CHAPTER-5
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTIONS AND PERSONNEL:

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AND ACTIVITIES:

The administrative structure in the hill districts of Manipur is classified into different levels. At the apex, there is Work Advisory Board or Hill Area Committee. This board consists of Minister of Tribal Development as Chairman and all members of Legislative Assembly elected from the hill areas as its members. Besides, Commissioner of Tribal Development as member and Director of Tribal Development as member secretary. This is the highest body in the State. This board charts out the various programmes for tribal development and also oversee the planning and implementation process of the hill areas. However, due to frequent changes in State Government, this board does not function properly, and most of the works are carried out by Commissioner and Director.

At the state level, the hill Commissioner is the nodal authority to look after the development process of the hill area. As a whole, the overall administration in the hill districts of Manipur is under the concerned of District Commissioners. Most of the schemes/programmes at the district level are implemented through the District Commissioners, who are also on the other hand, function as District Magistrates. In
the process of programmes implementation, the DC coordinates with the district officers and block officers. Since the flow of funds for the tribal development are still controlled by the concerned departments, the developmental programmes are independently implemented by them. When it comes to practicality of their work, there is no coordination among the district officers and block officers. They work on their own without any help or coordination from other departments.

There is a district level beneficiaries selection committee, which consists of District Commissioner as Chairman of the Committee, and other block officers and District Tribal Development Officers are appointed as members and member-secretary. From each block, some four to five different members from social workers also participate in the committee.

There are village authorities at the village level and district autonomous council at the district level. The role of these statutory bodies is yet to be brought into practical terms, though they used to carry out some of the developmental schemes. Autonomous District Council have not been given the required power to take up development activities in tribal areas. These bodies were established to bring better administration for tribal areas in Manipur. But they failed to do so, since the power is cornered by other agencies. Earlier, they used to carry out some development activities at village level with the coordination of village chairman. Afterwards, these councils stopped functioning after the demand for sixth schedule in Hill areas.

**ROLE OF OFFICIALS AND THEIR VIEWS:**

Interviews and discussions were conducted with the officials working for tribal development in Manipur. There are various comments and views expressed by the officials. Generally, they revealed that delayed allotment results in lapse of funds meant for a particular use. For instance, there was seven lakhs rupees sanction from DRDA office for repairing main road of Machi block. Initially, DC suggested the villagers to work themselves as labourer for payment of daily wage for repairing the road. At the same time, MLA wanted to give it to the contractor to get some share of money. Therefore, the controversy among the higher officials and political leadersührungen.
led to delay in repairing of road. As a result, the road has remained in pathetic condition for the past one year. Actually, none of the villagers know where the money has been used, and they suspect that it might have been used by the higher authorities for their personal purpose. One more problem with officials is that those who are transferred to hill areas are not ready to work. So, instead of doing official duty for tribals, they start running after higher officials or Ministers for getting transfer to plain areas. This, on the other hand, is disrupting the development work on a large scale.

According to the officials, development of tribal area in Manipur is a sensitive issue. It requires an efficient manpower. The personnals, who work for the tribals, must have sense of commitment and humanitarian outlook. The interviews held with different officials, who are working in various tribal development departments of the study, revealed that persons who work in the departments may not succeed in the area of tribal development. Because, there are lots of problems involved in it which are difficult to be solved by one person or an official. It needs cooperation from various sections of the people. For example, officials working in development agency should work sincerely. Similarly, the clients who seek development scheme shouldn't also indulge in malpractice or bribing the officials to avail the scheme. They need to be distributed according to the need of the villagers or Villages. One more important aspect is that the problems of insurgency and hatred among Naga and Kuki tribes must be wiped out. Until and unless these problems are solved in Manipur, it is not possible to see progress in tribal development of Manipur, despite pouring of huge money for development from the Center. The existing social problems have to be given first priority for the solution, if one desires to see development in this State.

The following case studies of some officials working in various departments depict the problems existing in tribal development agencies;

**Ramana** Singh is a BDO in Machi block. He has been working in this block for the past 4 years. Before this, he was working as a SDC, and after getting promotion, he had come to Machi block. During his time, some of developmental programmes are implemented through village authority. He narrated that all the process of planning
and implementation work is done at District Headquarters. Besides, Machi block got very meager sources of finance and it is very difficult for him to allocate schemes to all the villages, because there are as many as 47 villages situated in the Machi block. The required finance for this block is not available but they implement schemes like weaving, poultry, small scale business etc.

There are sufficient numbers of staff to carry out all the development work in an effective manner but none of the officials comes to office. Moreover, there is no proper buildings and security force in Machi block. He received demands from insurgency groups to pay money quite frequently. In this type of situation, working in hill area like Machi block is mentally disturbing in some way or other. There are no proper communication facilities to contact with other people staying in plain areas during times of emergency.

Considering all these problems, he avoids attending office at Machi block. The District Commissioner gave him oral instructions to work at any main centre, i.e., Imphal or Chandel. But he is working at his home, which is 45 km away from Machi block. Villagers, who are willing to apply for schemes or any other work, have to go to his house by spending lots of money and wasting their precious time.

According to him, insurgency problem and corruption have to be wiped out, otherwise they remain as a major obstacle on the path of development programmes. For example, whenever development schemes are sanctioned, some of its percentage ought to be shared with insurgents and higher authorities. That's why, officials cannot implement the scheme effectively due to shortage of finance. As a result of this, villagers are blaming the officials.

Jhonathon (Joint Director, DDTBC) has been working for the past 15 years in the office. He has not been transferred to any other department since he joined DDTBC. The purpose of this office is to conduct research work in tribal areas and to find out the socio-economic conditions of the tribals, so that government can implement or take up development programmes in a better way. He revealed that this department is not conducting any kind of research work. There are so many officials
working in the government offices who are getting their monthly salary without doing any work. As far as the funds sanctioned by the central government are concerned, corruption is always a matter of concern. The central government continues to pour money in the state but nobody in the state has the courage to complain openly that all the development projects exist only on papers in Manipur, especially for the people living in hill area. For instance, Manipur state government is not taking up any step in building schools, roads and hospitals that are desperately needed by the tribals. They have been, in fact, paying the salaries of their fake appointees by using the development funds.

He says that if tribals can have the provision of sixth schedule in Manipur hill areas it will be much better than what the tribals are facing today. It provides more power to the members of Autonomous District Councils to carry out development schemes in the tribal areas. All the members are supposed to be elected from the villages. Because, they can understand the villagers problems better than any other officials working for tribal development. Moreover, these members generally maintain close relationship with the villagers. It can also help in bringing awareness among the villagers.

Amitkant (Asst. Director of Planning), has been working in DDTBC since 1981. He is the only non-Manipuri working in this office and looks after all the planning processes of Manipur tribal development. As narrated by him, due to financial problems in the State, government is not taking up any development programmes. Moreover, government officials did not get their monthly salary for 3 months consecutively in the year 2002. That's why, nobody is interested to take initiative in tribal development in Manipur. In fact, officials are finding it difficult to manage their own financial problems. In this situation, nobody can expect officials to work on development activities in Manipur. He also suggested that 'single window approach' has to be adopted in tribal development of Manipur. In the sense that development schemes have to be implemented from one head only. Infact, tribal development schemes are independently implemented by various departments without proper coordination. To avoid this, all the programmes need to be finalized and planned from one head and should be given responsibility to the particular
department for implementing one particular scheme. And similar type of scheme should not be implemented by various departments, as prevailed in tribal development agencies. This can avoid the overlapping of programmes. Because every department is implementing schemes for the tribals. But there is no coordination among the various departments. DDTBC is assisting all the schemes and there are lot of overlapping of programmes implemented by concerned departments.

Besides, all the financial matters are dealt at the Head office due to security problem. So, it creates lots of problems for tribals. He also suggested that sixth schedule provision should be provided in hill areas so that development can start from grassroots level and the village authority will have more power to work on development activities. The village authority plays an important role in the selection of Autonomous District Council members. It is also obvious that they will have some share on any development programmes carried out by the ADC. Actually, sixth scheduled is meant for the empowerment of this Councils in Manipur hill areas. Once it is accepted by the central government, there may definitely be some improvement in tribal development in Manipur. As of now, all the development programmes are implemented by the government agencies. The village authority has failed to influence the officials as they used to do in the Autonomous District council members. He commented that Ministers, who are looking after this issue, are not taking keen interest towards the demand for the 6th schedule.

Jhone is working as a research officer at Chandel district Commissioner's office. He reveals that there is no proper planning cell at District level. Employees, who come from plain areas, are not attending their duty regularly. It is really difficult for him to manage the whole office work alone in the absence of other staff. Number of complaints have been lodge against irregular office staff, but no step' been taken so far, because they have close relation with some political leaders or officers who can protect them.

According to the official sources, some of the ultra outfit groups have taken two lakh rupees from officials. Actually, the money was supposed to be used for
development activities in the district. Again, one more incident in Chandel occurred during fieldwork that District Commissioner was kidnapped by ultra outfit for demanding money as ransom and other issues etc. He was kept for more than ten days in their custody and released afterwards. Villagers commented that government might have given some lakhs of rupees for his release from ultra group. But they never disclose the fact to the people. Most of the people are sure about the fact that government has given money to insurgents to release the officer. Thus, development activities have not seen in the village level due to the fund utilized for non desirable purpose.

In this situation, nobody opts to work in hill areas until these social problems in Manipur are solved. It is difficult to think of development activities in the hill areas in particular and plain areas in general.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION:

The hill areas Act 1955 was passed for the establishment of Manipur Village Authorities. Under this act, every recognized village having 2 to 60 tax paying houses was to have 5 members, 60 to 100 tax paying houses 7 members, 100 to 150 houses, 10 members and more than 150 houses, 12 members. The electoral rolls prepared for election to Lok Sabha are used for these elections. The chief of the village (Khulakpa) is to be ex-officio Chairman of the village authority and where there is no such chief (Khulakpa), the Chairman is elected by the members of the village authority from among Villagers. The main functions of the village authority are to maintain law and order, to utilize the power and perform the duty generally conferred or imposed on the police under the Police Act 1961.

The village authority has to review all development work and report to the block development officials or committees. The village authority has to be the managing committee for the government school in the village. The village authority has to look after the overall functioning of the school including absentees among the staff. It helps to gain the people’s support to supplement governmental efforts in developmental work. The Governor can appoint any two or more members of the
village authority. Village authority is to have jurisdiction concurrent with that of the criminal court within the local limits, of whose jurisdiction, the village is situated for the trial of any offences which are punishable.

There is a block development committee in every block or sub-division. It consists of the members of the District Councils elected in the local jurisdiction of the Block. Six members of villages are elected by village authority and concerned MLA. From these members, a chairman is chosen who will also examine the development programme chalked out by circle development committee. At present, these committees are not at all functioning in the tribal areas. It is there just for the name sake. Because, none of the members are taking interest to conduct meetings or discussion regarding development activities in the Block. Moreover, Block offices remain close all the time and their works are carried out at the district level. In this situation, Block development committee members are not taking initiatives. Besides, after the suspension of Autonomous District Councils in Manipur, there are no members from district council, who are supposed to take/play important part in this Block Development Committee. Actually, all the powers are usurped by the local MLA.

In the hill areas of the district, village authorities have been constituted under the provision of Village Authority Act 1956. These village authorities, which are also functioning as village councils, have been playing an important part in the administration of justice, both civil and criminal, and development work in hill areas. As a whole, the village authorities are successful in maintaining peace in the village.

Both Minou and Khangshim villages are administered by the Village Authority Council Act. The Village Authority consists of 7 members according to the rule provided by Village Authority Act 1955. The designations of functionaries are given below.
### Table 4.7: Designations of Functionaries of Village Authority:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESIGNATION</th>
<th>MINOU VILLAGE (Name of the Members)</th>
<th>KHANGSHIM VILLAGE (Name of the Members)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>D.Peter</td>
<td>K.Koshang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>M.Kopham</td>
<td>S.T.Homi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>M.Tauna</td>
<td>T.Kores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>D.Korongphum</td>
<td>K.Modon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>M.Koshilning</td>
<td>R.Doranshed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>Kh.Santeen</td>
<td>H.Khamba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>L.Angphun</td>
<td>R.Angrong</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Village Authority Councils in Minou and Khangshim village.

The tenure of Village Authority members is five years, except for the Chairman. Chairman post remains unchanged. After five years, another new village Authority shall be elected. The selection of the village Chairman is not based on election. It totally depends on the hereditary succession in both the villages.

For electing the other remaining six members of Village Authority, the senior villagers and educated persons form an election committee under the guidance of Block Development Officer. And they hold meeting in the village community hall and discuss and inform the villagers for giving their names from those who are willing to take charge for the respective posts. After nominating the persons for the respective posts, the committee will take the consent from the villagers and the majority opinion of the villagers will be accepted. The village authority is looking
after all the problems and development activities in the village. Chairman and Secretary play a major role in conducting any kind of development activities in both the villages.

It is seen that the Chairmen of these two villages are powerful men from dominant tribe or from wealthy family background. They have been ruling their village administration since long because of the hereditary succession system of Chairman. These persons are well known to the block officials and they know the areas of development works or schemes implemented by the development agencies. Most of the village development works were executed by them like construction of Kacha road, school building, culverts, wells, hand pumps (under ground bore well) etc.

With regard to development activities in the village, Chairman of Khangshim is more active and gives more attention towards development activities of the village, whereas Chairman of Minou is a teacher in village school. So he does not get much time to go to government offices regularly. Besides, it is difficult for him to visit office due to poor transport facilities.

The Chairmen of Minou and Khangshim villages are possessing considerable quantity of agricultural lands, good houses as compared to the common villagers. Their children are studying outside Manipur State.

They always maintain good rapport with the Block Development Officer and District officials etc. Sometimes, they used to get into arguments with officials regarding scheme allotment to the villages. They also have interaction with villagers regarding village development activities. Information about development programmes are offered by government agencies. Sometimes block or district officers inform to the village authority. But most of the times, village Chairman has to chase for development programme. Otherwise, programmes will be implemented somewhere else or money will be used for their (officials) own purpose.

Whenever money comes for village development programme, they call a general meeting of the villagers and common decisions are taken. Any type of
development activities are undertaken by villagers, either in the form of payment or non-payment labour. It is done under the supervision of Village Authority.

Apart from this, many problems like fighting, divorces, disputes etc., arise among the villagers. The Chairman calls for a meeting of village authority and sit together to take decision on related issues. Then the Chairman and other six members resolve the problems by making compromise or giving punishment. During the fieldwork, a divorce case in Minou village was solved by the village authority. For performing functions and Christmas festival, the village authority organises meetings with the villagers. Decisions are taken by village authority after consulting the villagers.

Regarding general election, majority of the people prefer to vote their own group's candidate either Naga or Kuki. In the recent election, both the villagers supported only the Naga candidate. Because, they know that if Naga candidate wins the election, he will get some development programmes for the these two villages, since he belong to Naga tribe. Their politics is not based on party. All the people of Naga tribe, who are living in this constituency, support Naga candidates irrespective of political party.

According to the village’s Chairmen, the rivalry between Naga and Kuki tribe influence the political and economic growth of tribals in these two villages. These tribes have their own factions and affinity for certain reasons. For instance, an MLA from the Naga or Kuki tribe will never concentrate for the development of their opposite tribe in his constituency. This kind of sectarianism continues to influence the minds of officials as well. It resulted that both villages couldn't get development programmes during the time of Kuki MLA. Even, they had gone through various kinds of arguments with Kuki MLA and other officials for blocking the scheme money which was already given order to be released.

For instance, there was a sanction of Rs 2.70 lakhs for the construction of school building at Minou village. The sanction order for school building construction was given by Naga MLA. Before starting the execution of work, a Kuki MLA came...
to power in the constituency. He tried to use that money for school construction at Kuki village, but not in the Naga village. In this situation, Chairman of Minou village had heated argument with the officers as well as MLAs. Later on, Chairman took help from insurgents and got the money within a short time. With the money, construction of the school is going on at Minou village. In this case, insurgency groups acted as a positive force against non-democratic appropriation of financial resources. Due to this problem, Khangshim community hall whose construction was started two years back, is still lying incomplete. Chairman of Khangshim village expressed that villagers are expecting to complete it soon as Naga MLA is now in power in this constituency.

One more instance, the electoral roll of Minou village is not properly collected. For instance, the officials in charge of electoral roll writing do not go to every house and collect data about the members of electorate. Instead of going house to house, they collect the data directly from the Chairman of village, who has the list of villagers, which is often exaggerated for the election purpose. This list includes all the children, who are not eligible to cast their votes. This type of malpractice in electoral roll may also be prevalent in other tribal villages. This helps them to elect their own candidate.

During election, this leads to large-scale malpractices with every member casting votes several times. Besides, small boys and girls, who are not eligible to caste vote, are also allowed to cast vote. There is no proper management to control such malpractices during the time of general election. In general, these practices are prevailing everywhere in the hill areas of Manipur.

In short, the rivalry between the tribal groups has led to imbalance in growth of Manipur tribal villages. All this, village authority has very important role to play in the development of tribal villages.

Besides, both the villages have got their own village forests, which are owned by the village authority. Forest products are sold to the villagers or neighbouring
villagers and money is used for village development. However, they can not take forest products to the plain area, because forest departments collect taxes from them.

Both the Chairmen are educated up to B.A. level. The Chairman of Khangshim village reads newspaper daily in the morning. He always suggests other villagers to go through the newspapers daily. And some of the villagers also read newspaper. They purchase themselves or read it somewhere. But facility for regular reading of newspaper are not available to the villagers of Minou. But they used to listen radio news everyday to keep themselves aware of things happening in the State. As a whole, village authorities are looking after the overall functioning of these two villages.

To sum up, the planning of development programmes in Manipur Tribal areas is a super imposition on the tribals which is generally based on centralized planning and not from the below. The research work shows that there is a huge gap between the government agencies and the development experience of concerned tribals. Because, officials and their records projected a wide range of development work in tribal areas carried out by government agencies. But when it comes to the village level, majority of the villagers are not aware of development schemes implemented by government agencies. Some of the villagers do not know the existence of tribal development agencies. Without creating awareness among the villagers, it is difficult to get better results. The officials never make an attempt to spread awareness among the villagers regarding these schemes. Nobody is taking initiative to do this type of work. It has been observed that delaying of budgeting provision has been proved to be a major obstacle in the process of development. If allotment is not made in time, no development work can succeed. Corruption prevails at the time of selecting beneficiaries. Government officials, who are implementing development programmes, have important role to play here. When it comes to practicality of the officials’ work, nobody does his/her work sincerely. They do not interact with the people. Majority of the villagers have bad impression on officials who are working in the tribal development agencies. Moreover, there are other social constraints which destruct the development process in the State.
EDUCATION:

Education in the sense of literacy and formal schooling programme is a powerful social instrument with a tremendous potential for good and evil. The importance of education as an agency of modernization as well as a source of employment is well recognized in the national plans for tribal development. A greater proportion of the grant both from the State and Central sectors has been invested in imparting education at primary, pre-matric and post-matric levels. However, the problem of wastage and dropouts in tribal education has been equally stupendous. Lack of education contributes to the poor standard of living. It also leads to their further exploitation in the hands of non-tribals. Thus, in order to free the tribals from exploitation and to improve the quality of their life, education and literacy are pre-requisites for bringing them into the mainstream of national development (Tri-lochan 1994:163).

For success of any development programme, it is necessary that the people should be educated. The problem of education, as far as scheduled tribes are concerned, needs to be viewed in a proper way. For people in the backward areas, education is most important communicative channel for the beneficial aspect of the process of change. In tribal areas, educational efforts need to be different from those in general areas.

Education scenario in Manipur is much better, when one looks at the percentage of literacy in Manipur. It is quite higher than the national average of literacy rate. But, when it comes to the quality of education, Manipur is lacking behind compared to other states in India. Within the state, the tribal literacy rate is 53.63 percent, which is again lower than the other plain Manipuris. There are a total of 1814 primary/secondary schools and institutions available in the six hill districts of Manipur (as on 30/9/99). But most of the institutions are not functioning properly. The problems of
infrastructure like lack of buildings, absence of staff, etc are common in these areas (Binota, 1998). This is the same case in Chandel district also. There are a total of 248 institutions which include all the educational institutions in the Chandel district. As told by the officials, some of the schools are functioning without school building. Nobody takes care of this problem. It also resulted to have less literacy rate i.e. 46.68 percent, which is lower than other hill districts in Manipur. Even in Machi block, actual figures of institutions are not available, but this block also faces lots of problems regarding education. There is only one High school, which is having classes up to X. Other remaining schools are all at primary level, which have classes only up to fifth or sixth. The school, which offers class X, is not easily accessible to all the villages located in Machi Block. Therefore, most of the children in this Block face problems after finishing their primary education for pursuing higher education.

In Minou village, one junior primary school was constructed in the year 1950. It was run by the village authority. Later, it was upgraded into full-fledged government junior primary school. The school started with two teachers before government's reorganization. Then it was converted into government school and three more teachers were appointed. It has classes from LKG to Standard V. There was a total 80 students and five teachers in this school during the year 2002. However, two teachers are from the village itself and other three are non-tribal teachers from plain areas. Most of the students in this school were less interested in education in the 1960s to 1970s, and none in the village passed Matriculation. The villagers of the Minou were completely preoccupied in agricultural work. Gradually, they started taking interest towards education under the influence from plain area's educated Hindu. Parents of Minou village started insisting on their children to go to school. And hence, the interest towards education grew up and prevailed among the villagers of Minou.

These days, most of the parents of poor families send their children to village school. Some of the rich families are sending their children to plain areas schools, which are very expensive. These schools have boarding facilities for the students. Thus, all the villagers are strongly motivated by the educational system. Despite of its regular
functioning and strong involvement, the village could achieve low literacy compared to the existing rate of literacy in the plain areas of Manipur.

Table 4.8: Showing the literacy according to age in the two villages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE (in range)</th>
<th>KHANGSHIM VILLAGE</th>
<th>MINOU VILLAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MALE</td>
<td>FEMALE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01-15</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-30</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-45</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-65</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is much difference between Khangshim village and Minou village with regard to education. In Khangshim village, there are two schools of which one is recognized by the government of Manipur and the other one is a private school. The former has classes from L.KG to class 11 and the later has classes from L.KG to class 11. Villagers prefer to send their children only to the private school, since the government school does not function properly. Therefore, the government school remains closed throughout the year. Villagers of Khangshim revealed that one teacher of the village government primary school is from plain area. He comes once in a month to the school. Least students are available in the government school, since maximum number of children in this village join in the private school. The teacher from the plain area doesn't have any work except taking his monthly salary. Villagers further narrated that he is actively engaged in personal business in his town.

By considering the ineffective educational system in the village government primary school, the villagers have started preferring the private school to provide
better schooling for their children. The private school has total number of forty students and five staff including non teaching staff. They charge monthly Rs.70/- from each and every student as tuition fees. This school is actually meant for the students under the age of five to ten years, who cannot go to plain areas schools, which are far away from their village. After finishing class II in their village private school, the parents send their children to plain areas private schools or government schools in nearby town. And private schools and government schools at Kakching town are just 2-3 kms away from Khangshim village. Parents, who can't afford to send their children to private schools, which is also very expensive, are sending their children to the government schools. Villagers developed awareness about education and its importance. Educational expenditure has became a kind of burden to every parent in the Khangshim village. Apart from this, they also send their children to the teachers of the plain areas for extra tuitions. When we look at the literacy in Khangshim village, it is much more impressive compared to that of Minou village.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Village</th>
<th>Number of Children (From Class I - Class X)</th>
<th>Name of Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khangshim</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minou</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>09</td>
<td>05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It is clearly seen from the above table that these villagers are sending their children to schools of plain areas like Kakching, Pallel, Imphal etc. Among these places, the maximum numbers of the students are studying at Kakching. And some of the remaining students go to Pallel and Imphal.

Apart from this, there is one theological college (bible college) in Khangshim village. It is a private institution, runs under the supervision of one lady of this village. And the financial support is provided by the missionary agencies. This college offers courses like diploma in theology for one year and bachelor of theology for three years. As told by the instructor, bachelor degree in the theology course is equivalent to the degree qualification of general education. As of now, this college has only three students, one in diploma course and other two are doing bachelors degree in theology. The purpose of doing this type of degree course is to have deeper knowledge about Christianity. Whoever completes this degree is eligible to become Pastor of any Church. The payment of monthly salary for a Pastor is based on their theological qualification.

PROBLEMS FACED BY TRIBALS STUDENTS:

People living in the hill areas face many problems especially in Minou village with regard to education. For instance, inspection of school by higher educational authority from government is very much needed in hill area to improve the quality of education, to understand the problems faced by teachers as well as students and basic requirements of school infrastructure. If there is frequent inspection from the educational authority, the teachers cannot neglect attending school regularly. Hence, they start taking classes regularly. In this process, students will develop interest in attending school despite of their busy work at home. The teachers working in Minou village school do not attend school regularly since the inspections are not there in the village. This also leads to the irregular functioning of school and, at the same time, students are also not taking much interest to attend class. Therefore, it is must for the government authority to inspect the school regularly. The schools in Machi block in general and Minou village in particular are not at all inspected by concerned authority. Due to this negligence of authority, it leads to poor administration of the
schools and absence of teachers for long time. But the tribal teachers are taking some initiatives to improve the education in the village.

In most of the tribal inhabited areas in Manipur hills, the transportation through road is one of the major problems. Not even jeepable roads are found in some of these hill areas. In this condition, it is very difficult for the students who do not have schools at their villages, to walk a long distance to go to distance school. When it comes to Minou village, students are facing many problems after finishing their class V, if they want to pursue their further studies. In this situation, they have to go to plain areas and study there. That's why half of the students are dropping out from school after class V, because students' parents are not in positions to send their children to plain area schools since their family incomes are very low to sustain their livelihood. Moreover, studying in the plain areas schools requires the family to be financially sound. Actually, one needs to spend minimum one thousand five hundred per month, which is very difficult for the poor villagers. So students from rich families, who can afford to go to plain areas schools, are continuing their studies, even though it is very expensive for them too.

Majority of the villagers live below poverty line; their socio-economic status are very low. During the schooling days in the Minou village, the parents of some students couldn't send their children to school. Because their children were to help them either in the field or look after the household works while parents were in the field. Consequently, most of the students couldn't attend the classes during this period. So, these children do not pay much attention in their studies. As a result of this, students are very poor in studies. But in Minou village, most of the students pass through up to Class V by copying during examination. After passing class V, some of the students, who are studying in plain areas, find it very difficult to adjust with the educational system, as they were allowed to copy during exam when they were in the village school. But copying in the examination is not allowed in the plain areas schools. Therefore, they obviously fail in the examinations. It automatically leads to discontinuation of their study due to psychological problem as well as financial problem. Because the parents cannot support them financially to repeat in the same class for two or three years again and again. Here, some of the case studies are
given to understand the problems faced by the Minou students who studied and discontinued their studies in plain areas.

Angshel, a Maring lives in Minou village. His family is considered to be a wealthy family as compared to other families in the Minou village. Actually, his father is an employee in PWD department, Chandel district. His father's main source of income is his monthly salary. Besides, his father takes lot of interest in education. Thats why, he was sent by his father to study in Pallel private English school, where food and lodging facilities are available with the payment of money on monthly basis. He joined in class VI and stayed in the hostel for one year for study. Due to lack of basic knowledge, he failed in exam. After that, he joined in government school at Kakching. Actually, examination system is less rigid in government school. In the sense that students some times do malpractice in the examination hall e.g students can copy during the exam. In this process, he continued till class X in the same government school. After that, he couldn't continue his study, because he failed in class x examination, which is conducted by Board of secondary education, Manipur. As told by the informant, he faced lots of problem in studying subjects like Maths, Sciences, Hindi etc. He has come back to the village after failing in Class X exam. During his study in the plain area, he used to spend rupees one thousand five hundred per month and sometimes more than this.

Another case study is that of Mekham, who belongs to Maring tribe and lives in Minou village. His father is a farmer and possesses two acres of land in the plain areas. His father also takes keen interest in the education. That is the reason why, his father sent him to study in the plain area immediately after class V from his village school. He joined in private English school at Kakching. He stayed in the hostel. His monthly expenditure in that school was one thousand two hundreds rupees per month inclusive of boarding and studying. As narrated by the informant, it was too difficult for him to adjust with the new educational system. So, he faced language problem and was unable to understand the class lecture delivered in English. He was basically very poor in English language. Generally, class lecture in private schools are delivered in English, since they all follow English medium, whereas government schools are of Manipuri medium. Due to the above problems, he always failed in the
exam. After that, he lost interest in his studies since he found it very difficult. Later, he joined in Mechanical work. He is still learning mechanical works.

As narrated by the villagers in Minou village, their children face many problems while studying up to class X; Because, copying in the examination hall is strictly restricted in state board examination. Without copying in exam hall, it is difficult for them to pass in exam. But once they came through class X exam, it is obvious that their students surely go up to their bachelors degree or intermediate. Because in this level, mass copying in the examination hall is common in the colleges which makes them to get through the exam by using the same means. Therefore, students face major problem during their schooling rather than college.

Morung, is doing bachelor degree in komlathabi college. As revealed by informant, he failed once in class VIII and twice in class X exam. His father told him to study and always encouraged him to continue his studies. Thats why, he got through class x exam with lot of hard work. Besides, he used to go for extra tuition during his preparation for exam. Because of these efforts, he could pass the exam. Later, he joined for intermediate and passed by doing malpractice in the exam. He said that he would be completing bachelor degree next year i.e., 2003.

It is clearly seen from the above that many difficulties are faced by the tribal students in schools, especially by those who live in the hill areas. Even after the completion of bachelor's degree, they don't acquire basic ideas about their subjects due to malpractice during examination. It makes them to remain as unemployed youth, which is again a problem for state in general and village in particular. There are number of students who have completed their degree and but remain as unemployed youth in the villages for the reason that they are not well educated.

Apart from this, in Minou village, school teachers are irregular in attending school all the time due to poor transport systems and other social problems, especially for those teachers who are not from the same village. Even the local teachers find it very difficult to manage the classes in the absence of non-tribal teachers. Even when non local teachers come and teach, the children of the village,
face problems to understand the instruction from non tribal teachers due to difference in dialect. And non tribal teachers don't know this village dialect (Maring Lon). Subjects like Maths, Sciences and Hindi are taught by non tribal teachers. Because of poor basic knowledge in school, they find it too difficult, when they go for further studies.

Moreover, these teachers also don't teach regularly. Due to lack of teaching, students are very poor in Maths, Science and Hindi subjects. That's why, tribal students studying Mathematics or Science and Hindi in the higher education are very less. When it comes to infrastructure in the school, the requirements like books, chalks, boards etc. are less available in the village school. And school building is not in good condition and another new building is now under construction process. Besides, they don't have class room furniture like benches, desks, tables, almirah etc. Students in Minou village school bring empty sack bag to sit in the class room since there is no desks and benches.

Schools in hill areas generally don't employ Chowkidar or caretaker who take care of the school building, and furniture items etc. However, it is there in plain area school. That's why, school building, furniture items etc, in Minou village primary school, got damaged soon after its construction. The cattle like cows and buffaloes are staying inside the school building during non-school hours. This also creates unhygienic condition in the school premises. All these problems occur due to the absence of chowkidar or caretaker to look after the school.

In general, majority of the tribal people are very weak in sciences and mathematics subjects. There are not many students in higher studies. This reason of weakness in these subjects is due to the medium of language in which they study. The basic concepts of mathematics and science subjects are not clear when they first begin to learn these subjects. There is always communication gap between teacher and students due to language problems, since the teachers cannot speak their local dialects. Another cause is that local teachers are not available who can teach these subjects. So the non-tribal teachers have to be posted. But due to non-availability of necessary items and other social problems, the teachers do not come regularly. If the
non-tribal teachers would like to teach tribal students in this village, they have to stay in the village so that they can regularly attend the school. But these things never happen in the village school.

The teachers from plain areas feel insecure to stay in the hill areas since the situation of insurgencies occur in Manipur, especially in the hill areas. In this situation, teachers who are appointed to teach in the hill areas schools try to apply for leave or start bribing higher officials to get transferred to the plain areas schools.

One of the non-tribal teacher’s in Minou village revealed that he comes to the school only in the end of month. Village Authority (yonkhoi and Yunhai-ur)) has appointed one villager for teaching in his absence and he pays Rs.1500 to that villager from the teachers salary. He also said that he is very scared of staying in the village because, army and insurgents groups keep coming to the village. It may create trouble to him. That’s why, he is parting with Rs.1500/- instead of attending school. He is trying very hard to get transferred to plain area. Village Chairman (Alel and Khullak), who is also a teacher in Minou primary school, narrated that teachers who came from plain area never stay in the village and get transferred within a short time. This also affects the teaching atmosphere in the school.

Recently, the Head Master of the school got transferred to plain area. His post is lying vacant for quite a long time, and the Chairman has submitted a written complaint to higher authorities to send one Head Master. But the post is still lying vacant. Chairman (Alel and Khullak) look after the administration of the school since there is no Head Master in this school. This also makes the village Chairman very busy all the time. As told by the chairman, he is also trying to get promotion as Head Master of this school.

Table-4.10 Showing Number of Students in Different Classes in Minou Village

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classes in Ranges</th>
<th>Minou Village</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>Girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KG.I - Standard I</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Std.II - Std.III</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Khangshim village is relatively in better condition with regard to education facilities. Students in this village did not face the problems like students of Minou village. Number of schools and colleges are available just two kilometers away from the village. This is one reason for having more number of educated persons in Khangshim village. But still lot has to be done to be par with non tribal.

From the above discussion, it is quite clear that there are larger degree of variations that exist in terms of literacy and other facilities available among the tribals living in the hill areas and plain areas. Infact, tribals living in the plain areas are always in the forefront to avail all the educational facilities provided by government as well as private agencies. Moreover, education scenario has remarkably improved compared to earlier times. This is one kind of positive result seen after the establishment of schools in both the villages. Educational institutions in both the villages are providing benefit to the villagers. Besides, tribal teachers are also taking more initiatives for the upliftment of education system in the study villages. But non tribal teachers could do little for the tribals as they are not regularly available at the village schools due to other constraints.

Above all, village students are suffering from lack of proper infrastructure. As whole, educational institutions and personnel are rendering good services to the village students with the available resources. But still more manpower and better infrastructure facilities are required to improve the existing education system.

**ANGANWADI CENTRE:**

The Ministry of Planning had suggested in 1972 that a scheme for integrated childcare services might be worked out for implementation in all states. The steering group set up by the planning commission to advise on the formulation of the fifth plan also suggested the adoption of an integrated approach to early childhood services. Its
recommendations were accepted and the scheme of integrated child development service was included in the plan in social welfare sector to give a definite focus on the development service for early childhood. This scheme is being implemented in Manipur since mid 1980s. Under this scheme, children in the age of 3-4 years will have the benefit of non-school education through the institution of “Anganwadi” set up in each village. Non-formal pre-school education activities are also started for children below 6 years of age in each Anganwadi. It will not impart formal learning but develop in the child desirable attitude, values and behaviour patterns and aims in providing environmental stimulation.

In Minou village, Anganwadi Centre was established in 1983 and it has been functioning at the home of Anganwadi worker, who is looking after the centre. There is no separate building for Anganwadi Centre in Minou village. The main feature of the centre is to provide education to the child in the age of 3-5 years and provide milk and meal to the children for their good health.

It is quite contrasting when it comes to the ground reality. As narrated by worker in this centre, in the initial period, center used to provide milk and meals to the children four times in a month. Sometimes, it was not sufficient due to more number of children (irrespective of age). Around forty children used to attend the centre. Out of 40, half of the children were not eligible for availing the facilities given by Anganwadi centre. However, centre gave meal and milk to the children whoever came to the centre. Because, all the children were near and dear of workers in the village and couldn't object them from providing milk and meal. Majority of the children came to the centre only on the day when centre provided milk and meals.

Teaching part was totally neglected due to irregular attendance of the children. Majority of the children are not interested in attending to Anganwadi Centre. Generally, children start attending school at late age, especially in this village, compared to the children of plain areas.
It was observed that the Anganwadi Centre is not functioning properly. Officials stopped supplying provisions for Anganwadi Centre. Village Authority had given a complaint to the higher officials regarding supply of provisions for Anganwadi Centre. But the officials reacted that stock is not available and government doesn’t have funds to provide basic provisions. It made the centre totally defunct. Villagers no more feel the existence of Anganwadi Centre in the village. Villagers revealed that the quality of the milk, which was provided before, was of very poor quality and some of the money sanctioned for buying milk was used by higher officials for their own purpose. Getting provisions is also very hectic job as told by the Anganwadi worker. She has to visit them number of times and officials keep postponing dates asking her to come some other day. This makes her reluctant to go to the office. Sometimes, she took help from village chairman to get things done within a stipulated time. As of now, this Anganwadi Center does not provide any sort of facilities to the children in the village.

An Anganwadi Centre was started in Khangshim village. Separate building has been constructed by government. Here, it is interesting to note that the Anganwadi Center, which was functioning in Minou village, didn't have separate building. It also shows that Khangshim village has got better facilities than Minou village. Besides, Khangshim villagers maintain relations with development agencies. Therefore, they are always in forefront to get any provision provided by development agencies whether it is government or non government agencies. As narrated by a worker, Anganwadi centre has been running successfully for three years. Attendance of the children in the centre also very impressive and milk given to the children regularly. Later on, government officials stopped providing provisions to the Anganwadi centre due to financial problems. Anganwadi Centre is totally closed down now and the in charge of the Anganwadi centre is now working in Khangshim village private school.

Apart from this, the center used to provide minor treatment to the pregnant women and who delivered in the village. But actual number of treatment given to mothers in both the villages are not available since it has stopped giving such treatment since long. According to the Anganwadi Centre workers, Medical teams used to come from Chandel to these two villages once in a month and checked the health of mothers and
gave treatment also. During that time, the team used to give treatment to the other villagers who suffered from diseases or illness for both male and female. The villagers expressed that medical team did not provide the medical aid like drugs, tablets etc. to the patients. Generally, the patient or client used to buy them from the plain areas markets. Infact, there was provision for providing medical aid to the villagers. But nobody got this facilities from medical team who came from Chandel headquarter except checking their health condition. Villagers suspected that the money might have been used by the medical officers or staff. However, this type of activities are not seen any more in these two villages, now-a-days.

From the above discussion, it is clear that Anganwadi Centres in these areas are not functioning properly. They failed to provide basic requirements for the children, who are living in poor condition and mothers in the villages. As told by the Chairman, the record of functioning these centers are there in the government files and government must be allocating special package for these centers. In this situation, nobody knows where the money is being spent instead of being provided to the poor villagers. As a whole, most of the centers are not working properly in the hill areas. Moreover, none of the higher officials tries to look into these problems seriously, despite of the complaints given by the workers.

VETERINARY DISPENSARY HOSPITAL:

A veterinary dispensary hospital at Minou village was established in 1984 to provide medical aid to the cattle. It was to encourage and give assistance to the people who are involved in dairy, piggery, poultry etc. Government has appointed five employees from other villages to run and look after this dispensary. In the beginning of the dispensary, only Minou villagers were utilizing the facilities available in this veterinary hospital. Later on, people from other villages also started coming to the dispensary for medical aid and sought suggestions from veterinary staff. The staff used to come to the office regularly and provided medical facilities to the villagers. The veterinary dispensary hospital has been closed from the past 5-6 years. It is due to lack of supply of basic requirements to the centre (veterinary hospital). The building has three rooms, and one room has been allotted to the
Nepali family who looks after cattle in the village during off season. And rest of the rooms are used by village youths as a recreation rooms.

Now-a-days, staff are attending office at Chandel district headquarters once in a week. As an example, Khamtrim, forty six years old Khoibu tribal, is living in the Khangshim village. He is an employee in veterinary department. Actually, he has been posted in Minou veterinary hospital. Due to the closed down office, he is not attending office at Minou. Most of the time, he spends in his house. Sometimes, he visits the Chandel veterinary department. He is getting salary without doing any official duty. He is actively engaged in agricultural work like cultivation of potatoes, cabbage and mustard etc. As expressed by the villagers of Minou, the other officials are also getting their salary without doing their duties. Infact, Village Authority has lodged many complaints to revive this center, but no result has come out till date.

ROLE OF NATURE CURE CLINIC:

There is one Nature Cure Clinic in Khangshim Village run by one villager who is an expert in herbal medicine. During the field study period, there were seven patients admitted to this Clinic. Actually, it is a private Clinic. He gives herbal medicine to patients who come to take his help and charges money according to the dose/quality of the medicine. Even, some people used to admit in his Clinic for getting better treatment. It is little bit expensive because he charges one hundred rupees for a day. This treatment is familiar among the elderly people who are not used to modern medicine. Actually, this is helping to the villagers who are not having a habit of using modern medicine.

For instance, Merang is sixty four years old Khoibu tribal, living in Khangshim village. He takes only herbal medicine whenever he gets sick. As told by him, this Clinic is helping him a lot. Actually, he tried modern medicine once when he got fever. He was instructed to have tablet but he couldn't take it into his stomach. Whenever he tried to take modern medicine, he vomited. Due to this problem, Nature Cure Clinic has been helping number of tribals in this village and nearby villages. As told by the medicine man, number of people come from different places.
to get treatment from him. These days, even younger people are also coming for treatment of diseases like Jaundice. He told that he is an expert in curing this disease by using herbal medicine which is prepared by himself. This Clinic is useful for the many villagers.

**FUNCTIONING OF COOPERATIVE SOCIETY:**

The cooperative societies have been set up since 1974 in tribal areas in the country with a view to supply under one roof various requirements of tribals. Their credit-cum marketing needs are particularly looked after by the societies. They were also started in Manipur hill areas.

In the **year 1978**, Cooperative Society was established in the Khangshim village with an aim of providing credit cum marketing needs to the villagers. Initially, society had supplied credit to the villagers for starting small-scale business and other family purposes. They used to provide credit to the villagers within the ranges of Rs.500 to **Rs.2000**. Society had provided credit to 18 villagers in Khangshim and 6 from outside the village. Only 9 individuals could repay the credit amount and rest of the villagers didn't pay back money to the society. As narrated by Tongnai, a Khoibu woman who lives in Khangshim village has taken one thousand rupees credit from Khangshim Cooperative Society for starting small scale business of selling vegetables at the village Market. Later on, she stopped selling vegetables due to less profit as the village Market was not so popular in that time. She couldn't repay the full amount which she took from the society. Only half of the amount was repaid to the society. According to her, nobody in the village took initiative to repay the credit. The society members **couldn't** take up action towards the villagers who did not repay credit from Cooperative. As a result of this, society faced severe financial problems due to non-recovery of credit. Because of this problem, it remained closed for long. It failed to provide benefit to the villagers. During the field work period the building is being used by youth of village for their recreations.

The following table shows the institutional facilities available in Khangshim and Minou.
Table-5.1: Facilities Available in the two Villages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KHANGSHIM VILLAGE</th>
<th>MINOU VILLAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative society</td>
<td>Veterinary Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anganwadi</td>
<td>Anganwadi (without Building)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodology College</td>
<td>Government School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature Cure</td>
<td>Branch Post Office (without Building)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Primary School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market Shed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Relatively more facilities are available in Khangshim village when compared to those in Minou village. Majority of the institutions established in these two villages remained closed for quite a long time and not able to provide any type of benefit to the people who are living in these areas. It is observed that institutions set up in both the villages initially rendered good services to the villagers. But due to various reasons, the institutions established could not continue to function in an effective manner. Some of the basic reasons are: negligence and lack of initiative from higher authorities, less enthusiasm among the officials working in the institutions, and not having powerful and influential persons in the villages. These problems are similar to those prevalent in most of the tribals areas.

NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS:

Currently in India, great debates are going on in different forms regarding the role of voluntary agencies, especially with regard to rural development including tribal development. During the course of evolution of voluntary organizations in India especially since the beginning of the nineteenth century till today, they are more or less progressive in providing relief and protective service to the women, children, weaker section, flood affected people etc. They have been engaged in the
task of reform and rehabilitation of deprived, alcohol and drug addicts, etc. Some of them provide educational health, housing and recreational facilities.

The role played by NGOs working in Manipur for the Scheduled Tribes are mostly in the areas of educational development. There are a few residential schools, computer-training centres for SC/ST students run by various NGOs. Many NGOs are keen to take up more and more projects but many of them are struggling in the process to get financial support.

Coming to the Khangshim and Minou villages, functioning of NGOs in these two villages differs with regard to NGOs activities. NGOs activities are very much impressive in Khangshim village and appreciated by the villagers whereas Minou village is not getting any benefit from NGOs. There is not a single work or activity carried out by NGOs in Minou village. There are two NGOs actively working in the Khangshim village, i.e. SERDO and World Vision.

SOUTH EAST RURAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION:

This organisation has rendered sizeable services especially with regard to construction of latrines for poor families in the village. In the beginning, organization had collected Rs.200/- each from the beneficiaries for registration. After that, organization provided masonry materials and workers to construct latrines in the respective houses. There are 22 households who got benefited from SERDO in this village. As revealed by the villagers, selection of beneficiaries was based on the financial condition of the family who couldn't afford to construct latrine at home. In fact, the selection of beneficiaries was done with the help of village authority. Because Village authority knew better about the family conditions of the villagers.

The following case studies are presented to give a picture of NGOs work and villagers views on their work.

Koshel is a farmer and possesses one and half acres of wet land and he does shifting cultivation. He got one latrine constructed by SERDO. Initially, he paid two hundred rupees for registration. After that, the organization workers came to his
house, and discussed about the place for latrine construction. Then, organization sent all the materials and requirements for construction along with workers, who were experts in masonry work. They completed the construction within a week. As expressed by informant, this organization has done every work very fast without creating any problems to beneficiary. He had spent roughly hundred rupees for providing tea and snacks to the workers who were constructing latrine during their work. He further said that he did not approach them several times to construct the latrine. They only came to him. He felt that NGOs were much better than government agencies.

Moden, a Khoibu tribal, lives in Khangshim village. He is quite rich compared to other villagers. Somehow, he managed to get the latrine constructed by SERDO with the help of village chairman. He also paid the same amount as per the rule of the organization. He complained that the latrine was very small and very uncomfortable to be used. That's why, he invested another two thousand rupees for the construction and made it bigger. He told that other people were managing with the smaller latrines since they didn't have extra money to invest.

Koshel has been living in Khangshim village for the past ten years. He has migrated from Khoibu Khullen. He is doing shifting cultivation. He is considered to be a poor person in the village. He also applied for the same scheme which was provided by the SERDO and got selected. His latrine construction is not yet completed, it is just half constructed due to short supply of masonry materials. He complained to the organization president to release the remaining items and resume the work. But, they did not send the items required for the construction. As told by an informant, it may take some more time because the construction materials are out of stock. He is planning to complete the construction with his own money.

From the above case studies, it is understood that there are some discrepancies at the village level. Some of the beneficiaries are rich and they can afford to construct latrine. Even then, they also got the scheme with help of village authorities. Some of the non beneficiaries complained that the organization showed partiality among the villagers in selecting beneficiaries for the scheme. Only those who
maintained good relation with village authority are getting the benefits. By and large, this organization has done good work for the villagers in Khangshim village.

Main objective of the organization is to construct latrines in tribal areas for better hygiene. But they couldn't proceed to other hill areas due to social problems. [Social problem refers to the existing insurgency problems. There are more than seven insurgency groups operating throughout the Manipur. Besides, they spend most the time in the hill areas where army forces can not easily approach]. This organization has made an attempt to implement the same programme at Minou village, but failed due to unavailability of water required for masonry work. And it is more expensive in this village compared to that of Khangshim village. Besides, most of the workers in the organization are reluctant to go to hill areas and nobody is ready to take risk of working in hill areas. As a result of this, NGOs activities are not noticed in hill areas, especially in Minou village. After implementation of the above scheme, SERDO couldn't continue function effectively due to financial problem. One of the members in the organization told that there are number of NGOs coming up in Manipur, but funding agencies are very few. So it becomes very difficult to get financial support, and corruption is involved in getting funds. They have to bribe the concerned persons and this act of bribing the officials has become common practice for any kind of NGOs activities. This also leads to the decline in the quality of work carried out by NGOs. Now-a-days, NGOs are more commercialized in Manipur.

WORLD VISION:

This organization is run by Christian Missionaries throughout the country. Christian Missionaries of the Western countries started their welfare programmes and brought their Christianity to the tribals of India. They have gone for evangelization of tribals; it has been supported by various welfare schemes for the conversions such as, opening of school, dispensaries, hospitals, and providing material comforts to these people. The tribes of northeastern region have been the center for the activities of these Missionaries. Apart from providing educational and health facilities, they have done pioneering work in the field of economic development programmes.
In Machi block, world vision has been functioning since the year 1979 onwards. It's been quite a long time, world vision has been involved in these areas for the socio-economic development of tribals in this area. Their main aim is to serve poor tribal families and poor villagers.

With reference to the above aims and objectives, World Vision has taken up various development programmes in Khangshim village, i.e., construction of youth office, culvert, digging of village well, and provided one water hand pump. Youth club was constructed by the world vision. They provided Zinc sheet (for using on the roof), wooden materials and Bamboos to the village youth. And rest of the works were done by the youth in the village under the guidelines of Village Chairman. The foundation work was done with mud and the same mud was used for building the wall. All these works were done together and voluntarily by the village youth. Availability of Club facility enables the village youth to gather in the club whenever they want to discuss about sports and other related issues. It provides space to have close interaction among the village youth. They create enthusiastic interests towards sports and other social activities of the village.

World Vision provides well water to the villagers for availing better water facilities. They provide all the required items and materials like bricks, cements etc. for the construction of well. And digging of earth for constructing the well was done by the villagers voluntarily. After the construction of this well, villagers are having more water facilities. After a gap of two years, World Vision again provided two more water hand pumps to the villagers. Apart from this, they supplied six culverts to the villager for maintaining proper drainage during the rainy season. Villagers revealed that earlier it was difficult to walk inside the village especially during rainy season due to lack of proper drainage facilities. It made the villagers quite comfortable after putting up culverts on the village road. Villagers further expressed that this organization has done real social work for them within a short span of time. All these development programmes were initiated on the basis of the needs expressed by the Khangshim villagers for their development.
All the programmes implemented by World Vision are highly participatory. Programmes are initiated by the villagers and villagers also provide necessary labour and other supports. These programmes are managed by villagers themselves. Villagers of Khangshim are very happy with the development activities carried out by the World Vision.

Apart from these community development programmes, World Vision selected 25 poor students in the Khangshim village with the help of village authority and provided them books, exercise notebooks, umbrella etc. so that it could help them in their study purposes. Koshangmun is a forty one years old villager living in Khangshim village. He has two daughters and one son. He has been suffering severe loss due to destruction of his properties during Naga and Kuki clash. He is not in position to buy his children’s basic requirements for their education. Considering his problem, the village chairman recommended to World Vision members to provide basic educational requirements for his children. After one month, his children got one umbrella, some books, towels etc. He expressed that it really helped the children. Otherwise, he had to buy all these items from his own money. These items are must for the students. Umbrella is compulsory for the students during rainy season. He couldn't buy all these items due to financial problem of his family.

Moshang is a Khoibu tribe, living in Khangshim village for the past twelve years. He is a farmer doing shifting cultivation. He lives with his wife and four children. All the children are going to school. He doesn't have sufficient income to run his family and provide good facilities to his children for their education. That's why, he is sending all his children to the government school, which is just two kilometer away from the village. His children also got the same items i.e., umbrella, books, towels, pen etc. from World Vision. As told by an informant, his children were very happy with the help provided by World Vision. Because, they faced lots of problem during rainy season for going to school. Moreover, He couldn’t afford to buy books and umbrella. It was a great help to him from World Vision.

From the above, it is clear that World Vision is helping the poor families, who cannot afford to buy books and umbrella, which is also one of the important items for
children’s education. Even though, among these twenty five students, six families are not really poor families, their children also got this benefit with the help of their friends who are working in World Vision. For instance, Koshel is a government employee and has only two children. He has land property in plain areas. He has got sufficient income to run his family and send children to the private English school at Kakching town. His children also got the same facilities provided by World Vision. Actually, according to the World Vision scheme, his children are not eligible to apply for the scheme. But with help of his close relation with World vision members, his children could get all the facilities. This shows the existence of malpractice in any kind activities taking place in villages. Nevertheless, World Vision is considered to be one of the best agencies working in this Khangshim village.

Sometimes, they provide medical treatment to the children who suffer from diseases. Sonthang is nine years old Khoibu tribe, living in Khangshim village. He belongs to a poor family. He has been suffering from the disease since long. Due to poor financial condition of his family, he was not able to get proper treatment from the specialist doctors. Later, with the help of village chairman, his father requested World Vision members to provide some amount for his treatment. As narrated by Sonthang’s father, World vision members came to his house and collected all the information about his son. After three months, they gave him four thousand rupees for medical treatment. Sonthang told that he got treatment from specialists and he is much better than earlier condition. But, unfortunately, he is still having health problem and not so active like other children.

This organisation has done extensive work in Khangshim village. Majority of the Khangshim villagers feel satisfied with the development work done by World Vision. All the activities are done within a short span of time.

Some of the basic problems faced by NGOs in Manipur are: it is difficult to create awareness about programmes to the villagers, limited source of finance, frequent road bandhs and non peaceful situation in Manipur.
In Minou village, villagers did not get any benefit from World Vision and SERDO. This shows that Minou villagers have been neglected by government as well as NGOs in various development aspects. In fact, there are some social factors that make any organisation to restrict their activities to some particular area.

Chairman of Minou village feels that NGOs are same as government officials. They don't want to work in hill areas. They always concentrate only in the plain areas where they feel more comfortable. World Vision organisation had come to the Minou village and assured to the villagers that they were going to take up some development activities. In fact, this organization didn't take up any development activity in this village so far. Some of the villagers in Minou commented that none of the development agencies were interested to visit this village.

**WEAKER SECTIONS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL:**

The Weaker Sections Development Council (WSDC) in Khangshim village was established on 2nd April 1990 by social workers, educationalists, volunteers and government employees. On 17th June 1992, the council was registered. The council has collected data from the area of operations and neighbouring rural areas of hill and plain areas.

Council has taken up programmes like socio-economic upliftment of weaker sections particularly for old aged people and focused mainly on development of women in the society. They got financial support from different means like, donations and contribution from the public, grant from central government and state government and grant from financing agencies etc.

WSDC provides revolving type of credit to the village women for establishment of small-scale business, weaving etc. After six months or one year of its credit given to individual, it will be collected back by the council members without any interest. Again council will give it to other women who did not get benefit from the council. In this way, money is revolving around among the village women. Many
of the women are engaged in small-scale business with the help of credit from WSDC. And some women discontinued due to financial problem. The council has provided revolving credit to 42 women in Khangshim village.

Temshim is forty three years old woman living in Khangshim village. She took credit from WSDC without interest. After that, she started selling vegetables and fruits in the village Market. She repaid the amount within six months. Selling of vegetables and fruits was helping her to supplement family income, besides her husband's earning. It was continued successfully for two years. After that, she couldn't continue due to her illness. And she got in to financial problem because of her treatment. As told by the informants, it is really helping the village women by having this credit system. Because of this credit, number of women in this village could earn money by selling vegetables, fruits etc. This credit system does not burden the villager since the payment of interest is not there. Therefore, most of the women in this village try to get credit from WSDC, not only to start small scale business but also for utilizing during any emergency of their families.

Tengnoi is also from Khangshim village. She lives with her husband and three children. Her husband is a fanner and they don't have much surplus income to run their family. By considering her problems, the Secretary of WSDC provided her credit to start small business for maintaining her family. After wards, she started small shop for selling tea and snacks in the village market and is continuing till today. She also repaid the credit amount in time. As expressed by an informant, it is really helping to earn supplementary income for her family. She could get minimum forty rupees per day from this business.

Another project taken up by WSDC was science and technology project for three years. Government has sanctioned 3 lakhs to the organization for making fertilizers from plants, dry leaves etc. They have tried to introduce new fertilizers instead of using chemical fertilizers. Under this project, 35 women have been trained by the experts from other States. The compost fertilizers were applied in the field but it was not much effective compared to that of chemical fertilizers. It failed to give good yield especially in paddy crop. As narrated by T.Sangnaidar, who is working in
Council, it takes lots of time to make compost fertilizer from plants and dry leaves. However, some of the women in Khangshim village are still using these fertilizers in their kitchen garden. For example, Sonai is thirty nine years old woman who participated in the training for making the fertilizer from dry leaves and plants. She told that this fertilizer was helpful for the people who couldn't afford to buy chemical fertilizer from market. Generally, she used to collect leaves and plants from village surrounding and forest and made fertilizer during her leisure time. She applies this fertilizer in her kitchen garden where lots of vegetables are grown. Usually, villagers do not use fertilizers in kitchen garden. They use fertilizer only in the paddy crops in wet land. Because of this fertilizer, she is getting good yield from vegetables and selling it to other villagers or village market.

Apart from these activities, council has mobilized around 30 women in the village to be engaged in weaving activities. WSDC is having contact with REACH organization in Orissa. REACH organization sent money for buying weaving material to enable WSDC to start weaving activities. After that, the product is sent to REACH. In this process, women who are engaged in weaving could earn money, but not in the form of regular activities. It comes once in a year. There are villagers, who got benefit from the weaving activities.

Tonai is thirty six years old. She lives with her husband and two children. She participated in weaving activities. In fact, she is an expert in weaving. According to her, she used to work in the morning and night since she worked in the agricultural field during day time. The whole work was completed within a month. Then they sent it to REACH organization in Orissa. From this work, she earned one thousand six hundred rupees. This work was done on contract basis every year. And only expert women in weaving are selected to participate in weaving. Because, the quality and looks of the shawl have to be good.

Tengleima is forty three years old Khoibu woman. She is a widow living with two sons and one daughter. Actually, she is living a difficult life to earn daily needs for her family. When the weaving contract was taken up by the WSDC, they would select the women who were experts in weaving activities. But the secretary selected
her by considering her financial problems. As revealed by the informant, she was not so good in weaving as compared to other women participants. But she worked hard to complete her share within a month. She worked in day and night. After the completion of weaving, she also got one thousand six hundred rupees from WSDC secretary. It helped her to manage her financial problems to some extent.

It clearly shows that WSDC is successfully conducting good activities as far as women groups of Khangshim are concerned. It helps the poor families in the village by giving credit or allowing them to work in weaving activities. But it has not benefited to the women who are living in Minou village or other areas. Moreover, it is quite contrast in Minou village, since this type of activities are not seen in the village. There is always dearth of woman who could take up such type of services in the hill areas. Most of the women in the hill areas are not aware about such facilities. Thus, they are lagging behind from other plain areas people in every aspect.

CHURCH IN VILLAGES:

In both Minou and Khangshim villages, Churches were constructed by the villagers with contributed money from them. There is no exact amount for the contributions; it can be contributed depending on the economical condition of the family. At the time of construction, both the villagers didn’t take any financial support from any agencies.

For smooth functioning of the Church, they have appointed four officials each for both the villages. These staff are responsible for looking after the Church and activities held in Church. The selection of the staff is done by Village Authority with the help of the villagers. The appointment of staff is based on their personality, character, educational qualifications etc.

At present, all the staff working in both the Churches are paid on monthly basis. Their payment varies from one village to another, because it is decided by the village authority and the Church advisor.
Table-5.2: The Variation of Salaries for Church staff is given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESIGNATION</th>
<th>MINOU</th>
<th>KHANGSHIM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pastor</td>
<td>Rs.1300/-</td>
<td>Rs.2500/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Rs.1000/-</td>
<td>Rs.200/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Rs.800/-</td>
<td>Rs.200/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chowkidar</td>
<td>Rs.700/-</td>
<td>Rs.500/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source collected from: village authority of Minou and Khangshim villages.

The contribution of money take place on every Sunday in the Church after the completion of prayer. There is no fixed amount of contribution. All the villagers contribute to Church at least ten percent of their earning from their respective occupation; either it is money or any other offerings. Employees also contribute ten per cent of their salary to Church every month. The amount contributed by the villagers are being utilized for the payment of staff salaries and also to help the village youth who are interested to do theological courses inside or outside the state.

Themshing is a Khoibu tribal living in Khangshim village. After the completion of class x, he wanted to study theological degree in Bangalore. But he was not in a position to financially afford for that course. His family could not afford the expensive cost for this course and send him to study in Bangalore for three years. Later, he gave one proposal to the village chairman and church committee to provide some financial help for his study in Bangalore. Considering his financial problem, Village Authority and Church Committee accepted to provide half of the expenses for his study and rest of the money to be borne by his family. Then, he went to study in Bangalore for three years. He is the first person in Khangshim village who has completed theological degree. He expresses that church fund is helping to the villager in various ways.

Funds are also utilized for helping poor families in the villages who are in trouble and spent on some developmental activities like, construction of Church, community hall etc.
On Sunday, they have two sessions of prayers in general. This is attended by all the villagers. On Sunday, all the villagers abstain from their regular work to attend Church. Every year, they celebrate Christmas in a grand way. Most of the families enjoy and participate in different types of activities and recreational programmes. Each and every family in the villages spend money especially on the Christmas Eve.

Sunday gathering helps village authority to discuss about their progress and problems in the villages. Otherwise, it is not easy to gather all the villagers for particular discussion. In this way, Church is helping them in various ways like bringing villagers together and to hold meetings etc.

However, there are some elder people within the Christian families who are not following Christianity in the Minou village. Sometimes, it leads to arguments and controversy within the family level as well as village level. They still believe in earlier tribal practices, but celebrations are not seen in the village due to less number of non Christian population.

From the above discussion, it is observed that the initiatives taken up by NGOs in both the villages differ broadly. As already stated, there was not a single work carried out by NGOs in Minou village. In fact, NGOs services mostly benefited the villagers of Khangshim. The NGOs activities carried out in Khangshim village provided significant services to the villagers. Many of the villagers were able to get benefit from various NGOs without putting much efforts. Their activities are appreciated by majority of the villagers. Compared to development programmes implemented by government in Khangshim village, the impact of NGOs programmes are more significant. Because, NGOs workers generally take up programmes according to the need and suitability of the programmes to the villagers. Moreover, they maintain a close relationship with the villagers unlike government agencies. Due to this reason, NGOs are more successful in implementing schemes than the government agencies. But, one cannot deny that government agencies did better than the NGOs in the case of Minou village.
To sum up, overall, contribution of institutions and personnel to socio economic development of the tribals is not significant. They could not provided the basic facilities and benefits required by the villagers. Majority of the institutions and personnel failed to rendered regular services to the villagers. As mentioned earlier, there are many constraints associated with the functioning of the institutions.

The higher authorities need to take more interest in the functioning of development agencies and should strive to revive all the non-functioning institutions. Besides, Village Authority need to be given more power and money for faster development process in tribal areas. Moreover, all the village development activities should be carried out with the proper co-ordination of Village Authority. This will bring considerable improvement among the tribals living in Manipur.