'Central authority' that is doing it all by itself, nor does the burden of this fall on the local social welfare organisation, it is certainly a combination of the two where the CSWB comes as a helper and adviser and at the same time the local welfare organisations which are best suited for it, undertake the work. In this case, we can utilise the energy, enthusiasm and initiative of vast number of persons all over the country." The above statement revealed that there was a need to create Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) at the centre and state Social Welfare Advisory Board in all the states which according to the federal form of Government is so appropriate. Soon after the creation of CSWB, States Social Advisory Boards also came into being during 1954. Barring the two Union Territories of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, all other states and Union Territories have a state Board at present.
The Central Social Welfare Board created in 1953 was expected as follows:

(a) To survey the needs and requirements of the welfare organisations.
(b) To evaluate the programme and projects of the aided agencies.
(c) To co-ordinate the assistance given by various central ministries/departments.
(d) To promote setting up of voluntary welfare institutions where such organisations do not exist.
(e) To render financial assistance to deserving organisations.

The CSWB initially had been functioning as a limb of the Central Government till March 1969 without clearly defined status. The CSWE was registered as a charitable company under the Indian Companies Act 1956 with effect from April 1, 1969. Section 25 of the Companies Act 1956 vests certain special powers in the Central Government with regard to granting certain exemption to certain type of companies.
initially had a general body consisting of 44 members. The members were the representatives nominated by the State Governments, Social scientists representatives from the ministries of Finance, Health, Community development (now Rural Development), Education and Social Welfare and one member from the Rajya Sabha. The CSWB has an Executive committee which consists of the Chairman, 4 Representatives from the Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Finance, Health and Rural Development also 6 other members from General Body, This Executive committee should meet once in two months and is the main policy making body for the Board. Whereas the General Body conducts meeting once a year at which annual Report of the Board and Audited Accounts of the Board are presented.

The letter of the first Prime Minister, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru dated 23 April 1954 addressed to the Chief Ministers of the States on the matters of setting up state Social Welfare Advisory Board read, "It is important that the states should constitute their state Social Welfare Advisory Board to supervise the work and to be
a link with Central Board ........... with the formation of the State Boards there would be more decentralisation and that will be a desirable development". In this connection, Smt. Durgabai Deshmukh, the first Chairman of CSWB (who held the office of Chairman for nine years) wrote to the Chief Ministers of all States Governments with a request to constitute State Social Welfare Advisory Boards, for the purpose of better co-ordination between the institutions in the States, State Governments and the Central Social Welfare Board for a wider coverage and intensive study of the working of the Institutions in the States, also to follow up their programmes and activities. The State Social Welfare Advisory Board comprised of representatives of the different voluntary welfare organisations to enable the Board to Command Confidence responsive and effective. The expenditures on State Social Advisory Board is met by the CSWB and the State Government on 50:50 basis. The Chairman of the Board should be preferably a woman Social workers selected by
the State Government in consultation with the Chairman of the Central Social Welfare Board. The State Board had to be so designed in such a way that human touch and outlook are kept in mind of the functionaries of the State Boards. The State Social Welfare Advisory Board is to perform such functions as are entrusted to it by the Central Social Welfare Advisory Board.

The CSWB has at present 51 members in its General Body drawn from eminent social workers professionals in the discipline of Education, Law, Medicine, Nutrition, Social work and Social development, Departmental representatives from the Government of India, Ministries of Women and child development, Rural Development, Health, Welfare, Finance and Planning Commission, Members of Parliament, Chairpersons of the State Boards as well as the executive Directors of the Board. Presently, the CSWB has an Executive Committee of 15 members to give directions in the General administration of the affairs. The CSWB has a sanctioned strength of 259 staff. The Board also has a sanctioned
strength of 157 field staff. Since its inception in 1953 the CSWB has been implementing its various welfare programmes through a number of voluntary organisations whose number has progressively gone up from 3000 in 1953 to over 13000 in 1990's. During the last 37 years of its existence (1953 - 1990) the CSWB has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 250 crore on its various plan programmes for the benefit of women, children and handicapped, etc.  

The main thrust in the programme of the welfare of the handicapped in the seventh five year plan (1985 - 1990) was on prevention of disabilities and development of functional skills among the handicapped. There is a strong belief that a large number of disabilities are preventable, if timely measures are taken in the areas of health and nutrition. The activities of National Institutes for the handicapped i.e. for the visually handicapped, orthopaedically handicapped, hearing handicapped and mentally handicapped were strengthened to promote the optimum utilisation of the capabilities of the handicapped. So that their occupational options are promoted with the improvement of their social independence. Over and above the programmes
of child welfare and women welfare activities the CSWB laid emphasis on the handicapped in the last Five Year Plan. The CSWB continue to function as the focal and apex agency in the various activities of voluntary organisations extending its alms through the State Social Welfare Advisory Boards.

**Organisation of CSWB**

The CSWB derives funds from the Government of India and the Board is directly under the Ministry of Social Welfare. It set up a well organised machine like any other departmental organisation. The CSWB is headed by a Chairman who is a non official but is well known for the contributions in the field of Social Welfare Services. The Chairman is assisted by a secretary who is of the rank of Deputy Secretary in the Government of India. The Secretary is the key-man of the Board for its various functions. He functions through various divisions of the CSWB. While a woman is preferred for the chairman of the CSWB, no special preference is made for the post of Secretary of the CSWB. There is a Public relation Officer to assist the Secretary to look after the liaison works.
Divisions

For the effective administration of the Board it is divided into a number of divisions and sections in 1969. Each division and section has been entrusted with a particular function and it is responsible for its efficient administration.

(a) Socio-Economic Programme Division

The physically handicapped and women in distress who are economically deprived and socially neglected in the society can not survive unless economically rehabilitated. This division should provide such opportunities to the needy persons to engage themselves in production activities. Under this programme grants are sanctioned to voluntary organisations for setting up various types of units like small industries, handicrafts centre, weaving units, goat or sheep rearing, piggery, dairy and poultry etc. Applications from voluntary institutions are considered by the State Social Advisory Boards and forwarded to the CSWB with their recommendations. The division is headed by two Programme Officers. They are directly responsible to the Secretary of the CSWB. The two division
Programme Officers divide the subjects among themselves. This division deals with the following subjects.

(i) Production units - Small scale industries, handicrafts, spinning and weaving, handloom works, dairy, piggery, goat or sheep rearing and poultry.

(ii) Examination of applications from institutions for grants.

(iii) Finalisation and acceptance of the audited statement of accounts.

(iv) Scrutiny of Reports received from Welfare Officers/ Project Officers.

(v) Preparation of annual budget estimates proposal for annual and Five Years Plan.

(vi) Preparation of answers to the question put in Parliament by members.

(vii) Maintaining liaison with Department of Social Welfare, Ministries of central and state Governments.

(b) Condensed Course Division.

This division deals with adult education of women belonging to the age group of 18 - 30 years,
privately appearing Middle School or High School examinations conducted by the Board of Secondary Education. This division is also responsible to prepare annual budget estimates and statement of audit accounts.

(c) **Project Division**

This division deals with the family and child welfare programme, Nutrition, Crèches for children of working mothers and working women hostels. These programmes are implemented through the Department of Social Welfare by the CSWB. The family and child welfare projects are dealt with by State Governments. The other functions of this division includes planning and implementation of these programmes in accordance with the financial allocations. It also examines the proposals and applications received from voluntary institutions. And submitted audited statements and statistical record/statements required by the Executive Committee and the General Body of the CSWB.

(d) **Field Counselling and Inspectorate Division**

Voluntary institutions engaged in the execution of various sponsored and aided
programmes under CSWB would require technical guidance and inspections so as to ensure the proper utilisation of the funds and manpower. Also periodical Inspection and evaluation of the functioning of the grant receiving agencies is also required for the improvement of the existing programmes. Aided institutions would require adequate counselling so as to help them in making managerial and technical skills.

(e) Grants Division

This division as the name itself suggests deals with grants to various voluntary institutions for women welfare activities or Mahila Mandals and for holiday camps. It also performs the duties of considering applications for grants to be put up to the Chairman for sanction and then convey the same to the institutions and ensure proper utilisation of funds keeping in mind the policy of decentralised programmes of the Division.

(f) Finance and Accounts Division and Internal check Division

The main purpose and the function of this Division is to ensure proper maintenance of accounts
of the CSWB in accordance with general financial rules and commercial system of accounting. This Division is headed by Adviser-cum-Chief Accounts Officer. This Division keeps a close watch on the accounts in respect of various programmes.

(g) Publication Division

In the Publication Division there are two magazines published on monthly basis in English and in Hindi. These magazines aim to acquaint public at large about the functions and various programmes of CSWB. The division has two editors, one for English Magazine and the other for Hindi Magazine and both of them are directly responsible to the Secretary of the CSWB.

(h) Administration Division.

This Division manages and supervises personnel and official functions of the CSWB. It deals with recruitment, placement, transfer of personnel and maintenance of the CSWB properties including procurement.

(i) Administration Section.

This section is headed by an Inspecting Officer who is directly responsible to the Secretary.
All matters pertaining to the State Boards' equipments upto the extent of repairs and disposals are managed in this section. This section also considers personnel matters of state Boards such as appointments, promotions, service benefits of personnel employed in the Boards.

(j) Research Evaluation and Statistical Division

A research officer headed this Division and he is directly responsible to the Secretary. This Division deals with analysis and preparation of various statistical records. It maintains a directory of voluntary agencies in India. It has also published exhaustive directories of social welfare agencies of the country.

(k) Co-ordination Section

This section is headed by a Superintendent who is also directly responsible to the Secretary. It deals with the collections of documents for the preparation of agenda of the General Body and Executive committee of the CSWP. And furnished replies to questions put in Parliament.
(1) Hindi Unit

The National language being Hindi and is spoken by a much larger section of the Indian Society and yet English being used as official language would necessitate translating Hindi into English so as to enable the concerned people to know the contents of such documents. This unit translates all the necessary documents into English. An officer incharge of the units is directly responsible to the Secretary of the CSWB.

Functions of State Social Welfare Advisory Board

As the name itself implies, the State Social Welfare Advisory Board function as an adviser to the CSWB and to disseminate informations on programmes being implemented to the beneficiaries. However, the SSWAB has no legal power and status in the state. The State Social Welfare Advisory Board has to formulate policies. The chairman of the Board is appointed by the State duly approved by the CSWB. He is the Chief Executive of the Board and is assisted by a Secretary of the rank of under Secretary in the State. An experienced lady in social works is preferred to be the chairman of the SSWAB. The
subject matters dealt with by the SSWAB are the women welfare, child development and handicapped persons, etc. The subjects would demand the services of an experienced lady in social works. Some of the main functions assigned to the SSWAB by the CSWB are as follow:–

(a) To act as a via media for exchanging and passing informations between the communities and the CSWB.

(b) To call for applications for Grants and recommend and forward them to the CSWB.

(c) To implement policies and supervise the working of the voluntary Agencies in the state, and submit reports and any informations required by the Centre.

(d) To co-ordinate all the welfare activities under taken by various Departments of State Government to avoid duplication or overlapping.

(e) To work for the promotion of Social Voluntary Organisations with special reference to the Development of Welfare Services.

(f) To fully co-operate with the centre in administering the programmes of the rural welfare projects and counselling Centre directly through voluntary agencies of the state and local levels.
(g) With the concurrence of CSWAE, take up such welfare programmes and activities in the State. Besides these functions the SSWAB carries out social welfare activities and programmes as and when entrusted by any Department of the Centre or the State.

(h) To promote and strengthen effective co-ordination among the voluntary organisations and other agencies and services within the State engaged in social welfare activities and Development of the Society.

As a matter of fact, a close look of the function of SSWAB reveals that it is a consultation body without legal status in the State and acting as a resource agent to CSWB. As regards its legal status, several official discussions had taken place, yet no concrete proposal has been made till today. Registration of SSWAB under the same company Act in which the CSWB had been registered would mean that the two Boards would occupy the same legal position in the Nation which is perhaps not agreeable to all.

At present the SSWAB mobilises voluntary efforts and provides welfare services to the needy
section of the society such as women, children and the handicapped.

MIZORAM STATE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY BOARD (MSSWAB)

The Mizoram State Social Welfare Advisory Board (MSSWAB) came into being only after the formation of Union Territory Government in Mizoram in 1972. Prior to the constitution of MSSWAB, Mizoram had only one member in the Assam State Social Welfare Advisory Board as it was one of the districts of Assam. On the attainment of Union Territory, the first Lieutenant Governor, Shri S.P. Mukherjee who was also the Administrator of the Union Territory issued a Notification constituting the State Social Welfare Advisory Board with the following ladies for a period of two years.

1. Smt. M.A. Mukherjee - Chairman
   W/o S.P. Mukherjee
2. Smt. Malsawmi - Member
3. Smt. Lalkungi - Member
4. Smt. Saptawni - Member

Nominees of CSWB

5. Smt. Thankimi - Member
6. Dr. (Mrs) Neera Chaterjee - Member
7. Smt. Chankie - Member
HIZORAN STATE

SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY BOARD ORGANISATIONAL SET UP

Central Social Welfare Board

Hizorstan State Social Welfare Advisory Board

Chairman

Organisation

Administration

Non official
official

members to be
named by the Chairman

members to be
named by Chief

Equal number to be selected
by both

Secretary

Field Officer

Accountant and other clerical staff

Strength of Staff

1 Secretary - 1
2 Field Officers - 2
3 Accountant - 1
4 Steno Gr III - 1
5 UDC - 1
6 LDC/Typist - 1
7 Driver - 3
8 Peon - 1
9 Chowkiher - 1
10 Adhoc Staff - 6
11 VAB Staff - 2
12 Driver (KR) - 1

Total = 21
Under the disturbed political condition in Mizoram, the newly constituted Board could conduct its meeting only at the residence of Mrs. Mukherjee, the wife of Shri S.P. Mukherjee, the Lieutenant Governor of Mizoram. The first Board meeting was held on 4th Oct. 1973 with the full members present in the meeting. The co-opted member Mr. B. Poonte, the first State Social Welfare Officer, Department of Social Welfare Mizoram, acted as the Secretary of the Board and the minutes of the meeting were recorded by him. He signed as the Secretary and Mrs. Mukherjee as the Chairman of the Board meeting. Mr. B. Poonte continued to extend his helping hand till his untimely death.

No sooner the MSSWAB was formed than the need to have a proper and State Wide Women Voluntary Organisation was felt for the implementation of the Welfare programmes in Mizoram. All the women organisations at that time practically ceased to function. The Hmeichhe Tangrual Pawl (Mizo Women Organisation) was virtually dead due to political disturbance in the district. The State Board sought a workable central and local women voluntary organisation.
In the Seventh Meeting of the Board on the 6th July 1974 all the representative of various women organisations in Mizoram were requested to attend the meeting for deliberation on the said subject. This meeting was well attended by the Representatives of various women organisations as under :-

(a) Hmeichhe Hmasawn Pawl (Mizo Women Progressive Association)
(b) Hmeichhe Tangrual Pawl (Mizo Women Association)
(c) Mizo Women Welfare Organisation.
(d) Eastern India Women Organisation District Branch Aizawal.

After a long deliberation, the meeting unanimously resolved to have one women voluntary organisation in the whole of Mizoram and all the Mizo Women Voluntary Organisations should affiliate themselves to it. They also resolved that the new name of the organisation be "Mizoram Hmeichhe Insuihkhawm Pawl (Mizo Women Federation)". On the same day, the first office bearer of Mizoram Hmeichhe Insuihkhawm Pawl (M.H.I.P) were elected by the member present as follows :-
Mizo Hmeichhe Insuihkham Pawl (M.H.I.P') continue to grow effectively till today and its branches in the interior villages are affiliated to the Headquarters. The MSSWAB had made good use of this agency for the implementation of Welfare programmes. As a matter of fact, the formation of M.H.I.P in Mizoram was the first achievement of Mizoram State Social Welfare Advisory Board.

Chairman and Members of MSSWAB

The Chairman and the members of Mizoram State Social Welfare Advisory Board are appointed in accordance with the rules of State Social Welfare Advisory Board. The term of the Board is 3 years and no member can hold the office for more than two consecutive terms. The State Government would propose three names for the Chairmanship of MSSWAB to the Central Social Welfare Board. Final choice
and decision is left to the CSWB. They make decision on the basis of Bio-datas furnished to them by the State Government. The first three Chairman of the MSSWAB were the wives of the first three Lieutenant Governors of Mizoram. They were folowed by Smt. Malsawmi who had performed the duties of Chairman for two full terms. Three members of the Board are nominated by the State Government and another three other members are proposed by the State Government to the CSWB for their decision on the basis of bio-datas furnished to them. The appointment of chairman and the three members of the State, Board by CSWB is the important aspect of relationship between MSSWAB and CSWB.

INITIATIVES TAKEN BY THE MSSWAB

In the 9th MSSWAB meeting held on 16th Oct. 1974 some important resolutions to facilitate and activate the Board were passed. They are :-

(a) The need for setting up District level welfare committee at least at Aizawl District to gear up women voluntary organisation without which the State Board could not function effectively. District level welfare committee was expected to
come up in Aizawl District during 1974-1975 only. Similarly Lungiei District was expected to establish District Welfare Committee during 1975-1976.

(b) It was also resolved that a full time Secretary of MSSWAB should be appointed at an early date for the State Board.

(c) The State Board unanimously approved the proposal of supplementary budget for setting up of the Aizawl and Lungiei District level committee and the total budget estimate during the years 1975-76 come to Rs. 27,379.

(d) The State Board meeting further resolved that, keeping in view the urgent need for office accommodation the house newly constructed by Mr. C.L. Ruala at Tuikhuahtlang, Aizawl be taken on rent for the State Board Office. The honorary secretary of the State Board was requested to pursue the matter for the occupation of the house.

THE SECRETARY OF MSSWAB

Appointment of full time secretary was not considered at the time of formation of the Board. The Union Territory Government of Mizoram
appointed Mr. B. Poonte the then State Social Welfare Officer of Mizoram as an honorary Secretary of Mizoram State Social Welfare Advisory Board who relinquished the honorary secretary of the Board due to ill health.

After two years, the need for full time secretary of the Board was pointed out to the Government of Mizoram and the same was referred to the CSWB. Smt. P. Liandingi was proposed to be the first full time secretary of the Board. The proposal was accepted by the CSWB and the State Board.  

**BALWADI CENTRES**

With the help of M.H.I.P branches in Mizoram, Balwadi Centres were established for the children of the age group between 2-4 years before they are sent to Primary School. But it could not pick up its development as expected, so most of the Balwadi Centres were closed down for want of children. The matter was referred to the Chairman of CSWB at Delhi by the Secretary of MSSWAB. The CSWB Chairman suggested to run Balwadi Centres under Nutrition programme in Mizoram. And the State Board resolved to set up 30 Balwadi Centres in
Mizoram. Ten Centres each in the three Districts of Mizoram. In course of time the number of Balwadi Centres increased to 70. Each centre is ran by M.H.I.P branches of the Villages and the teachers in each centre are paid Rs. 200 per month as an honorarium. This also did not work successfully due to the subsequent introduction of I.C.D.S programmes in Mizoram where Aganwadi centres had been effectively implemented by the Department of Social Welfare. But MSSWAB moves on to the villages where such welfare activities had not reached them.

As on 18 June 1992 there were 41 Balwadi Centres well managed under the MSSWAB through the M.H.I.P branches mostly in the inaccessible areas of Mizoram.

MATERNITY CENTRE UNDER MSSWAB

Rural population of Mizoram was in great need of Maternity Centres for there were hardly any Sub-centres in the interior villages till the Department of Health Services increased its functions in the whole of Mizoram. The Directorate of Health Services Mizoram established Sub-centres
in the interior villages in 1980. Prior to such development, Maternal death and mortality rate was high; inspite of thin and sparse population of Mizoram. MSSWAB having access to village women started to establish Maternity centres with the help of village women institution under M.H.I.P in 1975. The CSWB sanctioned additional Grant-in-Aid to Women Voluntary institution under various schemes with which the MSSWAB decided to open more Maternity centres in the uncovered areas specially the rural areas through M.H.I.P branches. The Centres are managed by very few qualified nurses mostly by Dais with limited essential items of medicines. The CSWB sanctioned additional Grant-in-Aid Rs. 40,000/- for Maternity centres in April 1976. In the same year three more Maternity centres namely Maubuang, Lengpui and Fungkat were opened by the respective M.H.I.P branches. Each centre was given Rs. 5,000/- for their establishment. However, accommodation for the centres were arranged by the M.H.I.P branches. Within five years or so the MSSWAB had covered the wide area of unreached villages in establishing Maternity centres till the Department of Health
established Sub-centre with better staff and facilities. The MSSWAB would shift the Maternity centres to the next unreached village. Practically in the past, MSSWAB acted as the pioneer worker of the maternity care services in Mizoram. With the result, the number of existing Maternity centres has come down to seven only in the whole of Mizoram. Each of the seven Maternity centres was sanctioned Rs. 5,500/- in the current Financial Year 1992-1993. The seven Maternity centres are:

1. Bungthuam M.H.I.P maternity centre
2. Sailutar "
3. Pehlawn "
4. Serkhan "
5. Mualpheng "
6. Ruantlang "
7. Sethlun "

The Researcher pointed out to the Secretary MSSWAB that out of seven Maternity centres existing today in Mizoram six of them are in Aizawl District, one in Lunglei and none in the Chhimiuitupui District. As a matter of fact, the most backward District of
Mizoram State is Chhimtuipui District which should have maximum number of Maternity centre. The Secretary of MSSWAB Smt. P. Lianding explained that the women voluntary organisation in the Chhimtuipui District is very unstable to be used by the MSSWAB. Smt. Rothuami the Field Officer of MSSWAB further said that frequent changes have adverse effect in the functions of their voluntary organisations. Voluntary organisations which are supposed to be free from political influence are rather acting as an agent of their political system. In the absence of such women voluntary organisation the MSSWAB could not extend their helping hand to either economically poor women or extend services for mother and child care in the District till today.

CRECHE

Creche for children of working and ailing mothers had been started in Mizoram by M.H.I.P branches through the help of MSSWAB. Today there are 100 creches in Mizoram. Each of the creche is under the care of one Aiyah and one helper. An Aiyah is given an honorarium of Rs. 300/- per month and a helper is given Rs. 200/- per month
by the MSSWAB. There are hardly any mother working in Government services to keep her children in the Creche. The Creche are keeping small children for short hours of working days. The MSSWAB introduced that 10 percent of the expenditure on creches is shared by the M.H.I.P branch who runs the Creches. The functioning of Creche is appreciated by the public.

HOLIDAY CAMP

The children of the school going age are restless and are apt to fall into delinquency. They need special care and guidance in their life. Holiday Camps provide facilities for such guidance in the Society. Way back in 1976 there was a proposal for constructing a Holiday Camp building at Saitual which is 60 KM away from Aizawl on the way to Champhai. This proposal was examined and found that the building if ever constructed at Saitual would be used by the nearby villages and not by the villages at distance. Therefore the proposal was dropped. The MSSWAB adopted the system of allotting funds for organising Children Camp by the M.H.I.P branches. In 1981 - 1982 the CSWB
sanctioned grant for 10 (ten) institutions for organising Children Holiday Camp at the rate of Rs. 5,000/- each and the total grant sanctioned was Rs. 50,000/- . In 1992 - 1993 33(thirty three) institutions or M.H.I.P branches applied for grant in order to organise Children Holiday Camp during the year. Each of the institutions would be given a grant of Rs. 6,000/- and two institutions, out of 33, would be given Rs. 7,000/-, the total comes to Rs. 2,00,000/- as allotted by the CSWB for the year. The duration of the Holiday Camp is 10 days and each institutions is to organise the Camp for 30 children.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRAMME OF THE MSSWAB

Socio-Economic Programme has a distinctive objective of providing opportunity for "work and wage" to needy women such as economically backward and destitutes. Mizoram State Social Welfare Advisory Board (MSSWAB) was asked by the CSWB to furnish its requirement of fund under Socio-economic schemes which would best fitted and the most suited to the needs and demands of Mizo women. Piggery schemes was believed to be the most successfully implemented and the members of the State Board recommended
Piggery scheme to be encouraged in Mizoram.
The State Board meeting held on 22nd April'76 in Raj Niwas under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Sushila Mathur the wife of the Lieutenant Governor of Mizoram resolved to demand more funds for the Piggery scheme. The CSWF sanctioned Rs. 1,74,330/- for the MSSWAB under the scheme of Socio-economic Programme for futherance of piggery scheme in Mizoram. The Scheme became popular in Mizoram in 1978 and benefitted 65 needy women who were provided with 5 piglets.

OBSERVATION OF SHRI J.M. SEETARAM.

Shri J.M. Seetaram Assistant Project Officer of the North Eastern States, visited Mizoram in 1978 and reported that the piggery scheme was not successful. He had noticed quite a number pigs were suffering from diseases and some were dying. He feared that beneficiaries may not be benefitted as expected by the scheme. As regards payment of loan the beneficiaries were expected to repay their loan by March 1979 which he did not expect it possible for the beneficiaries.
to do so. The State Board members were however, firm in their opinion and expressed the hope of achieving 50 percent success for the scheme. 17

The State Board meeting on 11th Sept., 1979 at Raj Niwas under the chairmanship of Smt. Sushila Mathur reviewed the piggery scheme of 1978. The scheme was found that 5 (five) piglets for a woman to take care of them at a time was rather strenuous; and the meeting resolved to give 4 (four) piglets (one gilt and three female). Simultaneously the Board recommended 15 piggery units for the year 1979 - 1980. 18

Under Socio-economic programme, the scheme of piggery continues to grow well in Mizoram, and in 1991 - 1992 the allocation of fund to the scheme was increased to Rs. 2,00,000/- . There are 31 piggery units, and the unit being mostly one village consisting of 6 to 10 beneficiaries. Return of loan being satisfactory from the beneficiaries is an encouragement for MSSWAB to make further progress in the scheme in Mizoram. As against 65 needy women assisted in 1978 the State
Board has assisted 432 needy women in 1991. The number of piglets as prescribed for beneficiaries was 4 which has further been reduced to 3 piglets for easy and better management. The State Board has also decided to give feeds to beneficiaries either in kind or in cash amounting to Rs. 3,000/- per beneficiary in a year. The supply of foods costing Rs. 3,000/- has greatly helped the beneficiaries.

Above all the programme and progress made by the MSSWAB for the piggery scheme under Socio-economic programme, the Researcher offered supplementary comment on the subject that the traditional life style of Mizo was to keep pig, poultry and other domestic animals at home which were used as a source of meat supply and for ritual functions within the family and the village. Pork was considered as the most delicious meat by the Mizo; not only that oil extracted out of fat was used for frying vegetables and was the only oil used for cooking. A traditional Mizo family once slaughtered a pig would extract oil out of pig fat by frying the fat and stored it in a container to be used by the family for the rest of the year. They also prepared a special item out of intestinal fat which was like cheese called "Saum" used for
preparing a special Mizo dish. This oil extracted by frying fat was not only used for cooking but also used as hair-oil in the traditional Mizo Society. Such was the great use of oil extracted out of pig fat in the past. Even in the present Mizo Society, pork is considered as one of the most delicious meat and is in great demand. Substitutes of oil extracted out of pig fat for cooking purpose have come up and, is no more used as hair-oil. Yet demand for pork is ever increasing in the Mizo Society. Such are the possible reasons for the piggery scheme designed continue to progress among the Mizo women under Socio-economic Programme. Right selection of beneficiaries and proper supervision thereafter by MSSWAB made the piggery scheme more successful than the same scheme adopted under the IRDP in the Mizo Society.

**VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND CONDENSED COURSE**

For the economically distressed women of the Mizo society of the age group of 18 - 30 years a Vocational Training facility for stitching was opened in 1981 at Aizawl and the scheme is sponsored by the CSWB. The MSSWAB meeting resolved on 7th Aug. '91 to extend this Training facility through the women voluntary organisation called "Puitu
Hmeichhe Pawl are responsible to select suitable candidates for training. They impart Training for stitching to the selected candidate for a period of one year. The capacity of the institution is only 25 Trainees. The trainees are given stipend of Rs. 250/- per month. After one year of Training all the Trainees appear for the Test conducted by the "Puitu Hmeichhe Pawl" committee members. Result declaration and distribution of certificates to the Trainees is conducted on the closing day of their training. A girl who successfully completed the stitching classes for one year is expected to independently manage herself in all kind of stitching works.

In regards the Condensed Course for women the MSSWAB decided to give grants to those girls unable to pass High School Leaving Certificate Examination through institution run by M.H.I.P branches. The M.H.I.P branches organised special classes for such candidates under qualified Teachers. The result of such efforts in the beginning was encouraging. The result as recorded in 1987 was as follows :-
(a) Republic Veng Aizawl - out of 20 candidates 12 candidates passed the examination with 55 percent.

(b) Champhai Vengthlang - out of 25 candidates 6 candidates passed with 24 percent.

(c) Chandmary Aizawl - out of 20 candidates 8 candidates passed with 40 percent.

(d) Khatla Aizawl - out of 25 candidates 40 percent passed the examination.

(e) Serchhip - out of 20 candidates 28 percent passed the examination.

(f) Lunglei Sub. Hq. - out of 25 candidates 20 percent passed the examination.

1991 RESULT.

(a) Stam, Aizawl - out of 25 candidates 28 percent passed the examination.

(b) Science Teacher Association, Aizawl out of 25 candidates 28 percent passed the examination.

(c) Lunglei Sub. Hq. - out of 25 candidates 28 percent passed the examination.
From the decreasing percentage of result of adult women examinations, the State Board found that the habitual failures of such examinations attributed to the poor result. The State Board is of the opinion that the Condensed Course programme may not be continued for long for it fails to secure the required percentage as demanded by the CSWB which is 40 percent. Relaxation to Mizo women is made to 30 percent which is also not achieved in the past examinations.

WELFARE PROJECT CENTRES IN BORDER AREA

The fact is that all the villages along the International Border are backward for many reasons. Mizoram has 404 Km International boundary line running with Burma and 306 KM with Bangladesh, with the total length of 710 Km. There are several villages along the Border which are not touched by the various welfare activities for obvious reasons, firstly for want of communication. Secondly the response of the people to such activities is not encouraging. However, knowing all the facts of life in the border area, the CSWB requested the MSSWAB to explore the
The possibility of starting welfare extension project in the Border areas of Mizoram. The Secretary of MSSWAB approached the Union Territory Government of Mizoram with a scheme for establishing the welfare extension project in 1976. The proposal for the same was approved by the State Board and the U.T. Government of Mizoram. It was accepted by the MSSWAB that Border area of Burma in the East should be covered by this project.

The following group centres or enlarged villages were selected:

**Burma Border**

(a) Bungzung centre  
(b) Farkawn centre  
(c) Vanzau centre  
(d) Khawbung centre  
(e) Vaphai centre

The Chairman of CSWB further requested the MSSWAB open another project along the border of Bangladesh. The State Board meeting on 19th Aug. 1977 under the chairmanship of Mrs. Chhibber, the wife of Lieutenant Governor of Mizoram resolved to open another project along the border of Bangladesh with the following centres:
Bangladesh Border

(a) Hauruang centre
(b) Lungsen centre
(c) Tuichawng centre
(d) Demagiri centre
(e) Chawngte centre

The project and budget estimate was submitted to the CSWB for approval. At the same time the Government of Mizoram was also requested to share the budget at the ratio of 2 : 1 and to approve the same. This Budget Estimate for the new project was Rs. 50,650/-,²² for five months.

Each of the two projects have the following workers as under :-

(a) Mukhya Sevika - 1
(b) Gram Sevika - 5 for five centre
(c) Nurse - 5 "
(d) Craft Instructress - 5 "
(e) Accountant - 1
(f) Peon - 1

Mukhya Sevika is an equivalent post of an Assistant with the same scale of pay. Educational qualification for Mukhya Sevika is Graduate of any recognised
University preferably with Social works or Home Science. Both the Projects established Offices in the Project Headquarters where Mukhya Sevika with the assistance of an accountant and the Peon co-ordinate the work of the centre. The two Projects administer welfare services at the ten centres in the field of Health Education, Social Education, Adult Education and Craft activities. The nurse is mainly concerned with pre-natal and post-natal care of mothers in the villages. Also give limited Medical care to the rural poor. Craft Instructress teaches the village women how to stitch and repair cloths. With the limited facility available to the projects, the work of welfare projects in the Border areas could not yet be made effective in Mizoram. Secondly, the backward people in the Border area are the Chakma, Bru and Riang who do not settle permanently in one place. Frequent shifting of places of living with their belonging pose a peculiar and typical problem to extend welfare services to them in the Border areas. The State Government of Mizoram is making an effort to settle them permanently at their respective
places by providing administrative requirements for the same. Till such time they settle permanently and come forward themselves to receive welfare services there could be no success of this scheme, particularly with the Bangladesh Border area which stretched 306 Km long.
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