CHAPTER - I

BACKGROUND
CHAPTER-I

BACKGROUND

Every society had some social institutions to cater to its varied kinds of needs so that it might be able to ensure a minimum desirable standard of living for each member. The most pervasive and significant among its institution was the family. The family was considered pervasive because all persons were born into some form of family.

The family in contemporary society throughout the world had undergone change in its functions, and consequently, in its structure. The family changed as the society changed, and in particular, as the economic structure of that society changed.

With the entire globe becoming unipolar and being overtaken by a distinct trend of adoption of the policy of liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation, traditional extended or joint families were being substituted by nuclear families, and marriage was the backbone of family assuming varied kinds of forms based mainly on the partner's personal convictions and conveniences.

The family had taken on a variety of shapes and sizes. This institution was once like a banyan tree that sheltered every member with equal care. Nowadays, it was being replaced by a host of institutions that were taking over the tasks of the family. In this context the future implications for the family counselling centres need to be studied.¹

The need for seeking and receiving counsel had been one of the basic urges of mankind. This need tend to assume much larger proportions in a techno-

industrial age. In a science-based world, the methods of identifying needs and assisting individuals to optimally meet them also required a scientific approach.

Families entered Counselling for a number of reasons. Usually, there was an identified patient that family members use as their ticket of entry. An individual who was seen as the cause of trouble within the family structure was considered as an identified patient. Most family Counselling practitioners did not view one member of a family as the problem but instead work with the whole family system. Occasionally, family therapy was done from an individual perspective. Family Counselling had expanded rapidly since the mid 1970s and encompassed many aspects of Counselling.

Manipur, situating in the north eastern part of the country was bordered by a foreign country called Myanmar and the neighbouring states called Nagaland, Mizoram and Assam. The state comprising of 3,92,854\(^2\) census houses according to 1991 census might be having many counselling centres for solving family related problems.

The state covered an area of 22,327 square kilometers with nine districts. The Districts were Bishnupur, Imphal East, Imphal West, Thoubal, Chandel, Churachandpur, Senapati, Tamenglong and Ukhrul Districts. Out of these nine Districts four were in the valley and the remaining five in the hills.

The state was populated by 2,38,8634 persons with 1,20,7338 male and 1,181,296 female according to 2001 census.\(^3\) Out of the 2388,634 population 205,907 were in Bishnupur District, 393,780 in Imphal East District, 439,532 in Imphal West District, 366,431 in Thoubal, 122,714 in Chandel, 228,707 in Churachandpur, 379,214 in Senapati, 111,493 in Tamenglong and 140946 in Ukhrul.


Literacy

Of the total population of 2,388,634 persons the number of literates were 1,429,656;\(^4\) including 811,944 male and 613,712 female. On district-wise basis the number of literates in Bishnupur District was 127,667 persons including 54,916 male and 72,751 female; 260,573 persons including 147,617 male and 112,956 female in Imphal East, 312,125 persons including 171,350 male and 140,775 female in Imphal West; 208,464 persons including 123,372 male and 85,092 female in Thoubal; 61345 persons including 35,469 male and 25,876 female in Chandel; 148,829 persons including 84,537 male and 64,292 female in Churachandpur; 171,100 persons including 71,517 male and 99,583 female in Senapati; 56,269 persons including 33,640 male and 22,629 female in Tamenglong and 83,284 persons including 47,625 male and 35,659 female in Ukhrul.

The percent of literacy for the state was 68.87\(^5\) by 2001. The rate of literates for male and female were 77.87 and 59.70 respectively. The district-wise per cent of literacy was 71.59 including 82.25 male and 61.09 female for Bishnupur, 76.38 per cent including 86.44 male and 66.30 female for Imphal East; 80.61 percent including 89.10 male and 72.24 female for Imphal West; 67.90 per cent including 80.50 male and 55.34 female for Thoubal; 57.38 per cent including 66.12 male and 48.57 female for Chandel, 74.67 per cent including 84.98 male and 64.40 female for Churachandpur, 50.47 per cent including 65.39 male and 44.04 female for Senapati, 58.46 per cent including 67.04 male and 49.11 female for Tamenglong and 68.96 per cent including 75.40 male and 61.91 female for Ukhrul District.

The district-wise number of literates along with its percentages was given below in Table No. I.

\(^4\) Ibid., p.20
\(^5\) Ditto
TABLE NO.1

DISTRICT WISE NUMBER OF LITERATES ALONG WITH ITS PERCENTAGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Total No. Of Literates</th>
<th>Literacy Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Imphal East</td>
<td>147,617</td>
<td>112,956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Ukhrul</td>
<td>47625</td>
<td>35659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Imphal West</td>
<td>171,350</td>
<td>140,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Bishnupur</td>
<td>72,751</td>
<td>54,916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Thoubal</td>
<td>123,372</td>
<td>85,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Chandel</td>
<td>35,469</td>
<td>25,876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Churachandpur</td>
<td>84,537</td>
<td>64,292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Senapati</td>
<td>99,583</td>
<td>71,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Tamenglong</td>
<td>33,640</td>
<td>22,629</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Educational Institutions

The educational structure, ladder and hierarchy of the state was on the line of the educational structure of the Central Government. The structure was lower primary, middle, Junior Basic, Senior Basic, Middle School, Junior High school, High School, Higher Secondary and Senior Higher Secondary Schools in the school stage and then come college stage.

Since the present study dealt with the effect of family problems on teenagers the investigator had taken up the educational standard of these age groups. The age group from 13 to 19 belonged to classes from VIII to Degree course. That is,

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6 Census of India, Provisionals Population, op.cit., p.17.
from Junior High school to TDC-II\textsuperscript{nd} Year was considered in the present study. As such the total number of recognised junior high schools, high and higher secondary schools, schools for professional and other education, colleges for general education and colleges for professional and other education in Manipur were 631, 582, 3188, 50 and 40 respectively upto 1999.\footnote{Statistical Abstract of Manipur 2001, Directorate of Economics and statistics, Government of Manipur, p.70.}

The total number of educational institution including Junior High School, High and Higher Secondary Schools, Schools for Professional and other education, colleges for general education in Senapati District were 90, 51, 225, 03 and 05 respectively upto 1999. For Tamenglong District the number of Junior High School, High and Higher Secondary Schools, Schools for Professional and other education, colleges for general education and colleges for professional and other education were 43, 22, 302, 01 and 01; for Churachandpur District Junior High School, High and Higher Secondary Schools, Schools for Professional and other education, colleges for general education and colleges for professional and other education were 78, 78, 432, 03 and 01; 33, 18, 243 and 02 in Chandel District; 217, 213, 731, 25 and 26 in Imphal West and East Districts; 52, 50, 337, 08 and 03 in Bishnupur District; 72, 92, 475, 07 and 03 in Thoubal District and 46, 40, 413, 01 and 01 in Ukhrul District.\footnote{Ditto.}

The District-wise number of educational institutions was shown in Table No.2.
### TABLE NO. 2
DISTRICT-WISE NUMBER OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Number Of Educational Institutions</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Junior High School</td>
<td>School for Professional and Other Education</td>
<td>High/Higher Secondary</td>
<td>Colleges for General Education</td>
<td>Colleges for Professional and Other Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Senapati</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Tamenglong</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Churachandpur</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Chandel</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Imphal West &amp; East</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>731</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Bishnupur</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Thoubal</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Ukhrul</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>631</strong></td>
<td><strong>3188</strong></td>
<td><strong>582</strong></td>
<td><strong>50</strong></td>
<td><strong>40</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Enrolment

Enrolment of students in the schools and colleges of the state ranging from classes VIII to TDC-II year belonged to the age group of 13 to 19. Total number of enrolment of the age group of 13 to 19 ranging classes from VIII to TDC-II year in the state by 1999 were 483,410.\(^\text{10}\) Out of this total number, 261,738 were boys and 221,672 were girls. It consisted of different communities like Meiteis, Tribals, Muslims, Marwaris, Bengalis, Nepalis, Assamese, Biharis, etcetera.

Need

Although small in size, the state was not free from social problems. Of course there was no state which did not have social problems. The nature of problems might vary from state to state while some problems were common. The state had 1919 registered family related cases during the period under study.

The norms, structure, traditions, etcetera of the family were all contributing to the making of the social system. Any problem occurred in any family became a part and parcel of the social problems when it could not be controlled at the family level. It also depended upon the level and intensity and gravity of the problem. Sometimes, the gravity of the problem was very grave. All these problems in the family created maladjustments and it affected the society. Such problems were varied and large in number. Manipur was not an exception to it.

Among other problems the investigator had taken up only the registered cases numbering 1919 during the period under study. These cases had been taken up by the Voluntary Action Bureau since 1984. The Bureau was set up by the Central Social Welfare Board to meet the challenges of atrocities on women and children. Since then continuous efforts had been made in solving the family problems particularly of the teenagers.

The problem could be of social discrimination, atrocities, wife beating, violence, rape, molestation and harassment on women. The causes of atrocities being mainly marital discords, maladjustment with the family environment and dowry demands etcetera which was resulted from lack of proper guidance in the form of Counselling at the initial stage. When the problem was aggravated family relationship came to a breaking point. Professional counselling could prevent families from breaking up and could promote harmonious family relationships. Such cases of maladjustment could be settled through intensive Counselling.\footnote{Administrative Report, Family Counselling Centre, Imphal District Police Head Quarter, 1997, p.1.}

The role of the counsellors were on families with marital strains between married partners, families with disputes among members, families with neglected, abuse and exploitation of children, families with truants, vagrants and delinquents,
families with abuse of the aged; families requiring social security for the aged, 
families with abuse and exploitation of women, families with separated or divorced 
women; families with women claiming matrimonial, alimony (maintenance); families 
with remarriage of the deserted or divorced; families with widow remarriage and 
social security for widows; families of prostitute girls with or without children; 
families with substance abuse addicts; families with orphans wherein both the 
parents had died.

Families entitled to social security benefits for their family members who had 
been the victims of accidents as also for their deceased members; families with 
children who were weak in studies at school; families with handicapped or disabled 
and seriously ailing members; families with members coming in conflict with law or 
deviating from socially prescribed standards; step or reconstituted families; families 
with commuters; single parent families; especially those with illegitimate children; 
adopter families; childless families; families with working couples or dual earners or 
career families; socially ostracised or stigmatised or boycotted families; consensual 
unions; families suffering from the trauma of dowry deaths of their female members; 
families whose female members were tortured for dowry; families whose female 
members had been the victims of molestation, assault and rape; families 
characterised by gender discrimination and inequality; families with girls only; 
families with couples having more than nationally prescribed number of children; 
families with couples having extra marital relations; families without any land or 
employment and below poverty line; families victimised by political or societal 
violence; war victim families; families affected by floods, famines or draughts, 
earthquakes; families affected by environmental disaster; displaced families; 
families with attempted or committed suicide and families with illiterate children and 
adults etcetera were the areas concerned for the counsellors.\footnote{Saraswati Raju Iyer, Family in Contemporary Indian Society and Implications for Family Counselling, Social Welfare, volume 51 no.09, December 2004, pp.37,40.}

Family counselling had a special significance in helping families confronted 
with problems. Since marital disputes being sensitive issue as also family 
relationship going through changes, one needed to adopt a professional approach
in order to help individuals cope up with their problems were multifarious. Hence their resolution was not so simple and easy there was a need for starting networking of family counselling centres. These centres should have professionally trained staff so that the menace of family disputes might be checked.

In Manipur like in other states of the country, Family Counselling Centres were established under the Voluntary Action Bureau. This Voluntary Action Bureau was established in April 1984 under the Central Social Welfare Board. The Bureau was established under the State Social Welfare Advisory Board as done in other states of the country.

The Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board was established in 1954\textsuperscript{13} with the objectives to advise, assist the Central Board and State Government in sponsoring new schemes and activities.

The Central Social Welfare Board sanctioned grant for setting up Family Counselling Centres to the registered voluntary organisations which had been engaged in the welfare of women and children. The services of these centres ranged from preventive to rehabilitative to the victims of atrocities, settlement of cases out of court or through counselling and providing free legal aid, police assistance, psychiatric help etcetera.\textsuperscript{14}

Besides giving grants-in-aids the Board also sought to augment technical and managerial capabilities of voluntary organisations through its field personnel. Sometimes they provide training to the counsellors. The counsellors submitted its reports on six monthly and annually to the Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board. Thereafter the Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board submitted its report to the Central Social Welfare Board. The structural hierarchy was as given below:

STRUCTURAL POSITION OF THE FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRES

CENTRAL SOCIAL WELFARE BOARD

MANIPUR STATE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY BOARD

VOLUNTARY ACTION BUREAU

NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRES

Figure No. 2
With the objectives laid by the Central Social Welfare Board nine Family Counselling Centres\textsuperscript{15} were established in Manipur by the non-government organisations through Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board since 1984 till the period under study. These counselling Centres were established in the seven districts of Manipur. The districts were Imphal East, Imphal West, Bishnupur, Churachandpur, Senapati, Thoubal and Ukhrul.

The specific feature was that the organisers of these Counselling centres were located not in the same districts but located in different places. The counselling centres in Manipur were (i) the Family Counselling Centre of T. Khullen, Senapati District which was run by Association for Professional Social Worker of Tera of Imphal West District; (ii) Family Counselling Centre Keishamthong Elangbam Leikai run by Nupi Meira Marup Imphal West District; (iii) Family Counselling Centre Keinou Bazar run by Keinou Volunteer Association, Bishnupur District; (iv) Family Counselling Centre Langmeidong run by Rural Medical Institute Langmeidong Mayeng Lamjao, Thoubal District; (v) Family Counselling Centre Churachandpur, Upper Lamka of Churachandpur District; (vi) Family Counselling Centre, Ukhrul Mission Compound run by TNB (Tangkhul Naga Baptist) Women Welfare Association of Ukhrul District; (vii) Family Counselling Centre Awang Potsangbam run by Lamjing Marup Awang Potsangbam Khunou of Imphal East District; (viii) Family Counselling Centre Nongmeibung Bazar run by Centre for Organisation Research and Education of Imphal East District.

In addition to all these counselling centres the Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board in collaboration with the Police Department with Government of Manipur run one counselling centre at Police Head Quarter located at Imphal West District. This Counselling centre remained very active and powerful centre among all the centres.\textsuperscript{16}

Thus, there were altogether nine family counselling centres in Manipur organised and run by the voluntary organisations under the Voluntary Action Bureau

\textsuperscript{15} Source, Voluntary Action Bureau, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Imphal.
of the Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board. Out of these nine centres four remained very active while the other five were reported and found dying because of the ineffective running and lack of timely sanction of fund. The untimely release of fund made the Secretary of Counselling Centres unable to pay the salaries out of the counsellors, to clear the rent of the centres and to meet the expenses for paying Bus fares and allowances etcetera. However, the nature of problem really faced, the activities undertaken, the progress made etcetera in each centre could be explored by studying each Counselling centre. Figure No.3 at page 13 illustrated each figure.

Family Counselling Centre

Ever since the establishment of a family it always had its own problems. The degree and nature of the problem differed from one family to another. Sometimes it became more complex and smooth dimensional including ego problems and statutorial positions. It did not make large difference whether the family was rich or poor; middle class or upper class or aristocrate, large or micro.

In any family, the role of a woman was very important. However, the support of men particularly of the husbands were also very important in making the family in introducing its systems, norms and traditions. The children of a family always looked forward to the character of both mother and father as well as the family members, its environment and its neighbourhoods. The parents again tried to maintain the systems, the family code, ethics, etcetera adopted by the forefathers. Although there were clans and lineage systems sometimes there were changes with the change of time. However, the character of their parents and their role model in the family had its impact not only on the children but also on the teenagers.
FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRES IN MANIPUR AND THEIR ORGANISERS

Churachandpur District
- Family Counselling Centre, Upper Lamka, run by Christian Guardian Association, Churachandpur District

Senapati District
- Family Counselling Centre, T. Khullen run by Association of Professional Social Workers, Tera, Imphal West District

Uuki District
- Family Counselling Centre, Uuki Mission Compound run by Tangkhul Naga Baptist Women Welfare Association, Uuki District

IMPHAL DISTRICT

Impal East District
- Family Counselling Centre, Awang Potsangbam run by Lamjung Marup Awang Potsangbam Khunou, Imphal East District

Impal West District
- Family Counselling Centre, Keishamthong run by Nupi Meira Marup, Keishamthong Elangbam Leikai, Imphal West District

Bishnupur District
- Family Counselling Centre, Keinou run by Keinou Volunteer Association, Keinou Bazar, Bishnupur District

Tamenglong District
- No Counselling Centre

Thoubal District
- Family Counselling Centre, Langmeidong Mayeng Lamjao run by Rural Medical Institute, Langmeidong, Thoubal District

Chandel District
- No Counselling Centre

Fig. No. 3
Sometimes the teenagers had been influenced by the society thereby affecting the family systems. The nature of the influence, the degree, the extent and the circumstances of influence, the type of influence particularly in maintaining the family system and in creating social problems need to be explored and study it thoroughly and analyse it critically. Understanding the problem, the nature and extent of the problems along with its solution was of prior importance.

While understanding the problem, exploring the causes; analysing its reasons and finding out its solutions was another step to be taken up. In this regard, the role of the counselling centres and the counsellors in solving the problems of family maladjustment, alcoholism, drug addiction, meeting maintenance demand, sharing family pension, destitute children and women, wife beating, etcetera became very important. The course of actions, the modalities along with its suggestions given by the counsellors and counselling centres as remedial measure, advices, creating awareness etcetera to the people particularly to the teenagers were considered important area of study.

The main activities and objectives of each of the family Counselling Centres organised by the non-government organisations under the Voluntary Action Bureau of Manipur were discussed as follows in alphabetical order.

**Family Counselling Centre, Awang Potsangbam Khunou, Imphal East District**

The Family Counselling Centre, Awang Potsangbam Khunou was established in 1993\(^\text{17}\) with an objective in solving the family problems and developing peace in the society. This centre was run by the Voluntary Association, Lamjing Marup, Awang Potsangbam Khunou of Imphal East District.

This Family Counselling Centre of Awang Potsangam had four staff members. There were two counsellors, one typist-cum-clerk and one peon. This

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\(^{17}\) Source: Family Counselling Centre, Awang Potsangbam, Imphal East District.
Counselling Centre handled 71 cases, of which 40 were successfully handled, six cases dropped out and 25 cases remained pending.\(^{18}\)

The nature of the cases handled by this centre were separation, family maladjustment, maintenance demand, rape, ill-treatment, personality difference, vocational education, elopement, destituted women etcetera.\(^{19}\)

The Family Counselling Centre, Awang Potsangbam had received grant from the Central Social Welfare Board through Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board in two installment basis. The centre was supervised by the Voluntary Action Bureau Counsellor, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board and Nodal Agency, Kolkota once or twice in a year.

This centre performed many awareness programme in localities, counselling service, referral service, paid home visit etcetera. This centre was run up to 1997. The amount sanctioned to this centre in 1997 was Rs.80,160/- but amount received was Rs.40,080/-,\(^{20}\) then closed due to untimely sanction of fund.

**Family Counselling Centre, Churachandpur Upper Lamka, Churachandpur District**

The Family Counselling Centre of Churachandpur Upper Lamka was established in 1988 at Churachandpur, which was a hilly district.\(^{21}\) The district having a distance of 60 kilometres from the capital district was populated by various groups of people - the majority of which being Kukies and Mizos. Most of the Scheduled Tribes populated in this district were Christian converts. The family Counselling Centre at Churachandpur was run by the Christian Guardian’s Association of Churachandpur. The Association was a non-government organisation having its own administrative wing. The Secretary of the Association controlled the counselling centre for the growth and development of the state.

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\(^{18}\) Ditto.

\(^{19}\) Ditto.


\(^{21}\) *Source, Voluntary Action Bureau, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board.*
The main objectives of this centre were to fight social evils, poverty and desperation, to give relief, to help in redefining and re-establishing family relationship and counselling amongst the problem people of this hilly district.\textsuperscript{22}

This Centre had two counsellors one clerk-cum-typist and one peon. The centre had taken up 216 cases, of which 160 cases were successful, 56 cases were pending.\textsuperscript{23} The nature of the cases taken up by this centre were dowry demands, marital maladjustment with spouse and in-lows, maladjustment due to personality difference, interference of parents and in-laws, extra marital relation, alcoholism, drug addict, economic crisis, etcetera.\textsuperscript{24}

Some activities taken up by this Churachandpur Christian Guardian Association's Family Counselling Centre were publicity on the existence, importance and contributions of counselling centre in solving family related problems, drug addiction, extra marital relation, alcoholism, family maladjustment, bigamy, etcetera. The centre also hold sub-committee meetings, recognising public meetings, paid home visit to the client’s residence, awareness camp to different localities, etcetera.

This Counselling centre also organised a seven day "Legal Literacy Camps" to create legal awareness among the people and also to provide information to the members of the society especially the women sections of the society in the most understandable language of the community to provide information on various supportive programme of Governmental and Non-Governmental sectors, to create supportive environment of the community level and within the family units to enable women to get a better deal.\textsuperscript{25}

Counselling services were done by this centre smoothly till 1997. During this period problems amongst the clashes between the Kuki tribes and Naga-tribes which started since 1992 reached its maxim in 1997 in Churachandpur District. It involved mainly the Kukis who were the Thadou speaking people and the Paite

\textsuperscript{22} Ditto.
\textsuperscript{23} Voluntary Action Bureau, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board.
\textsuperscript{24} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{25} Christian Guardian Association, Upper Lamka, Churachandpur, 10\textsuperscript{th} Anniversary Souvenir 1984-1994, p.4.
Family Counselling Centre, Imphal West District Police Head Quarter

The Family Counselling Centre of Police Head Quarter, Imphal West District was established on 12th July 1993. The centre was run by Imphal West Police Head Quarter and controlled by Superintendent of Police of Imphal west District.

This centre had been operating in all the districts in Manipur. The nature of the cases taken up by this centre were desertion, illegal separation, ill-treatment by in-laws, spouse, harassment, return of dowry, maladjustment, maintenance demand, property dispute cases, family pension, destituted women and children, child custody, divorce, prestige demand, inter-caste marriage, extra-martial relation, etcetera.

The Family Counselling centre of Imphal Police Head Quarter had five staff members. There were one counsellor-in-charge, two counsellors, one typist-cum-clerk and one peon. Out of five two were males and three females. During the period under study the number of cases taken up by this centre were 793. The cases were solved with satisfaction success. The number of closed cases were 281, pending cases were 492 and dropped out cases were 20.

The aim of opening such a centre in the Imphal District Police Head Quarter was to enable the police and professional counsellors in a better way. Its main objective was to narrow down the distance between the public and police with such a collaboration. This was realised and achieved with the help of local clubs and voluntary organisations through awareness camps of the Family Counselling Centre. The performance was reported very satisfactory during the period under study.

This was also done since the Central Social Welfare Board had also set up Family Conselling Centres attached to the Police Stations in 1991 to provide
professional counselling service to the complainants approaching the police in case of family and marital disputes. This arrangement of close co-operation with the police had been helpful in solving a number of cases speedily. Initially, these family counselling centres were directly run by the Central Social Welfare Board or the State Social Welfare Advisory Boards. However, since 1999-2000, 20 out of 22 Counselling Centres in various states had been handled over to voluntary organisations. Accordingly, although the over all control of this centre was looked after by the Superintendent of Police of Imphal District Police Head Quarters it was handed over to the non-government organisation, Association of Professional Social workers, Tera, on the line of the Central Social Welfare Board.

Family Counselling Centre Imphal West District Police Head Quarter was funded by the Central Social Welfare Board. However, the day-to-day supervision of the counselling centre was being exercised by the Superintendent of Police Imphal West District. The Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board was also responsible for handling the funds which was released by the Central Social Welfare Board. The amount of fund granted to this centre was Rs.1,44,200.00 in a year in two times installment basis. This amount of fund was the largest in comparison to other counselling centres. The Family Counselling Centre Imphal Police Head Quarter was supervised by the Voluntary Action Bureau, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board and Nodal Agency, Kolkata. Photograph nos. had shown the Family Counselling Centre of Imphal West Police Head Quarter.

Family Counselling Centre, Keishamthong Elangbam Leikai, Imphal West District

In 1993 Family Counselling Centre Elangbam Leikai, Keishamthong was established. This centre was run and controlled by the non-government organisation named Nupi Meira Marup Elangbam Leikai, Keishamthong of Imphal

33 Source, Family Counselling Centre Keishamthong Elangbam Leikai, Imphal West District.
Report of this Family Counselling Centre was submitted in six months or half yearly and also annually to the Central Social Welfare Board through Manipur State Social Welfare Board, Imphal. Sanction was made after submission of report to the Funding Agency.\textsuperscript{41} Photograph No. 2 and 3 had shown the Family Counselling Centre of Elangbam Leikai and awareness programme done by this Centre.

**Family Counselling Centre, Keinou, Bishnupur District**

Family Counselling Centre Keinou Bazar of Bishnupur District was established in 1991.\textsuperscript{42} The centre was run by the Keinou Volunteer’s Association Keinou and this centre was controlled by the Secretary of Keinou Volunteer’s Association.

The Family Counselling Centre had their own objectives. The first objective was to trace out directly or indirectly the cause of disturbances in the locality involving a family or families and analyse it, discuss it and to find out a possible solution to bring harmony in the locality; the second objective was to impart elementary knowledge of Indian penal code, Family laws, etcetera to the women particularly to those women who were neglected by their husbands and who were divorced accordingly to local customs and to give proper assistance and advice them to fight for their legal right for maintenance, inheritance etcetera, the third objective was to bring awareness among the women-folk the necessity of reporting the cases of rape, molestation physical assault etcetera by unscrupulous persons under any circumstances or under influences of drinks instead of being a silent sufferers.

\textsuperscript{41} Ditto.

\textsuperscript{42} Source: Family Counselling Centre Keinou Volunteer’s Association, Keinou, Bishnupur District.
Photograph No. 1:
Family Counselling Centre Attached at Imphal West District Police Head Quarter.

Photograph No. 2:
Family Counselling Centre, Keishamthong Elangbam Leikai, Imphal West.

Photograph No. 3:
Awareness Programme organised by Family Counselling Centre, Keishamthong Elangbam Leikai, Imphal West.
The fourth objective was to find out means to rehabilitate young widows and give her employment suitable to her status. To protect her from the evil eyes of the society and from the clutches of unscrupulous person, to bring a sense of security by way of remarriage etcetera. The fifth objective was to organise meetings, group discussions etcetera in the areas covered by this centre to bring awareness among the people the evils of the Dowry system. The sixth objective was to provide temporary shelter to the women who were destitute and had none to look after her and to find out the possible means for rehabilitation by way of employment vocational training etcetera. The seventh objective was to face any problem arising out of drug abuse, alcoholism, marital discord, excesses by in laws and to render possible help to solve the problems with the help of social workers voluntary organisations, non-government organisations, etcetera. The village authorities and state laws enforcing agencies were to be involved whenever needed.43

Family Counselling Centre, Keinou was supervised by the Voluntary Action Bureau, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board and Nodal Agency, Kolkata once or twice in a year. The funding agency of this centre was Social Welfare Board Delhi through Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board Imphal. This centre had received grant from the funding agency twice a year on installment basis. The amount sanctioned for this centre was 76,320.00 in a year.44 But during the year from 1998 to 2000 this centre had not received sanction from the funding Agency. This centre had four counselling staffs. They were two counsellors, one-typist-cum clerk and one peon.

Family Counselling Centre Keinou had taken up 294 cases during the period of study of which 287 were successful and 07 cases were kept pending.45 Nature of cases taken up by this centre were divorce, maintenance, elopement, kidnap, wife beating, dowry, rape, misunderstanding, quarrelsome, marital maladjustment, family pension, drunkard, economic crises, etcetera. Photograph No. 4 had shown the Family Counselling Centre, Keinou.

45 Source, Family Counselling Centre, Keinou, Bishnupur District.
In September 1992, Family Counselling Centre Langmeidong Mayeng Lamjao, Thoubal District was established.\textsuperscript{46} This centre was run by the Rural Medical Institute since 1992 to 1999. This centre was also controlled by this organisation and sponsored by the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi through Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Imphal.

**Family Counselling Centre, Langmeidong, Thoubal District**

The main objectives of this centre were:- (i) to take up possible action plan under the Social Welfare Scheme by organising discussions and meetings in co-operation without non-government organisations, (ii) to organise awareness of the people and take their opinion against the illegal oppression and victimisation of women and children, (iii) counselling be taken up in connection with forging adjustment against maladjustment creating awareness and understanding of the guardians in respect of the heavy burden of dowry for checking it and also to provide short stay home to helpless and crime victimized women and girls, (iv) to restate and resettlement the helpless and oppressed ones without the aid of the court.\textsuperscript{47}

The number of counselling staffs in this centre was four, of which two counsellors, one typist-cum-clerk and one peon. They were all trained persons. The areas of operation of this centre was mainly of Thoubal and Chandel Districts of Manipur. However, since the counsellor was from Chandel District the counsellor also dealt with some clients from Chandel. In one sense the counsellors were facilitated with clients from two districts namely, Thoubal District and Chandel Districts.

The nature of the cases taken-up by this centre were harassment, maintenance, divorce, alcoholism, drug abuse, dowry demand, ill treatment, quarrellism, rape, elopement, separation, property demand et cetera.\textsuperscript{48} The total number of cases successfully handled by this centre were 117 out of 147 registered cases and 30 cases remained pending.

\textsuperscript{46} Source, Family Counselling Centre, Langmeidong Mayeng Lamjao, Thoubal District.
\textsuperscript{47} Bulletin, Family Counselling Centre, Langmeidong of Thoubal District, pp.(ii), (iii).
\textsuperscript{48} Source, Family Counselling Centre, Langmeidong Thoubal District.
The funding agency of this Family Counselling Centre was Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi through Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Imphal. The amount granted to this centre in a year was Rs.84,960\(^{49}\) by the Central Social Welfare Board through Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board in two times installment basis.

Supervision of this centre was done by Voluntary Action Bureau, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board and Nodal Agency Kolkata. Supervision was made by the supervisor once or twice in a year.\(^{50}\)

Submission of report was made in six months or half yearly to the funding agency, that is, the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi through Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board. After submission of report sanction was made. But since Oct. 1990\(^{51}\) this centre had not received grant from the Funding Agency and was closed because of untimely sanction of fund by the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi.

Family Counselling Centre, Nongmeibung, Imphal East District

The Family Counselling Centre Nongmeibung was established in 1999 and was organised by the Centre for Organisation Research and Education of Nongmeibung.\(^{52}\) It was a voluntary Non-Government Organisation and controlled by the Secretary, Centre for Organisation Research and Education. The main objectives of this Family Counselling Centre was to assist girls who were sexually exploited and commercial sex workers.\(^{53}\) The Family Counselling Centre Nongmeibung had two counsellors, one male and one female.\(^{54}\)

At first the centre was located at Centre for Organisation Research and Education Office, that is, Yaiskul Police Lane. All the officials of the organisation

\(^{49}\) Ditto.
\(^{50}\) Ditto.
\(^{51}\) Ditto.
\(^{53}\) Source from the Secretary, Centre for Organisation Research and Education, Nongmeibung, Imphal East District.
\(^{54}\) Ditto.
were responsible in solving the client’s cases. Later the counselling centre was shifted at Singjamei. When shifted at Singjamei clients strongly expressed dissatisfaction at being isolated and marked out by the local community at Singjamei who inquired frequently as the purpose of their visiting at counselling centre. Then the work was shifted back to the office of the Centre for Organisation Research and Education where they felt more protected and anonymous.\textsuperscript{55}

Part of the resentment expressed at change of location was due to their previous exposure to the general staff and activities of the organisation, where they could participate and observe other on going activities and so feel more integrated into the general issues of the organisation.

In this Counselling Centre, clients were reported directly and indirectly. Clients indirectly reported their problems through their friend circles, relatives, Doctors, Lawyers etcetera.

This Counselling Centre assisted more than 37 clients during 1999-2000.\textsuperscript{56} Though the activities and networking at the international level by Centre for Organisation Research and Education, two clients under the age of 23 had been identified to participate in the National Workshop on Prevention of Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth which was held on 23-24 April 2000 at Calcutta.\textsuperscript{57}

The main nature of the cases registered under this centre were of commercial sex workers, drug addiction, alcoholism. More cases were solved with the assistance of Doctors, legal experts and voluntary organisations. The counselling centre could fully help the girls who were sexually abused and exploited within the age of 14 to 22 years.\textsuperscript{58}

This Counselling Centre had received grant only in the year 2000. Fund was sanctioned by the Central Social Welfare Board through Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board. After this the centre had not received any grant but run

\textsuperscript{55} Source, Voluntary Action Bureau, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board.
\textsuperscript{56} Ditto.
\textsuperscript{57} Ditto.
\textsuperscript{58} Ditto.
autonomously. The centre was supervised by the Voluntary Action Bureau, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board Imphal and Nodal Agency Kolkata.

Report was submitted for six months and annually by this counselling centre. Sanctioned was made after submission of report. Amount sanctioned to this centre in the year 2000 was Rs.46,000 but amount released was Rs.30,500. After 2000 this centre had not received grant from the funding agency.

This family counselling centre functioned under Central Social Welfare Board only one term. Photograph No.5 had shown the office building of the Centre for Organisation Research and Education wherein the Family Counselling Centre was attached.

Family Counselling Centre T. Khullen, Senapati District

Family Counselling Centre T. Khullen of Senapati District was established in 1991. The centre was run by the Association for Professional Social Workers of Tera of Imphal West District. The centre was controlled by this non-government organisation.

The main objectives of establishing this centre was - (i) to provide various programmes on atrocities against women and other relevant welfare activities of the family; (ii) to provide legal aid police assistance and counselling to the needy persons; (iii) to provide service to women battered, exploited women with physical and emotional problems and women from lower socio-economic strata of the society; (iv) to establish and maintain a mutually psycho-sexual pattern that affectional as well as sexual needs of both husband and wife were satisfied; (v) to establish such excellent man-women; parent-child and in law relationship that the social and emotional needs of each member of the family were met; (vi) to establish sound work and study habits so that the economic, education and cultural needs of

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59 Annual Progress Report, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board Imphal 2001, p.35
60 Source, Family Counselling Centre, T. Khullen, Senapati District.
Photograph No. 4:
Family Counselling Centre, Keinou Bazar, Bishnupur District.

Photograph No. 5:
Office of the Centre for Organisation Research & Education, Nongmeibung, Imphal East.

Photograph No. 6:
Office of the Association of Professional Social Workers, Tera, Imphal West.
Family Counselling Centre, Ukhrul Mission Compound, Ukhrul District

Family Counselling Centre, Ukhrul Mission Compound, Ukhrul District was established in 1998 and was organised by the Tangkhul Naga Baptist Women Welfare Association Ukhrul. This organisation was a voluntary non-governmental organisation.

This Family Counselling Centre had four staff members. They were two counselors, one typist-cum-clerk and one peon. The centre was controlled by the Secretary, Tangkhul Naga Baptist Women Welfare Association, Ukhrul. The working hour of this centre was 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. for Morning and 4 p.m. to 6p.m. for evening. The major role of this counselling centre was to take measures against social evils and to bring peace, unity and development in the society.

The centre did not maintained up-to-date official records, personal file of the client, account book, cash record, attendance registered of the staffs, stock registered etcetera.

The centre had not prepared half yearly report of the client’s cases and had not submitted to the funding agency. So this centre had not received fund after the year 2000 because of the ethnic problem.

The Voluntary Action Bureau, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board supervised this Family Counselling Centre once in a year. While supervising the Voluntary Action Bureau counsellor had given advice to the counsellor to maintain all the official records up to date, to prepare and submit half-yearly progress report of the programme timely to the State Board office as well as to the Central Social Welfare Board, to undergo orientation course of Family Counselling Centre, to shift the centre to another suitable place that people were easily accessible and to organise more awareness programmes to develop publicity materials.
The centre had received fund once since its establishment. The fund was sanctioned by the central Social Welfare Board through Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board. Although the sanctioned amount was Rs.60,122 the actual amount received was Rs.37,561 only.\textsuperscript{71}

**All Manipur Women Association**

Among other associations and voluntary organisations the All Manipur Women Association, Keishamthong of Imphal West District was one of the leading voluntary and non-political women's organisations working for the welfare of women and children since its inception in 1962.\textsuperscript{72} The Association was registered under the Societies Registration Act of XXI of 1960 in 1967.\textsuperscript{73} The Association was established as a branch of the All India Women Association. The All India Women Association was under the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi.

The all Manipur Women Association run aged home, working women hostel and short stay home. Aged home was established in 1973 and working women hostel was established in 1978 and short stay home was established in 1991 in the same place at Nongmeibung.\textsuperscript{74}

For the management and administration of these Aged Home, short stay home and working women Hostel two superintendent were appointed, that is one for Aged Home and another one for Short Stay Home and working women Hostel. For each of these Homes counselling services were also given by one counsellor of the All Manipur Women Association.

The scheme of Short Stay Home was launched by the Department of Women and Child Development in 1969.\textsuperscript{75} Amongst other aims and objectives most important one on priority was to provide temporary shelter upto a period of three years to women and girls who were either exposed to moral danger or victims of family discords. During this period they were provided by the Department for

\textsuperscript{71} Annual Progress Report Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board, 2001, p.35
\textsuperscript{72} Source: All Manipur Women Association, Keishamthong Imphal West.
\textsuperscript{73} Ditto.
\textsuperscript{74} Ditto.
\textsuperscript{75} Fifty years a Million Miles Golden Jubilee, Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, 2003, p.11.
maintenance, medical treatment, counselling service, vocational training, referral, rehabilitative and follow up services.\textsuperscript{76}

The capacity for accommodation of this Home was 30 women at a time. Such type of Homes as per Departments objectives were to be located at District or Block Head Quarters and in town with a population of not less than 50,000.\textsuperscript{77} Imphal East District having a population of 393,780 had the privilege of housing this Home under the Department of women and child Development of the Ministry of Human Resource through the All Manipur Women Association.

The implementation of this scheme was entrusted to the Central Social Welfare Board in the year 1999.\textsuperscript{78} Accordingly, the Short Stay Home was also sanctioned by the Department of Women and Child Development. The Home received grants from the Central Social Welfare Board for its management. In this Short Stay Home the women victims and also those who were separated and had family problems had been put up as the counsellors considered fit.

A brief highlight of the Family Counselling Centres in Manipur and also those Associations and Voluntary Organisations involving the services of counsellors in solving the problems of women victims connected with family problems, rape, unmarried mother, extra-marital relations, harassment, bigamy, maintenance demand, prestige question, inter-caste etcetera had been dealt in the first chapter. The second chapter would deal with the various schemes undertaken by the Central Social Welfare Board, Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Voluntary Action Bureau of Manipur State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Non-government Organisation and Family Counselling Centres of Manipur. Photograph No. 7 & 8 had shown the Short Stay Home and the Women's Home which was run by the All Manipur Women Association.

\textsuperscript{76} Ditto.
\textsuperscript{77} Ditto.
\textsuperscript{78} Ditto.
Photograph No. 7:

Short Stay Home at Nongmeibung, Imphal East.

Photograph No. 8:

Women's Home (Old Aged Home), Nongmeibung, Imphal East.