CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.

(1) SUMMARY:

Manipur is located between 23°50'N latitude to 25°41'N latitude and 93°47'E longitude in the extreme eastern parts of the country, bordering Burma for about 352 kms. in the east and south, Nagaland and Assam for about 502 kms. in the north and west.

The state is a part and parcel of 'Purvanachal' or 'Assam-Burma-geological structure.' Some geologists also believe that the Manipur Central plain was formed as a result of a lake being filled up by the river-borne sediments. The present Loktak Lake, occupying the southern part of the Valley, is said to be the remnant of the original lake that occupied the whole of the present central plain. However, the region is a component of the Trans-Himalayan geological formation from the sea of Tethys in the Archaean period.

According to the findings of R.D. Oldham (1883); the succession of beds in Manipur are of cretaceous rocks, accompanied by serpentine rocks ( intrusive) which are younger than cretaceous rocks and the associated sedimentary rock which have been described
as Axials. In Ukhrul, Limestones of cretaceous age can be well traced. Moreover, some other precious minerals are also said to have existed in the hilly region of the state whereas the valley is very fertile because of the alluvium deposited here by a number of small streams and rivers. Thus, the valley is full of sands, clays, loams, silts etc. of fluvio-lacustrine origin whereas, the hilly portions of the state is occupying about nine-tenths of its total geographic area. Thus it has a vast area of forests covering as much as 15,154 sq.kms. constituting 68 percent of the total geographic area of the state as against the 20 percent of the country as a whole.

The region is very rich in various types of flora like different varieties of orchids, bamboos and other varieties of trees. It ranges from tropical evergreen to temperate evergreen with tropical moist deciduous and dry temperate coniferous trees of sub-tropical forest. In spite of such natural resources, it is still a economically backward state in India due to its remoteness and difficult terrains.

Its economy is predominantly agricultural with 71% of its total working population being engaged in agricultural pursuits. Its agriculture contributions to the state Domestic
product (SDP) was about 57.05 p.c. in 1980-81, at current prices and the ups and down of SDP is greatly influenced by agricultural sector.

The whole valley is highly cultivated. Where 81.9% of the total area is arable, the net sown area is around 60.7%. 3.7% of the net sown area is sown more than once. Forests cover only 0.6% and culturable and unculturable wastes together cover less than 33.8%. Paddy is the dominant crop, but maize, pulses, sugarcane and other vegetables are also important.

A few simple industries based on the processing of agricultural products and catering to the needs of the peasants have developed. These include weaving and spinning, pottery, carpentry and wood-works, blacksmithy, leather works, metal works and making of utensils, sugar, dye, salt making and fruit preservation etc.

Some modern industries like electronic goods (T.V., Radio etc), bicycle parts, steel trunks and suitcases, automobile workshops, dye house, ply wood, agricultural implements, cold storages and pharmaceutical industries etc. have developed on a small scale in recent years.
A few other industries viz. sugar, cement factory, spinning Mill, Bamboo chipping plant, and Banaspati-plant are the only medium scale manufacturing units in the state. There is no large scale industry in state. As we know, geographically, it is a land-locked territory and is isolated even from neighbouring states by hills and mountains on all sides. 90 percent of the state is hilly where there are still a few facilities for mechanised transport and communication systems. The state has no water transport but the north-eastern frontier railway has extended the railway track (narrow gauge) from Silchar (Assam) to Jiribam area of Manipur. But Jiribam is too far (i.e. 224 kms) from Imphal town and breached by difficult terrain.

The most important life line of Manipur is National highway No.39, which is having a road length of about 325 kms. from Dimapur to Moreh (or, 215 kms. from Dimapur to Imphal). In Manipur, Imphal the capital town, has only air transport facility (i.e. Tulihal airport, 8 kms. from Imphal town).

Recently the total length of roads as on 31st March, 1985, was 4324.4 kms. Out of which 2532.4 were surfaced roads and 1792.0 kms. were unsurfaced roads.
Surfaced and unsurfaced road length per hundred square kilometres of area is 19.4 kms. according to 1984-85 record (by using area of 1981 census).

The length of roads per lakh of population in 1971, is 242 kms. and per 100 sq. kms. of area is 12 kms. According to 1984-85 statistical reports, Metalled (surfaced) road length per 10,000 of population of Manipur is 16.0 kms. and the total road length per 100 sq. kms. of the total area is about 17 kms.

Worst still is that most of the roads are in the valley and 90 percent area of the state is still struggling for good roads. Thus, Manipur has to bear more extra cost of transport and a large number of her industrial units have to face a transport bottleneck in addition.

The problems of transport are that the number of vehicles on road are few (specially goods and passenger vehicles). Thus, the degree of accessibility has been analysed and interpreted on the basis of roadway only.

As mentioned above, out of the total geographical area (i.e. 22,327 sq. kms) of the state, in about 10 percent valley
area lives two-third of her population making the valley region a densely populated one with an average density of 479 persons per sq.km.

Whereas, the remaining one-third of the population is found in the hill areas, occupying 90 percent of the total state's area. The average density in this part is as low as about 25 persons per sq.km.

In Imphal town (Municipality) area, the density of population is 5,300 persons per sq.km. according to 1981 census report and the density of population in the Manipur state as a whole is 64 persons per sq.km. (1981 census). Its total population has increased by 24.43% during the period from 1901 to 1981 and is about 14.2 lakhs by 1981 census. Now, it has reached to about 18.3 lakhs by 1991 (provisional) census.

The trend of population growth has been steadily upward since 1901. The sex ratio of the state is 971 females per 1000 males (1981-census). In 1981-census, rural population constitutes 73.56 percent of the total population of 3,37,215 (1981 - census) i.e. 26.44%.
So, the region is dominantly rural in character. The population of Manipur belong to several religions. According to 1981 census (i.e. 14,20,953), there were 8,53,180 (i.e. 60.04%) Manipuri (Meitei Hindu and Meitei), 29.68% Christians (mostly tribal people); 6.99% Muslims (mostly, Meitei pangal); 0.07% Jain; 0.07% Sikhs; 0.03% Buddhists; and 3.12% persuades and other religions groups. Manipur's literacy has improved from 0.9% in 1901 to 32.3% in 1971 and to 41.4% in 1981. In 1981 census, the total rural literate persons were 3.93 lakhs and 1.93 lakhs in Urban areas of the state. The number of female literates has increased from 1.04 lakhs in 1971 to 2.09 lakhs on 1981, i.e. an increase of 1.05 lakhs, is a very encouraging phenomenon. Out of the total urban population in the state, the population having technical education is very low i.e. 0.39 percent according to 1981 census and the rest in general education. Again, 1981 census, reveals that about 40.35% of the population is engaged in working groups (i.e. persons whose main activity is participation in any economically productive work by physical or mental activities).

In other words, 5,73,339 persons (i.e. 40.35 p.c. to the total population) in 1981 were classed as main workers, out of which 3,31,242 were males and 2,42,097 females.
Moreover, cultivators (2,11,862 males and 1,52,759 females) in the working group consist of 25.66%; Agricultural labourers (10,961 male and 17,652 females) constitute 2.01%; Household industrial workers (6,673 male and 48,822 female) constitute 3.90% and other workers (1,01,746 male and 22,864 female) cover the rest 8.77% only.

There is a rise of working population from 39.9% in 1971 to 43.20% in 1981 according to census and dependency rate is falling down from 43.59% in 1971 census to 45.19% in 1981 census respectively.

As mentioned above, the state's population is growing at a faster rate and there is heavy pressure on land where agriculture is the main occupation of the people. On the other side, literacy rate is increasing from 32.9% in 1971 to 41.4% in 1981 according to census.

During the year 1983-84, there were 69 colleges (both general and professional) with an enrolment of 29,577 students and one University with an enrolment of 979 scholars. Out of these students, the number of scholars in professional education is 3,340 (2,394 boys and 946 girls) only by 1983-84. These figures are still increasing.
Thus, there is no scarcity of labour force (educated and uneducated) in Manipur. But the problem in the state is one of unemployment both educated and uneducated persons. At the end of December, 1989, there were 2,52,052 youths on the live register of employment exchanges of the state and out of this 51,753 youths were female.

But there is no scope for absorbing all these educated unemployed persons, due to lack of viable industrial units and other services in the state. There is a very little manufacturing activities mainly, small scale industries, which are comparable with the cottage industries of all India level and bulk of trading activities, including that related to handlooms, is controlled by non-local people.

Thus in the first two chapters I & II including the introductory remarks, ways of approach, nature of field works, method of analysis, the locational factors, structure, geology, minerals, soils, water bodies, flora and fauna etc. to cultivate the resource potentialities of the state as a whole have been analysed.
In chapter III, the main economy of the people i.e. Agriculture and its types, land ownership, irrigation, agricultural outputs, marketing, problem and prospect of agriculture are dealt with.

Along with this, Demographic analysis such as growth of population, literacy rate, Economic classification and participation rate of the people are critically examined. Moreover, other cultural features such as Transport and communication, power, Banking and credit facilities of education and training, policies and programme of Government, means of water supply, sanitation, public health etc. which have their direct and indirect impacts on industrial growth are also dealt with.

Chapter IV to Chapter VI constitute the main body of the work. They deal with the origin and evolution of industrial units, their classification, attainments, problems and prospects of the existing industries in the state.

During the entire period of planning starting from 1951-52, the state has been virtually left untouched so far as industrialization is concerned. The main reasons for this have been remoteness of the state, lack of necessary infrastructures, poor-income of the people, unskilled man power, lack of entrepreneurs, unfavourable law and order situation and maladministration etc.
Although efforts were made within the limited resources available under the various plans to make up these deficiencies especially in respect of creation of necessary infrastructure, the absolute lack of industrial activity, state has continued its economic backwardness.

As a consequence thereof, the state has to depend more and more on central loans and grants for financing its developmental plans. In addition some other serious problems viz. growing unemployment especially among the educated youths as a result of rapid spread of education under the five year plans and growing pressure on land due to population growth are furiously posing their heads.

As mentioned above, agriculture plays a vital role in determining the size of the state Domestic products. Industrial contribution from large scale units are almost nil and even from small scale industries it is also very negligible, only 4.13 percent of the total state Domestic products.

Moreover, resource based industries are also lacking due to lack of proper geological survey and demand based and agro-based consumer industries are also not yet properly developed due to low yield of crops and poor income of the masses.
In 1973-74, there was a census of small-scale industrial units registered in the Directorate of industries, Manipur with 1972 as reference year. This census reveals that the state had 485 industrial units employing 3,409 persons with an investment of Rs.90 lakhs in fixed assets. About half of these industrial units were engaged in manufacture of wood products.

Now, the number of small scale industrial units has gone upto 3,061 in the year 1983-84. In 1984, the number of registered factories (including factories registered under 2m(i) and 2m(ii) of factory Act, 1948) were 233 and the number of persons employed were 6,541(1981). Lastly, a number of viable units are in dying conditions. The factors responsible for these have been analysed and future suggestion are given.

Though the state is industrially backward, the reputation of household industries is very high specially in the cotton handloom and sericulture industries. But, these industries have a number of problems. These problems are also analysed critically and future prospects are visualised. Other small scale industries both resource and demand based units are critically analysed and found out that some of the small scale units are not running well
being unproductive. Because they have many constraints such as dependency on imported raw materials, high cost of production, heavy market competitions, low demands, and other inadequate infrastructures. Moreover, some of the medium sized industries units such as spinning mill, sugar factory, cement factory etc. are also facing a lot of problems.

They are running under dying conditions. There are many reasons for this, but one of them is Government's improper planning and lack of full support.

So, the factors conducive to the upward revision during the future consecutive plan period require to be identified. It is the general experience, that growth of such medium sized industries is retarded due to some factors like (1) Shortage of power and raw materials (2) Mismanagement (3) Lack of funds (4) Lack of exhaustive feasibility report (5) Lack of seeking public opinion and their taste, habits, psychology, custom etc.

The growth of village and small industries of the state are also hampered by (1) Out moded skill and technique (2) Shortage of power and raw materials (3) Credit and market facilities (4) Unorganised and widely dispersed nature of the industry (5) Low level of consumption arising out of low income etc.
To what extent these factors play any role in respect of the village and small industries sector and what are the remedial measures are also critically analysed in Chapter V. It is generally assumed that village and small industries have the potential for providing increasingly larger employment opportunities with a relatively smaller capital investment, shorter gestation period, and satisfaction of the substantial part of the essential and other requirements of the masses.

To what extent these assumptions are valid for Manipur? If in some aspects these are not found to be valid, what could be the reasons? Should any corrective measures be adopted? Or, should more far reaching adjustments be made in the overall industrialization programme? These questions have been properly answered in Chapter V and VI.

(ii) CONCLUSIONS:

Although Manipur has possibilities of establishing a few large and medium size industries and some other small scale industries based on the resource potentialities of the state, there have been a number of constraints which have retarded the normal industrialization of the state. The low income of the people has reduced their demands causing a trend to low consumption.
Thus, their standard of living has also decreased. According to a survey of the Govt. of Manipur, about 60% of her population is below the poverty line.

Any improvement in the economic conditions of the people postulates an increase in National Wealth; a mere redistribution of existing wealth would make no essential difference to the people and would merely mean the distribution of poverty. A dynamic national policy must, therefore, be directed to a continuous increase in production by all possible means, side by side with measures to secure its equitable distribution. In the present state of the nation's economy, when the mass of the people are below the subsistence level, the emphasis should be on the expansion of production, both agricultural and industrial, and in particular on the production of capital equipment of goods satisfying the basic needs of the people and of commodities the export of which will increase earnings of foreign exchange.¹

Manipur has a good quality and quantity deposits of minerals (especially limestone) and forest products. Until and unless, the power supply is adequate, there is little scope for the industrial development of the state. This problem is still being

¹ Govt. of India Resolution on Industrial policy dated the 6th April, 1948.
faced by all industrial units of the state. Even after the completion of Loktak Hydro-Electric project (commissioned on 6th August 1984), the power supply is irregular due to load-sheddings and inadequate power evacuations. But, all the feasibility reports on industries of the state are made under the estimate of power supply from Loktak Hydro Electric Project or from its own generation (Thermal or diesel). Recently due to the Loktak downstream hydel project with an installed capacity of 90 MW, we hope more electricity in the state.

Thus some of the industries like handloom, sericulture (specially Tasar-Silk); Horticulture; Pisciculture; plantation crops like tea, coffee, cotton, Rubber etc. have a bright future, if the local Government takes more and more initiatives and other basic infra-structure are duly given to the farmers.

So, in such cases the bulk of production will be exported outside the state rather than being used to the local demand. Moreover, these industries can be operated for a longer period without any losses and they may be solving both her economic and unemployment problems. It might be checking her acute problem like 'Jhum Cultivation' and it will be keeping her ecological balance too.
Here, one point should be noted that "the balanced growth of economy in a country or in any region, required an industrial development complementary to its agricultural development. Modernisation of agriculture is rarely common without simultaneous industrial development"²

The cottage and small scale industries have a very important role in the national economy. These industries are particularly suited for the better utilisation of the local resources and for the achievement of local self sufficiency in respect of certain types of essential consumer goods like food, cloth and agricultural implements. The healthy expansion of cottage and small scale industries depends upon a number of factors like the provision of raw-materials, cheap power, technical advice, and organised marketing of their produce. Where-ever necessary, it requires safe guards against intensive competition by large scale manufacturing as well as the education of the workers in the use of the best available technique. One of the main objective should be to give a distinctly co-operative bias to this field of industry.³

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2. M.M. Das: "Peasant Agriculture in Assam" first published in 1984 by M.C. Mittal (Inter India publication) W2-96V, Raja Garden, New Delhi-110015(India) P.44.

3. Govt. of India Resolution on Industrial policy dated in 6th April 1948.
Efforts have been made to develop co-operatives in the sectors of agricultural credit and consumer trade also. During the year 1984-85, the number of co-operative societies (all types) per lakh of population was 205 nos. and the total number of registered co-op. societies in the state as on 31-3-85 stands at 3667. Under co-operation, the expenditure in the years 1978-79 and 1979-80 were Rs. 29.94 lakhs & Rs. 25 lakhs respectively, which constituted 1.01 percent and 0.77 percent of the total plan expenditure.

The approved outlays for 7th five year plan (1985-90) was Rs. 300 lakhs and for annual plan (1985-86) was Rs. 50 lakhs. Thus, it provided benefits to many co-operative societies for their further expansions. During the fourth plan there was provision for commercial finance and subsidy for industrially backward areas. It was further expanded during the fifth, sixth and seventh plan periods. To modernise the equipments the Govt. provided Interfree medium term loan and subsidy through the Manipur Handloom and Handicrafts development corporation and the necessary working capital requirement was arranged from the nationalised banks and other financing institutions. Subsidy for opening sales depots, and sales emporia in the important cities of the country for marketing of finished products were also granted.
Subsidy may also be considered to the societies and corporation for opening yarn distribution and scale cum finished products collection and scale centre at the important places of the state. Moreover, improved appliances wherever considered necessary should be supplied to the weavers through the Manipur Handloom and handicrafts development corporation and the Manipur small industries corporation on interest free medium term loan basis with provision of 50% subsidy to be given to the weavers who repay the loans regularly.

Another transport subsidy upto 50% of the total cost on the transportation of yarn from the supplying Mills to the consuming centres and on finished products from the collection centres to the marketing emporia may be given. The scheme has been implemented as a centrally sponsored schemes as per instruction of the Govt. of India, Ministry of commerce. The equipment subsidy, loan & aid are also given to a number of sericulturists as well as handloom weavers. Moreover, recently, Govt. of India has announced subsidy of 90 percent on transport cost for new industrial units to be set up in certain selected areas, which include Manipur. But, the North Eastern regional standing committee has recommended for 100% transport subsidy for the whole N.E. Regions. Further, 75% of the transport cost on the movement
of electronic goods from Imphal to Calcutta has been proposed to be subsidised. Thus, the existing industrial units in these areas would also be eligible for the proposed subsidy for their expansion programmes, subject to certain conditions.

Manipur, primarily, being an agricultural region, considering the resource base of the state, the income of the local people can be increased through the introduction of modern agricultural techniques leading to diversifications of cropping pattern and increase in agricultural production. It also needs to count the farmers psychology, habit, taste etc. in regard to the local conditions. The peasants must determine what cropping pattern will give them the best remuneration.

What is, therefore, required is a push in agricultural production first. Naturally, such a push will be sustained only if marketing facilities are available and the prices are reasonably stabilized, in alignment with the cost of production. The Agricultural base of the state is potentially promising, but very little has been done to exploit the agricultural resources. An extension programme for raising agricultural productivity should be the first step towards developing the economy. So, if the development plans of this region is agriculturally oriented perhaps, the response and the effect will be much more favourable. Secondly, if the agricultural and other primary products are increased, they may provide the basic raw materials for the future
industrialization of the state as a whole.

So, for this purpose, it will be better to give more emphasis upon agrarian development by introducing new scientific method of cultivation, intensive and terrace cultivation, land reclamation from the swampy areas, total eradication of Jhumming type of cultivation prevailing in all the hill areas of Manipur, by introducing permanent terrace cultivations and other scientific methods of farming. The total eradication of Jhum cultivation needs a fair distribution system in the hill areas of the state. Moreover, introduction of permanent terrace cultivation on the gentle slopes with pipe irrigation facilities, digging of pits, plantation of trees (Preferably, Rubber, Tea, coffee, cotton, Bamboo, Spices, Sericulture, Horticulture etc.) for checking soil erosion etc. are highly needed in Manipur hills. Land reforms and land ceiling acts should be prevailed in all the hill areas of the state. Along with this other backward economic infrastructure should be duly improved. Thus, the economic disparities between hill and plain can be easily bridged up.

As regards the state's potentialities of tourist industry, there are some hindrances to the foreign tourists due to inner line permit system. Recently, state Govt. has announced tourism as an industry and proposed to abolish the inner line
permit system. So, there is much hope for developing tourism industry in Manipur. Moreover, tourist's home at Sendra, Keina, Waithou, Khongjom, Churachandpur, Jiribam, Siroi of Ukhrul, INA of Moirang, Moreh, Youth Tourist hotel, Tourist lodge & office at Imphal, Cafeteria at Mao, Boat ghats at Loktak lake etc. are going to be developed.

As hinted earlier, in addition to the existing industries, there is need to establish some viable small secondary industrial units, under their individual capacities or most preferably in co-operative sectors, which later on may lead to feed the medium of large scale industries. Along with this, for achieving the economic goals and perspectives, there is need of hard work, self-reliance, use of local products, minimising the unnecessary expenses on the luxury goods for the time being and stopping of other extravagant expenses on religion and other customary feasts.

Thus, the future prosperity and welfare of the people of this backward region depend merely on the radical economic change both through the green revolution as well as industrialization. Moreover, in view of the dichotomous nature of the physiography of the state and the pattern of concentration of population, the industrial development will have to take place
by balancing economic & political interest of the hill and plain people both. The interplay of various forces which might have served as the constraints in the past will have to be removed and other possible constraints in the future will also have to be solved. Therefore, any development programme for the state should aim at improving the economy of both hill and plain. It also calls for a tribewise and areawise solution among the inhabitants of the state.

(iii) **SUGGESTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED TO BRING ECONOMIC STABILISATION AND PROGRESS THROUGH FUTURE INDUSTRIALIZATION IN THE STATE :**

(1) Reliable statistics for the growth of industries in the state should be maintained properly. So that, future planning can be easily worked out.

(2) The industrial potential survey of the state should be made thoroughly and data regarding the export and import trade should be maintained.

(3) More industrial atmosphere and infra-structures should be given especially for a few miles of roads or railway sidings, factory-sheds, growth centres, labour housing, power generations etc..
(4) More Banking potentiality should be created inside the state and it should be tapped properly. Rural areas should be covered by the Banks.

(5) Banking habits of the people and entrepreneurial talent in the state should be developed.

(6) The available opportunities in all aspects should be known to the local people with proper initiatives and rigidity of the terms and conditions of getting loans, financial assistance should be relaxed to some extent.

(7) Limited funds for agricultural and industrial sectors should be properly utilised and lack of giving loan to the viable production units should be avoided.

Thus, the feeling of discrimination should be removed.

(8) Along with green and white revolutions, the proper utilisation of wasteland areas of the state, without disturbing the ecological balance, should be taken up.

Moreover, the lakes and swamps in the state should be used for productive purposes like pisciculture (including keeping of shell fish, eel etc.), plantation of eatable water plants such as Heikak (it can substitute the staple food like rice),
Pan Ukabi, varieties of Komprek, Thangjing, Kambong, Ekai-thabi, Thambou (root of lotus), Thamchet (fruit of lotus), chamu and lemphu (root & fruit of lily) etc. Thus, this will help to make up the food shortage of the state. Along with this mass awareness programme for pollution and use of insecticide in and around such water areas should be taken up the Govt. Here, the establishment of paper industry from water Hyacinth will be more useful than that of spreading of Neochetina (a kind of water Hyacinth's insect). This will be protecting the ecology of Lok-tak lake.

\(\sqrt{9}\) In view of the general backwardness of the state, the industrial development in Manipur should be mainly oriented to the local market and the regional market rather than the national or international markets.

(10) At first, Agro-based and resource-based industries should be encouraged. Later on, this will lead an upthrust to the other demand based industries.

(11) Here, one of the most important extension techniques, to be done is that the encouragement of viable agro-based small units should run by individual enterprises and later on, such units will act as secondary units to the larger ones owned by public or co-operative sectors.
(12) Exploitation by the middlemen specially in the small sectors, should be stopped by introducing sales Depots preferably on co-operative basis), and sale emporia.

(13) There should be always conscious effort on the part of local elite to promote industrial development, mainly through indigenous entrepreneurship and purchasing of local products, safeguard against cheap imitations by big industries, Govt's help, use of the best available techniques, safeguard against capitalists and monopolist etc. are highly required.

(14) For achieving these goals and perspectives, we need to save money, hard working, self reliance & use of local products, and to cut down the unnecessary expenses on the luxury goods for the time being and other extravagant expenses on religion and other customary feasts.

(15) According to Govt. sources, 6 people out of 10 people are below the poverty line and at current prices the per capita income is Rs.1673.27 is much below than that of other states of India.

So, a healthy expansion of cottage and small scale industries are equally needed with Govt's help (most preferably in co-
operative sectors) and there must be a shift from subsistence farming to surplus farming.

(16) For achieving a balanced development in the state, the proper arrangement of roadways, fair price shops on reasonable prices (most preferably through co-op. consumer's societies) etc. should be introduced in every remote area of the state.

(17) The age old 'Singlup' or 'Marup' of 'Thoubei' or any other traditional form of co-operative societies existing both in hill and valley of the state, should be encouraged on the new lines. For example, for the introduction of fair price shops in the remote areas of the state, it should be encouraged the form of primary consumer's co-operative societies through the local singlup or Marups instead of favouring individual rationing agents.

Thus under the N.C.C.F., the Manipur state consumer's co-op. Federation should try utmost to improve its primary consumer's co-op. societies already existing in both hills and valley areas of the state, functioning through the traditional type of co-op. societies.
(18) In the hill areas of the state, the traditional shifting cultivation or age old Jhum cultivation should be abolished and land reforms Act should be introduced to the hill areas of the state along with rehabilitation programmes. In the valley, more fragmentations of land below 1 hectare (i.e. 1 pāri) should be strictly prohibited. More lands should brought under co-op. farming.

(19) For proper utilisation of hilly areas, there should be Terrace farming, contour farming and digging of pits etc. On the gentle slopes, plantation of trees on the tops of steep slope with loose soils; horticulture in the middle portion of the hill slopes with loose soils; and agriculture or paddy cultivation in the lower slopes may be suggested.

(20) For a proper utilisation of recently opened rail-head at Jiribam, the roadways from Imphal to Jiribam should be improved at any cost.

(21) As we know, hill areas of the state constitute about 9/10 (nine-thenth) of its total areas and about 2,25,000 hectares of permanently cultivable land is under total cropped area but due to the increase of population the per capita cultivable land has been decreasing day by day. So, nearby hill areas should be selected for housing and other purposes. Thus these rare green belts of the valley area including grazing grounds should be protected.
(22) For double-cropping, multiple-cropping etc. a common fencing and grazing ground are always required to protect from stray animals. So, farmers should organise themselves and Govt. should help them in this regard.

(23) More areas should be brought under irrigation system through introduction of tank irrigation, well-irrigation, tube well irrigation are quite necessary in the valley areas. Whereas in the hill areas, pipe irrigation is quite necessary. The underground water potentials of the state should be surveyed properly. At present, barely 10% of the total cultivated area of the state is under irrigation. This is not satisfactory. So, necessary steps should be taken up by the Govt.

(24) To check soil erosion and frequent floods in the state, there should be a major programme like afforestation, digging of river beds, clearance of illegal encroachment of the drainage areas etc.

(25) Generally in Manipur, many projects have been taken up with great interest and hopes but the follow up programme have not been satisfactory. So, state Govt. has to advise the concerned authorities not to take up any new projects or programmes before completing the former one.
Moreover viable and sick units should be revived at any cost. The feasibility reports for a few industrial projects in Manipur have already been prepared, therefore, the same is required to be examined with an awareness of the local socio-economic setting and political culture and with a knowledge of the technical aspects of preparation of the project report.

(27) The most urgent need in Manipur is that of proper planning of her limited resources. For example, the surrounding hill ranges should be selected for afforestation, settlement, Horticulture etc. Whereas the limited valley areas should be protected for agriculture, green belts etc.

(28) Ecological factor should be taken into account when any establishment of large or medium scale industries in the state is made. Moreover, before setting up any industry in the state it is quite necessary to consider her natural resources, surplus agricultural products, local demand, and demand from her neighbouring states etc. (if not; otherwise any establishment of large or medium industries in this remote area of Manipur will be meaningless and a business of loss.

(29) Lastly, for the fulfilment of the above requirements, a firm and rigid industrial policy should be taken up by the state Govt.