CHAPTER VII

INDUSTRY

I. INDUSTRIAL REQUIREMENTS

The main factors controlling the location of industries are, raw material, labour, transport, power, market, capital and management. All these are essential for attracting a particular industry at a place. A combination of all these factors at one place is only an exception rather than the rule. However, some of these factors together, always play a determining role.

Except for some raw materials and unskilled labour, Manipur is very disadvantageously placed in respect of other factors. It is for this reason that there is almost a complete absence of medium and large scale industries, even after a quarter of a century of independence. The existing industries are, just a few, and of cottage industry type, are more the result of expediency and individual enterprise rather than any coherent policy.

The industrial raw materials of the state may be divided into: (1) mineral products, (2) forest products, and (3) agricultural products. The state is not rich in minerals, so far as is known up-to-date. The handicaps in exploring and exploiting the minerals, known and unknown are, lack of transport and communication facilities and technical know-how.
Some minerals of economic importance occur at different places. Limestone is the most important mineral of widespread occurrence. Among other minerals available here are, copper ore, nickel ore, chromite ore, iron ore, rock salt etc. Limestone occurs in Dihang shales. The exposures are found along the Imphal-Moreh road between milestone \( \frac{32}{4} \) and \( \frac{32}{6} \). The limestone is grey, lightly jointed and cleaved with veins and small lenses of milky white calcite. The other exposures are at Kangbung, Yaithibi, Langang Khunou, Toupokpi, Cherangjing Khunou, Mahao, Beru Khunou, near Chakpikarong, Tongjing, Aimon Khunyai and Soubum near Kakching.\(^1\)

The chemical composition of the limestone indicates a very low magnesia (below 1.75 per cent), but very high insolubles (ten to thirtyfive per cent). For cement manufacture the lime needs to be mixed with high calcium limestone. The Toupokpi occurrence has lower percentage of insolubles (ten to fifteen percent). There are some low silica and low magnesia limestones in Ukhrul area. These have about five per cent of insolubles and above fifty per cent of \( \text{CaO} \). This is a viable limestone for cement industry.\(^2\)

Limestone also occurs in Kasom range between Khengoi and Luniqui near Hundung. The estimated quantity of limestone deposit up to a workable depth is about 4.5 million tons. Ukhrul region alone has about 2.2 million tons; the remaining deposits are found

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in isolated areas as mentioned above. The lime content in these deposits varies from thirtyfour to fiftythree per cent. 3

Limonite iron ore is found in a few localities in the central plain. Its occurrence is confined to the swampy alluvial base where it is found in the shape of small pisolitic nodules of hydrated oxide of iron (bog iron) intermixed with clayey material, usually covered with alluvium to a depth ranging from two to five feet (0.609 to 1.524 metres) and is itself three to twelve inches (7.62 to 30.48 centimetres) thick. An inferior iron ore is also reported extant in the southern and western hills. In course of field work the writer collected a few samples of iron ore from Tengnoupal area, which on examination proved to be low grade iron ore.

Copper ore is found in the southeastern part of the state. It is obtained from the hills bordering the Kabaw valley. In Ukhrul area there is a characteristic serpentine rock which frequently becomes gabro, contains bronzite, and is intersected by veins of gold coloured chrisolite, or, sometimes, carbonate of magnesia. 4 The possibilities of occurrence of jade, ruby and other precious stones also cannot be ruled out, since the eastern part of Manipur lies close to the jade belt of upper Burma.

The maximum cooper and nickel contents, according to a recent survey report are 10.56 and 0.33 per cent respectively. A thin reserve of chromite near Nepali Basti (24°19' N, 94°15' E) and another pocket at Kwatha, shows about seventyfive to eighty per cent of chromite. From serpentine-shale contact at Moreh and Sibong area, the average nickel value is estimated at 0.6 per cent. However, the nickel value ranges from 0.22 per cent to 0.94 per cent in case of individual pits. There are prospects of big reserves being found of chromite. Other raw materials are a few brine springs, rock salt and pottery clay.

There are large forest reserves, containing very useful varieties of trees. The forests also abound in bamboo, cane and reed. The forests, therefore, can provide raw materials for a few forest based industries. The large reserves of pine can sustain paper industry. The bamboo too could be utilised for paper industry.

Agricultural products like paddy, maize, oil seeds, pulses, sugar cane, cotton and fruit and also sericulture may provide industrial raw materials for quite a few industries.

The state does not lack manpower. In fact, the growing unemployment is considered as a serious problem for the state. There is a remarkable factor which has no parallel in any other part of India. That is, the traditional and increasing participation by women in gainful employment. Literacy, in general, in Manipur is 32.9 per cent. 

\[\text{Anand, Banerjee and Dayal, op. cit., pp.3-15.} \]
cent which in case of India is 29.34 per cent (refer to Table XXIX).

Literacy among the females in Manipur, is one of the highest in India, about 19 per cent, according to the last census. There has been almost a literacy explosion in Manipur during the last two decades. The literacy percentage in A.D. 1951, A.D. 1961 and A.D. 1971 is 11.4, 30.4 and 32.9 respectively. This is significant in the sense that the state has to provide employment to literate and educated persons, whose number has been increasing by leaps and bounds.

In the absence of ample avenues of employment in A.D. 1961, bulk of the working force was engaged in agriculture (refer to Table XIX). Those engaged as cultivators constituted 65.43 per cent of the total workers. The percentage of agricultural labourers was very nominal, being 0.61 per cent whereas the remaining 33.96 per cent of working force was engaged in other works. The situation further deteriorated in A.D. 1971, because 67 per cent of the total working force was shown as cultivators. In addition to this 3.64 per cent of working force was shown as agricultural labourers, and 29.35 per cent of workers found employment in other works. Thus, a decrease in the percentage of other workers and an increase in the percentage of agricultural labourers indicates that avenues of employment outside agriculture are very limited. It is felt that more working force could be diverted away from agriculture by providing industrial and other employments.
The supply of manpower is very large in relation to material resources and the level of economic development at present. There is regional imbalance so far as employment of working force in the central plain and the hill region is concerned. The economic activities are more diversified in the central plain than in the hill region.

The working force is largely unskilled, more so, in the hill region. If the present trend of industrial development continues, only skilled workers will get employment. The problem is, thus, to employ the unemployable... This evidently implies the need to train the raw hands before or after employing them.

Agriculture, which claims to employ bulk of the working force, provides employment for hardly six to eight months in a year. For the remaining about four months a cultivator takes to some other pursuit or goes unemployed. It is, therefore, concluded that there is a colossal wastage of manpower.

Most of the raw materials for example, minerals, forest and agricultural products being bulky, have to be hauled by road for long distances to bring them to factory sites. The manufactured goods have to reach the consumers within and outside the state by road. Road transport is one of the costliest modes of transport. Naturally, in Manipur, transport costs become exorbitant and the cost of manufactured goods prohibitive. In such circumstances manufactured goods fail to compete in the open market.
Therefore, Manipur, has to orient its industrial development, so as to meet the needs of its home market, and that too, on a restricted scale. Only light-weight and small goods, which can stand the transport cost, may compete in the market outside the state. Thus transport cost is the greatest drawback in the industrial development of the state.

The type of power used in the existing industrial establishments are: (1) electricity, (2) liquid fuel, (3) coal, wood and charcoal, and (4) other power. In the absence of mineral oil or coal in the state, wood and charcoal are used as domestic fuel. Mineral oil and electric power are used in running the industries. Most of the small scale industries are still manually operated.

Manipur is one of the backward states, so far, in the field of power development. The present power development is confined to Imphal town and a few other places. There has been a slow development in the field of power development (refer to Table XXX). The installed capacity of power generation in A.D. 1955-56 was 156 Kw., which in subsequent years increased. In A.D. 1960-61 it was 731 Kw., and increased to 1332 Kw. in A.D. 1965-66. By A.D. 1969-70 it was 3400 Kw. More emphasis is given in respect of power generation during the last five years, as a result, the installed capacity went up to 6510 Kw. in A.D. 1970-71, almost double of what it was in the previous year. The position is likely to be very satisfactory after the completion of Loktak Project, which when completed would generate
cheap hydroelectricity to the extent of 105 MW. The existing power generating stations are small and have small installed capacity. They are: (a) Imphal Power House 2302 Kw., (b) Leimakhong 2070 Kw., (c) Leimakhong Hydro 600 Kw., (d) Moirang 124 Kw., (e) U Christmas 120 Kw., (f) Jiribam 98 Kw., (g) Tamenglong 50 Kw., (h) Morah 50 Kw., (i) Thoubal 171 Kw., and (j) Kakching 155 Kw. Most of these serve the purpose of local electrification. The power house at Mao has been dismantled from February 1972. The Department of Electricity is buying 250 Kw. from Nagaland, to serve the Mao area. All the stations mentioned above are diesel operated except Leimakhong Hydro station. In addition to this the Loktak Project has a diesel power house, generating 1200 Kw. for use in construction process and operating machinery (Figure 7).

The state is fortunate in having adequate water power potential. The rivers, originating in the hills of Manipur, have long mountain course and high gradient. They have rainy catchment areas, and as such, discharge considerable volume of water. There are suitable sites where the rivers could be harnessed for generating hydro-electricity. A few sites have already been surveyed and found suitable for this purpose. Two micro sets are under installation and erection at New Somdal in Ukhrul area and Diphu Lok in Tamenglong area.

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5The writer visited the Project site in January 1972 and discussed the matter with Mr. Sayeeduzzafar, Assistant Engineer.
MANIPUR

ELECTRICITY GENERATED AND CONSUMED
1955-56 TO 1970-71

FIG. 7
The present Loktak Project is primarily a hydroelectric scheme. The main objective of the project is as follows:

1. To install 1,05,000 kilowatts of hydroelectric power.
2. Distribution of irrigation water to 60,000 acres (24281.16 hectares) of land.
3. To maintain required balance of the water level of Loktak and to protect from flood the surrounding lands where cultivation prevails.

The project envisages the construction of 10.6 metres high barrage across the Manipur river at Thaip. The water conductor system will comprise 4115 metres long open channel and 6,248 metres long head race tunnel across the Ningthoukhong hill. The power house is being built at the bank of Leimatak river. The waste water from the power house will pour into Leimatak river (Figure 8). Further possibility of power from this river is under investigation.

The power potential of Manipur, if properly developed, will make available abundant cheap power for industrial and domestic purposes. At present, the charge for electricity for domestic consumption is at the rate of 40 paise per unit. Hydroelectric development is the only hope of cheap power. A proper development of this will ensure cheap power for the state and also some surplus power for the adjoining states.

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SKETCH OF
LOKTAK PROJECT

REFERENCE:
1 HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER HOUSE
2 TUNNEL
3 CHANNEL
4 PROJECT TOWNSHIP
5 IRRIGATION CHANNEL
6 BARRAGE
+ LAND TO BE RECLAIMED

POWER TO BE GENERATED 105 MW
LAND TO BE IRRIGATED 50000 ACRES

FIG. 8
People are clamouring for industrialisation, in a bid to solve the twin problems of growing poverty and unemployment. Thus, industrialisation is highly desirable. But howsoever desirable, it may not be practicable. The location of Manipur in the border region is a major handicap. In addition to this people look to the Government for capital investment in medium and large scale industries. There are very few private entrepreneurs who would venture investing, and people in general are too poor to come forward with sizeable investments.

II. INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURE AND CLASSIFICATION

The industrial structure of Manipur is mostly dominated by the household industries. These are the traditional industries of Manipur. They employ manual labour. Among the better organised ones, electricity or diesel power is used. The small industrial units have limited employment capacity. They provide employment for one to five persons and are based on small capital investments (Map 14).

Factory enterprises have yet to go a long way to be of any significance. Whatever registered factories are there, they are mostly in and around Imphal town. These factories, if they can be called as such are rice mills, flour mills, oil mills, saw mills etc. There is a virtual absence of medium and large industries, which generate more income per worker.
INDEX:

MANIPUR
IMPORTANT INDUSTRIES IN RURAL AREAS (1971)

WEAVING
CARPENTRY
BAMBOO & CANE WORK
FRUIT PRESERVATION
SAW MILLING
LIME WORK
SERICULTURE
POTTERY
STONE WORK
PAPER INDUSTRY (PROPOSED)
CEMENT INDUSTRY (PROPOSED)

MAP 14
The existing industries, which are household industries, may be classified as: (1) handloom industry, (2) sericulture industry, (3) handicrafts industry and (4) small scale industries.

Of the various industries contributing to the economic structure and development of Manipur, handloom industry occupies the highest position. This industry has developed in this state beyond all proportions. The contribution of this industry to the economy of the state is next to that of agriculture.

This industry has been playing a vital role from time immemorial. There are records to prove that the throw-shuttle looms were in use in Manipur as far back as the reign of Pakhangba (about A.D. 87), while the loin-loom existed even earlier. Thus, weaving is the oldest and most important household industry of Manipur. During the historical past the kings of Manipur took special interest in the development of this industry.

Weaving is treated as a respectable profession. A Manipuri girl learns weaving at a tender age and her skill and attainment in this art receive due consideration at the time of her marriage negotiations, and more often than not a loom is accounted as a part of traditional dowry.\(^8\)

In the past, the rulers of Manipur gave various kinds of encouragement towards the introduction of newer designs and refinement in production. Of the various products showing exquisite crafts-

\[^8\]Y. Birachandra Singh, "Handloom and Handicrafts", Hindustan Standard (Calcutta), March 31, 1967, p. 11.
manship, a few may be mentioned, for example, Ningthou Phee, Lamthang Khulhat, Khamenchappa, Moirang Phee, Hijamayek, Phanek Meitei Kum etc. Each design has a history of its origin.

Before the mill made cloth was introduced into this state, Manipuri women used to produce all the cloth required for the family. It was purely a native product, independent of any foreign element. Cotton was grown abundantly in the hills and the remaining entire work i.e., spinning, weaving, dyeing, printing etc. was done at home by women. Since its introduction, the mill made cloth has made great inroads into this indigenous industry.

Before the introduction of chemical dyes, women used to prepare all the dyes from the local plants. This is still in vogue in rural areas, where they prepare and use such dyes with confidence. They obtain carthamine and rhodamine from Kusum Lei, yellow and reddish yellow from turmeric, black from young leaves of teak, brown from the bark of a tree called Sahi Kuhi. These provide dependable fast colours. Thus, the indigenous dyeing and printing bear testimony to this well developed art of Manipur coming from its antiquity.9

There is hardly any house without a handloom establishment. Hence, the number of such establishments may be quite close to the number of households in a particular village. However, data are available for registered small scale industrial units for Municipal and Notified areas. Because the units are small, they do not come under the purview of Factories Act 1948. There were 67 registered weaving

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9Ibid.
industrial units employing 1333 persons in the urban areas of Manipur Central district (refer to Table XXXI) by A.D. 197C. This means that on the average an industrial unit employs about 20 persons. The registered units of urban areas are well established units. There are many more units of comparatively smaller size, which are not thought fit to be registered even in case of urban centres and as such go almost unnoticed.

Sericulture is an old industry of Manipur. The artisans carry on this industry at their homes in the traditional way. Manipur possesses suitable soil and climate for the growth of different varieties of food plants for the silkworm, for example, castor, mulberry and tumitta. Three types of silk, namely, Mulberry, Muga and Eri cultivated in Manipur for long, have received a new spurt lately.

If properly worked and modernised this industry, can provide a good source of income to the artisans, particularly to the rural folks, from a part time or full time employment. It is generally regarded by the people to be one of their oldest industries flourishing well since perhaps ancient times.

Silk weaving by hand, according to James Watt, was known to the Manipuris earlier than to the Chinese. It is also claimed that Manipur is the birth place of silk and it spread from here to China and other countries. Some scholars, however, hold a different view. James Watt, in his book 'Economic Products of India', has dwelt at length on the method of rearing and weaving of silk in Manipur and
has praised highly the local silk products.\textsuperscript{10} The industry, at present is being revived.

Manipur handicraft is famous for its superb artistic quality. Some people are engaged in jewellery. Gold ornaments of Manipur bear very appealing and intricate designs. Some of them are inset with precious stones. The finished products bear the impress of skilled craftsmanship of high order. Fine wood carving is also prevalent.

Many women are engaged in doll making. The dolls of Krishna and Radha are very popular within and outside Manipur. Exceptionally fine embroidery work graces the ladies' lower garment called Phanek. Some Phaneks are extremely costly due to the use of very fine imported thread and time-consuming embroidery work.

There are dance costumes in which a lot of decorative designs are woven. There are particular costumes worn in the performance of religious and festive dances like Rasa Leela, Lai Haraoba etc., by those participating in them. These dresses are quite gaudy and display intricate designs and comely embellishments. Also there are dresses worn by the bride in a marriage. They are very artistically decorated to befit the occasion. The number of women engaged in these handicrafts is quite large. This is their source of livelihood.

A small scale industry has been defined as one with a capital (in fixed assets) investment of not more than rupees 7.5C lakhs irrespective of number of persons employed.\textsuperscript{11} Small scale industries, at

\textsuperscript{10}Birachandra Singh, \textit{loc. cit.}

present are in a very backward state of development. They stand in urgent need of modernisation. They include both registered and unregistered industrial units. Those registered ones are either registered as factories or as small industrial units. They, however, cover a wide range of activities of servicing as well as manufacturing of articles of day-to-day utility. The small scale industries stand next to handloom industry as a source of employment, both full time and part time. It is felt desirable to discuss registered factories, registered small scale industrial units and unregistered small scale industrial units separately.

Taking into account the limitations of the state, the industrial development so far, may be regarded satisfactory. By A.D. 1971, the total number of registered factories was 203 (Figure 2). The rice mills alone accounted for more than half the total number, as there were 104 of them. There were 11 oil mills, 7 pea mills and 30 flour mills. All these mills are based on agricultural products, and the total number of these comes to 152. About three-fourth of the total number of registered factories, thus, depends on agricultural products for raw materials (refer to Table XXXII). The flour mills numbering 30 are more than enough because neither the production of wheat nor the number of wheat eaters justifies so many flour mills. On enquiry it transpired that more often than not they remain idle. The oil mills numbering 34 cater for the needs of the state and are in better position compared to the flour mills. Taking into account the
MANIPUR
REGISTERED FACTORIES
& PERSONS EMPLOYED THEREIN

FIG. 9

NUMBER OF REGISTERED FACTORIES

NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED

WORKERS EMPLOYED
FACTORIES REGISTERED
FACTORIES IN WORKING ORDER

0 50 100 150
1961 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69

FIG. 9
production and consumption of pea as an item of pulse there is justification for seven pea mills.

The average capital investment for a rice mill is rupees 15000. On the average a rice mill provides employment to 3 persons. This speaks of the size of establishment. Most of the rice mills are at Imphal. Out of Imphal they are distributed as follows: Churachandpur 8, Sugnu 2, Moirang 2 and one each at Motbung, Kanglatongbi, Sekmai, Bishenpur, Lilong, Thoubal and Kakching. A flour mill provides employment to 2 persons on the average. The average capital investment for a flour mill is rupees 7500.

Out of 34 oil mills, 33 are located at Imphal. The remaining one mill is at Sekmai. An oil mill, on the average provides employment to 3 persons. The average capital investment would be rupees 15000. All the 7 pea mills are located at Imphal. The processing of pulses i.e., grinding or breaking into two halves or peeling of husk from the seeds is done in these mills. They are much smaller establishments in the sense that a pulse mill employs on the average 2 persons and can be started at a capital investment of about rupees 5000.

Outside agriculture based industry there is forest based industry, in which the raw material comes from the forest. There are 11 saw mills. Timber in the mills is sawn to different size, where one can have wooden planks to structural timber of required specification. Out of 11 saw mills 7 are located at Imphal alone, and one each at Moreh, Kangchup, Churachandpur and Jiribam. A saw mill, on the
average employs 10 persons. The saw mills provide the required type of wood to the local carpenters.

Then there are five factories where motor vehicles are repaired. Taking into account the number of motor vehicles five factories are not enough. At least one such factory is necessary in every developing urban area. The biggest establishment is Manipur State Transport Workshop. It alone employs 234 persons. The other four establishments are private enterprise and employ on the average 20 persons each.

There are four factories which manufacture steel pipes, concrete pipes, R.C.C.\(^{12}\) poles, R.C.C. septic tanks, C.C.\(^{13}\) hollow blocks etc. The most important one is located at Iroisamba, at a distance of about 5 miles (8 kilometres) to the west of Imphal town. It employs 115 persons.

There are 4 printing presses, all located in Imphal. Out of these one is Government Press, in fact, the biggest in Manipur. This alone provides employment to about 100 persons. The rest are private press and employ on the average 15 persons each. One point, about the registered factories that deserves mention is that some of them are not in working condition due to mechanical trouble, scarcity of raw material, power shortage etc. Therefore, the number of registered factories, actually in working condition is much reduced.

\(^{12}\) R.C.C. stands for reinforced cement concrete.
\(^{13}\) C.C. stands for cement concrete.
The result of annual sample survey of industries shows the employment capacity of factories from A.D. 1961 to A.D. 1969 (refer to Table XXXIII). During this period one point is very apparent that all the registered factories are not in working condition. Therefore, the number of factories reporting or in working condition is always less than the number of factories registered. The number of reporting factories will be considered for discussion from the point of view of employment.

The number of factories reporting in A.D. 1961 was 54, which together employed 148 persons. Thus, a factory on the average employed about 3 persons. There was little improvement in this position even after five years in A.D. 1966, where 66 factories employed 181 persons. The number of factories doubled in A.D. 1967, but with no proportionate increase in the number of persons employed, rather there was deterioration because 114 factories employed 271 persons only.

There was slight reduction in the number of factories in A.D. 1968, and on the contrary slight increase in the number of persons employed, compared to the previous year, so that for 105 factories there were 294 persons employed. There was a sudden increase in the number of persons employed in A.D. 1969, when 122 factories employed 762 persons. This means that on the average a factory employed about 6 persons. But this may be due to the establishment of some new factories on larger scale. It may, however, be concluded that the industrial units registered as factories are very few, too small and with very limited employment capacity.
The small scale industrial units come next to registered factories. Some of these units are registered. It is desirable to get such an establishment registered, in which case it would be entitled to certain facilities from the Government. To such establishments electric power is supplied at concessional rates, and there are provisions for loan and grant.

The small scale industrial units in urban areas are invariably registered. In general these cover a wide range of activities, more so, in case of urban areas, and are better placed as compared to units in rural areas (refer to Table XXXI). The activities, besides weaving, include tailoring, carpentry, iron works, pit saw milling, vulcanising, tyre retreading, repairing of automobiles, repairing of cycles, manufacture of footwear, radio repair, soap making, laundry, brick making, cane work, match making, photo processing etc.

The total number of registered small scale industrial units within Municipal and Notified areas in A.D. 1970 was 388. The total number of persons employed in these establishments was 3833. Thus, on the average an establishment or unit provides employment to 10 persons. In this respect they offer more employment per unit as compared to the registered factories. Since the pressure of educated unemployed for employment in urban areas is very acute, it is felt that proper encouragement and incentives be given for the establishment of such small units (Map 15).
INDUSTRIAL UNITS, 1970
FOR MUNICIPAL AND NOTIFIED AREAS OF CENTRAL AND SOUTH DISTRICTS OF MANIPUR
(NOT REGISTERED UNDER FACTORIES ACT, 1948)
There are many small scale industrial units in rural areas, and some in the urban areas too, which in most cases are not registered. The industry on a very small scale, conducted mainly by the head or members of the household, at home or within the village in rural areas and only at home in the urban areas, is known as household industry. A household industry may use machinery and employ power to run the machinery. But in Manipur most of the household industries, as mentioned earlier, are manually operated.

The other household industries, in addition to handloom sericulture and handicrafts industries already discussed, cover a small range of activities like carpentry, pottery, black smithy, bamboo cane work, bell metal work, oil crushing, gur making etc. Any industrial activity, for example carpentry, may be called a registered factory or a registered small scale industrial unit or simply a household industry, depending on the size, investment and management.

The scrutiny of the result of a sample survey reveals that the number of household industries with only one person working, is the highest in respect of all industries. The number of industries declines as the number of workers increases. The number of household industries with 6 to 10 workers is the lowest. There are no household industries with more than 10 workers.

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15 Ibid., p. 270.
19. Picking chilli.
20. Weaving on a loin-loom.
22. Rearing of pigs in the hill.
23. Fishing in the paddy field before transplantation.
24. Fishing in Loktak lake.
It is worthwhile to discuss carpentry as a household industry. The carpenters of Manipur are very skilled in this trade. They have earned a good reputation outside Manipur, specially in Assam. Their main work is house construction and furniture making. They prepare decorative almirahs, bedsteads etc. Some of them are engaged in wood carving. One comes across good carpenters almost in every village.

There are a few villages where people are engaged in pottery. This industry depends on the availability and proximity of fine clay which may be moulded into any shape. The potters use wheel in imparting different shapes and sizes. Important villages engaged in pottery are Sugnu, Thoubal, Andro, Thoubaldong, Chairen, Sekmai etc. Important pottery products are cooking pots of various kinds, water jars, large size food grain jars, flower vase, hookah etc. Big jars are made for keeping country-wine. It is to be concluded that this industry is found only in a few localities in the central plain and in the absence of fine clay in the hills, is almost absent from there.

The data with respect to sources of livelihood of the sample households are presented in Table VII. Twenty households out of one hundred, are engaged exclusively in cultivation. The economic dependence of these households rests solely on cultivation. These households cover 19.1 per cent of the sample household population. There are 76 households which cover 78.37 per cent of sample household population, and are engaged in cultivation and industry both. Thus, for about four-fifth of the population, there are two sources of income.
Cultivation, of course, is the main source of income, whereas industry is the subsidiary source. This suggests economic stability to some extent. Income from any other source, away from main source, however small; gives some sort of confidence.

There are only two sample households, covering 1.21 per cent of the sample household population whose main source of livelihood is industry. This shows that a small fraction of the population depends on industry as the primary source of livelihood. There are, however, two sample households, covering 1.32 per cent of the sample household population which do not depend on either cultivation or industry for
livelihood. There are, however, other sources like trade or service where such a small fraction of population supports itself. It is concluded that a lot of industrial development has to take place to enable a sizeable population to depend on industry as the main source of livelihood.

III. DEVELOPMENT DURING THE RECENT YEARS

The industries got state patronage when Five-Year Plans were launched for a planned development of the country. In Manimur, during the First Plan (A.D. 1951-56), top priority was given to handloom industry. This industry had been suffering from a number of handicaps, mainly non-availability of yarns, and marketing difficulties. So long, the weavers were exploited by the middle men, who controlled the supply of yarn and purchase of finished products.

In order to solve this basic problem an 'Apex Society' was registered during A.D. 1954-55. The Industries Department has been granting subsidies to this society towards the transport cost of yarn, so as to make yarn available to the weavers at reasonable rate. The society has been collecting the finished products and exporting the same to markets outside the state, earning good profit for the people and the state.

Another major difficulty before the weavers is the shortage of working capital. To overcome this, the Industries Department has been advancing loans and giving grants to weavers' organisations, formed as
Co-operative Societies. During the First Plan period, there were 21 Weavers' Co-operative Societies with 2136 members. Additional loans were advanced to 10 societies for the purchase of improved looms and appliances. This was a move in the right direction.

As a result of this initiative in the First Plan, the production of handloom fabrics almost doubled during the Second Plan. Newer designs were introduced so as to stand competition in the outside markets and attract foreigners. With this end in view one Handloom Design Centre was set up during the Second Plan. More Weavers' Co-operative Societies were organised. Under the technical improvement programme, financial grants were given for the purchase of improved appliances. And to solve marketing problem, five Sales Depots were opened.

During the Third Plan the process of organising Co-operative Societies continued and more weavers were brought in its fold. An incentive scheme of allowing rebate on handloom products at the rate of five paise per rupee was introduced. Under this scheme the handloom cloth could better compete with the mill made cloth. For effecting improvement in dyeing, a Dye House Centre was opened.

During the Fourth Plan the accent is on quality control. A Design Extension Centre is set up at Imphal. This is in keeping with the advancement in the field of textile technology and the growing experience of the weavers. The Design Extension Centre is entrusted with standardisation and quality marking of handloom products. Improved

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looms, such as semi-automatic and power looms are being introduced. A Production Scheme is now being envisaged for raising the quality and quantity of handloom products.\textsuperscript{17}

In the beginning of the Second Plan silk farms were established to revive the sericulture industry. Scientific methods of plantation of silk worm food plants, preparation of silk worm seeds, rearing of silk worms, reeling and spinning were demonstrated before the sericulturists. Besides, improved food plants and disease-free silk worm seeds were supplied to them at nominal rates.\textsuperscript{18}

A 'Muga Propaganda Outpost' was established at Khongjomat for demonstration of all aspects of muga culture and for supplying silk worm seeds to muga culturists. Other sericulture farms were established subsequently at Wangbel, Chingarel, Chingmeirong, Jiribam, Boljang, Kwakta, Thangjao and Tadubi.

During the Third Plan a few incentive schemes were introduced to encourage the sericulturists. These included supply of equipment and financial loan and grant. During the Fourth Plan the schemes of Third Plan continued. A new scheme of giving cash awards to four or five best cocoon producers has been introduced. Also there is a scheme to send sericulturists outside Manipur on study tour for observing improved sericultures.

The Manipur Government Emporium was established to facilitate sale of handicrafts as well as handloom products, both inside and outside.

\textsuperscript{17} Ibid., p.60.
\textsuperscript{18} Ibid., p.61.
outside the state. In order to improve the traditional handicrafts industry, the Department undertook the training of artisans during the Third Plan period. Artisans were trained in various handicrafts outside Manipur in trades like wood carving, embroidery, jewellery, etc.

A Handicrafts Design and Extension Centre was established for regulating the quality of the handicraft products. This centre has been helping all categories of handicrafts through demonstration, work process charts, technical background and samples, in any form of work requiring modification of design. New designs have also been introduced in the field of doll and toy making, textile embroidery, jewellery works, dyeing and printing. As a result of these initiatives, taken during the Five-Year Plans, many of the drawbacks have been removed. However, due attention has to be paid for the development of sericulture in future.

A notable development during the recent years has been the establishment of industrial and technical training institutes where training is imparted on various trades. These centres have been shown in Map 16. Selected persons are being trained in these institutes.
MANIPUR
INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTRES
(1972)

INDEX:
- Agriculture School
- Animal Husbandry
- Carpentry
- Bamboo and Cane Works
- Weaving
- Tailoring and Cutting
- Blacksmithy
- Foundry Training
- Sericulture Training
- Multipurpose Industrial and Technical Training
IV. FUTURE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

The state is not well placed for major industrial enterprise. The causes have already been mentioned. However, there is reason to be optimistic about the future with respect to household and small scale industries based on local raw materials. In course of time many such industries will be power-driven and will dispense with manual labour.

The people of the state don't lack skill and it is expected that the goods manufactured will be of attractive quality. The cheap power from Ioktak Project is bound to play a significant role in this direction. The rural electrification scheme is scheduled to cover the central plain in the first stage.

The conditions in the hill region are quite different. The industrial development there is expected to go at a snail's pace. The problem of unemployment there is not as acute as it is in the central plain. Besides, there are many practical difficulties regarding rural electrification in the hills. It is believed that only a few villages in the hills may be covered by the rural electrification scheme. And without electricity it would be difficult to modernise the household and small scale industries.

Of late, the medium and large scale industries have attracted the attention of the people as well as the state Government. The possibility of establishing a few such industries as cement, paper and pulp, textile, sugar, plywood etc. cannot be ruled out. But in this connection the industrial limitations of Manipur must not be ignored.
The industrial raw materials cannot sustain large undertakings viably. The machinery and many subsidiary raw materials are to be brought to factory sites from far off places. Spare parts are either to be manufactured locally or brought from outside to face mechanical breakdown of the plants. In fine, it appears that for one item available here many more items will have to be imported from other states and that speaks of the dependence of factories here on supplies from outside.

As regards the finished goods, the state provides a very limited market. The manufactured goods from a large industrial undertaking have to be exported outside the state, which means entering into competition with states which are better placed geographically. And for this state to compete with them will be a glaringly uphill task.

Government is well aware of the dearth of local entrepreneurs. As a matter of policy it contemplates offering certain facilities to those who would like to set up industries in Manipur. The incentives offered are: (1) registration of small scale industries, (2) license for setting up powerlooms, (3) industrial estate, (4) supply of materials, (5) import facilities, (6) credit facilities, (7) marketing assistance, (8) training programme, and (9) subsidy on power consumption.

If these are practised many new industries of household and small scale type may gradually be set up. As a matter of fact more industries are being registered every year. There is another noticeable
trend, viz., an increasing number of industrial units are joining Co-operative Societies.

The future industries may be divided into: (1) small scale industries and (2) large and medium industries. The small scale industries may further be subdivided into: (a) agricultural processing and allied industries, (b) wood and timber products, (c) engineering industries, and (d) others.

In the agricultural processing and allied industries may be included food products such as fruit and vegetable preservation and processing, bakery products and confectionery, cornflake, glucose, dairy products, poultry, piggery, bee keeping, tobacco processing etc. In this category may also be included non-food products like hosiery and garment making. Under wood and timber products may be included paper making, handloom accessory, match making plywood work etc.

Under the engineering industries may be included sheet metal works, brass and bell metal wares, foundry, assembling of radio parts, manufacture of cycle parts and automobile parts, lock and key making, electroplating etc. Other industries may cover brick and tile work, leather products, plastic and polythene work, manufacture of agricultural implements etc. Taking into account the existing situation the writer feels that the industrial activities mentioned above are feasible. It would be in the fitness of things to promote small scale industries.

Certain large and medium scale industries could also be established to meet the needs of the state. In the absence of entrepreneurs
from within the state or outside, the Government has come forward to establish such industries. Among them are included cement factory, paper mill, spinning mill, sugar factory, distillery plant, watch factory and ply-wood making plant (refer to Table XXXIV). How profitable the venture will prove, has to be seen. But it will have one effect, that is, Manipur will find a place in the industrial men of India and it will satisfy the people's long felt grievance.

It has been decided to establish a cement factory at Litan in Manipur East Autonomous district. The project is based on the 3.07 million tonnes of high grade limestone available at Ukhrul, Hungding, Kasom and Lambui. Originally it was proposed to start a factory of 30 metric tons cement producing capacity per day, at a capital investment of rupees 35 lakh. But later on it was found feasible to have a much bigger unit. The project report is prepared by the Cement Corporation of India, New Delhi. The factory when completed will provide Manipur with much needed cement for construction work, which at present is brought from a great distance. There is a provision of rupees 250 lakh during the Fifth Plan for this industry.

However, there arises an uneasy question: whether the cement produced here will cost the same as the cement from outside; whether there will be more cement than the state requires. In case of surplus cement there will be the problem of exporting it to other states. Will it be able to compete in the open market? These are some pertinent points which deserve due consideration. Because all that is feasible may or may not be profitable.
As already noted, the position of Manipur in handloom industry is enviable. The state has to meet the demand of yarn for about 2 lakh looms. The supply of yarn for these looms comes mostly from the spinning mills in South India and to a limited extent from West Bengal. This involves a huge transport cost. Government has to subsidise towards the cost of transport to keep the industry flourishing.

It is estimated that to feed the existing handlooms four spinning mills of 25000 spindles each could be sustained in Manipur. This will make the state almost self sufficient in matters of yarn. Besides, it will provide employment to a good number of people. But this venture is beset with many problems.

The supply of the basic raw material i.e. cotton, is the fundamental problem. At present a little quantity of shortstaple cotton is grown here. The spinning mill will require long staple cotton and of fine variety. The supply of cotton has to come from the cotton growing states in south India. This does not materially affect the cost of transport that is incurred in the import of yarn at present. Hence, the Government has to continue its present policy of subsidy until the supply position is changed.

The Ministry of Foreign Trade, Government of India have done a great favour in the case of Manipur, for setting up a spinning mill with a capacity of 25000 spindles. The requirement of cotton will be met by the Government allotment as long as the local long and medium staple cotton, the cultivation of which is being presently
experimented with, is not available. There is a provision of rupees 200 lakh for the mill during the Fifth Plan. The draft project report is being prepared by the Office of the Textile Commissioner, Bombay.

Government of Manipur has decided to set up two paper mills for which there is a provision of rupees 5600 lakh during the Fifth Plan. The project is based on the local forest resources of pine, bamboo, reed etc. In July 1970 Government of India, Ministry of Industrial Development, sent a team of experts to explore the possibility of such an undertaking. The team surveyed and selected two sites one at Jiribam and the other at Karong for the proposed paper mills. The growing stock of pine is estimated at 10.9 million cubic metres and its annual yield at 40,000 cubic metres.

The preparation of project report for paper mill (pulp) and paper mill (pine) has been entrusted to the National Industrial Corporation, New Delhi. At present Manipur has to import paper from other states. The project when completed, will greatly reduce the import of paper. This will be a significant step towards self sufficiency.

The new schemes going to be taken up during Fifth Plan are under study at present. Out of the six new schemes, the sugar factory is likely to be completed first. In this connection it may be mentioned that some preliminary work has already been completed.
V. TOURIST INDUSTRY

Manipur has a great potential for tourist industry. But at present it goes untapped. This land of hills and dales abounds in beauty spots of tourist attraction. Tourist industry, if properly developed, will be a good source of income. As there are places of historical and geographical interest, tourists must be given adequate information as to what the state offers to them in amenities and attractions.

As individuals differ in their tastes, one may be interested in seeing the Loktak lake, in boating and fishing there; another may like to visit the Keibul Lamjao Game Sanctuary; still another may like to pay a visit to Ukhrul where tribal way of life is dominant or Moreh on the Indo-Burma border where one can view cultures in confluence. Famous Manipuri dances and festivals may seem to be cultural gems for still others.

Manipur, for the people of India, is associated with the land of princess Chitrangda of the epic days of the Mahabharata. The land, as already stated in chapter I, was visited twice by Arjuna, the hero of the Mahabharata. It has thus acquired the importance of a place of pilgrimage. It is the home of one of the celebrated classical dances of India. The Meitei pilgrims often visit the various sacred places on the mainland. But from the mainland pilgrims hardly come to this place of the Mahabharata fame.
The Vishnu temple at Vishnupur, now known as Bishenpur is 11 miles (17.7 kilometers) south of Imphal on the Imphal-Tiddim road. It was built during the reign of King Khagemba (A.D. 1597–A.D. 1652). The temple is small but truly a specimen of the technological development of those days. It is built with brick and mortar. The bricks are small in size and the adhesive quality of mortar used is unique. The temple is now in the charge of the Archaeological Department, Government of India. It is included in the list of ancient monuments of India.

The famous old Kangla Palace is at Imphal. It is the only prominent remnant of pre-British period. Situated in the cantonment area occupied by the 4th Assam Rifles, it is significant in the sense that it was the palace of the last king of sovereign Manipur. Another significance ascribed to the palace is that somewhere in its compound lies the sacred spot where manifestations of the royal deity Pakhangba occurred in ancient days.

The sanctity of the palace is highly respected by the local people, as it reminds them of their bygone glory. There is a big tank in the compound known as Nungjeng which has its own legend. The water of the tank is considered very sacred and of medicinal value. A Manipuri uses this water for ablutions before offering ritualistic worship to his traditional deities. Today, being in cantonment area, it is not open for public view. A tourist has to obtain permission from the cantonment authorities for this purpose.
The temple of Govindajee on the campus of the new palace is of great tourist attraction. This is the biggest temple in Manipur. Two golden domes form the roof of the temple. Such twin-dome temple buildings are very rare. There are three apartments where idols of an equal number are installed. In the central apartment one finds the image of Govindajee and Raseshwari, and in the southern and northern apartments the statues of Rama-Krishna and Lord Jagannatha. In front of the temple there is a big Mandap or congregational hall, large enough to accommodate several thousand devotees at a time.¹⁹

Langthabal is another tourist attraction. It served as the capital of Manipur for some years. There is a hillock by the side of Burma Road, about 4 miles (6.44 kilometres) south of Imphal. Maharaja Jai Singh built a new capital on the northern side of the hillock in A.D. 1760. This site was abandoned in A.D. 1844. The place is now in ruins. However, a few buildings still exist atop the hillock.

The festivals and classical as well as folk dances provide a great attraction for the tourist. He is surprised to see the colour­ful dresses of the Manipuri ladies. There are women's markets, where the shop keepers are all women, the parallel of which is not seen anywhere else in India.

Yaosang or Holi is the biggest festival of Manipur. It is celebrated for six consecutive days. Manipur valley wears the most colourful look during this festival. Thabal Chongba, one of the

oldest folk dances here, is associated with the Yaosang festival. The expression Thabal Chongba literally means jumping in the moonlight. This is a sort of community dance in which the young boys and girls participate, the elders take part as spectators. It is not a sophisticated form of dance but is important for the participation of the whole community. It has a universal appeal, gaiety and freedom being its characteristics.

Cheiraoba is a festival that falls in the middle of April. This is the New Year's Day according to Manipuri calendar. In the afternoon people celebrate it by climbing a nearby hillock. In the northern part of Imphal town there is a hillock called Cheirao Ching (the hill of Cheiraoba festival). Some religious ceremony like Puja (offering) is performed atop the hill. People ascend the top for a Darshan (view) of the deity in an unending stream. It is believed that the happenings of this day presage the course of events during the entire year ahead.

Baruni is a festival that takes place after the Holi festival. There is a hill to the east of Imphal at a distance of about 6 miles (9.65 kilometres). It is the highest peak overlooking the central plain. A little below the peak there is a flat piece of land with a Shiva temple. There, Lord Shiva is enshrined in His phallic aspect. The previous evening people of the central plain reach the foot of the Nongmaijing in large number, carrying torch light or

21. Ibid., pp.31-32.
kerosene torches with them. They climb the hill at night to have a view of Lord Shiva and to pay Him obeisance. This is the main purpose of Baruni.

Lai Haraoba is another week long festival of Manipur. It falls in April-May. This is one of the oldest festivals of the Meiteis. This festival is observed to propitiate their pre-Hindu gods and goddesses. It is a religious observance comprehending the ancient Manipuri concept of cosmology, aptly shown in the dance of the worshippers. A major feature of this festival is the Maibi dance. It will be a rare opportunity for the tourist to see this dance. It is to be noted that most of the festivals occur during March-April and during this period the climate is also most enjoyable.

Kang or Rath Yatra is a festival of great importance. It came to Manipur with the introduction of Vaishnavism. The festival is dedicated to the worship of Shri Jagannatha, the supreme Deity. It is observed in June-July.

Another important festival of the Meiteis is Heikru Hiiongba, also known as Hiyang Tanaba. It is a festival of boat race, commemorating an ancient event observed by the Meiteis since the pre-Hindu period. The festival is celebrated in September. This festival has assumed religious overtones so that it attracts large crowds.

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22 Ibid., p. 27.  
23 Rath Yatra is the Chariot or car festival.  
24 R.K. Birendra Singh (comp.), op. cit., p. 11.  
25 Ibid., p. 15.
Rasa Leela is a famous festival of Manipur. It is a very sophisticated presentation. All the Ras Leelas are dance-dramas depicting the love story of Radha and Krishna. It is almost a night-long performance. It is a distinguished contribution of Manipuri genius.

There are many festivals observed by the hill people. In most of the festivals there are night-long programmes of tribal dances. Each tribe has a definite colourful dress pattern and a definite dance, for example Kabui Naga dance, Kuki dance, Tangkhul Naga dance etc. They give expressions of fighting, hunting etc., through dance. Most of the festivals are observed in the spring season, but during Christmas the hills wear the most festive and colourful appearance.

The state, of course, lacks at present in modern buildings, parks and gardens, which, perhaps, a tourist can see elsewhere; but there are locations of superb natural beauty. Beauty spots within the central plain can be reached by bus most easily. Journey to the scenic spots in the hills, which are too numerous, may, however, be tedious. But the scenic splendour and the bracing climate that he will enjoy will be more than enough to compensate for the tiresome journey, he undertakes.

The first and foremost spot of scenic beauty in the state is the Loktak lake. It is a shallow lake. During the rainy season the water spreads over about 80 square miles (207.20 square kilometres). During the dry season its size is considerably reduced.
However, the clear water area in the lake is about 35 square miles (90.65 square kilometres) in the middle. It is dotted with hillocks adjoining the tourist home, called Sendra Tourist Home. The tourist home, constructed atop the hillock of the same name, commands a view of the whole prospect. On the bank of the lake there are two more Dak Bungalows at Moirang and Phubala.

During winter, people visit the lake for duck shooting. The ducks are migratory birds which come to the lake from far north. People here believe that they come from distant Siberia to avoid the intense cold there. Loktak and its environs give the impression of a dreamland, viewed from the tourist home, in a moonlit night. However, one can enjoy holidays very comfortably at the Loktak, boating, shooting and fishing in the lake, specially boating in the moonlit night will be a memorable event for him.

A few miles south of the lake is the famous floating reed forest at Keibul Lamjao. This is something unique. It can be approached from the Moirang-Kumbi road. In this forest, is found the brown antlered deer, a species, said to be extinct in other parts of India. The Government of Manipur has declared this forest as a game sanctuary. There are hillocks and observation towers from where the animal could be seen in his natural habitat. This floating forest consists of a number of floating islands, made up of aquatic plants and their roots, in fact a sort of mat vegetation. This is a major tourist attraction.
Situated along the bank of the Loktak is Moirang, an ancient village of Manipur. There is the famous Thangjing temple. Thangjing is the presiding deity of the temple. It is said that in this temple are preserved dresses of a thousand years back and they are open to public view on ceremonial occasions. Every year, in the month of May, a big religious ceremony is performed by the people of Moirang in honour of Thangjing. The participants called Maibus and Maibas, wear the dress of the type and in the manner of the ancestors centuries ago.

Moirang provides yet another tourist attraction, that is, Netajee Memorial. There is a life-size bronze statue of Netajee Subhas Chandra Bose, a museum and a library. A visitor to the memorial is reminded of the World War II, and the freedom struggle of the Indian National Army, under the inspiring leadership of Netajee Bose, a legendary name among Indians.

Another tourist attraction is Andro. It is a village inhabited by the Loi community. They practise the ancient religion of the Meiteis. There is a place of worship where fire is said to have been kept preserved from the ancient times. It is regarded as most sacred. There are two giant drums kept in shed near the place of worship. The landscape close by is very beautiful.

Sugnu is an important place at the extreme southern tip of the central plain. There is an ancient temple. There are features of Karst topography in the vicinity of Sugnu. It is a very beautiful place. The recent nine plantation close by, has added to its scenic beauty.
The hill town closest to the central plain is New Churachand-pur. It is a small tribal town, 37 miles (59.53 kilometres) south of Imphal on the Imphal-Tiddim road. Many of the inhabitants belong to Mizo tribe or akin to them. There is a Dak Bungalow atop a hill. The town is situated at an elevation of about 3000 feet (914.4 metres). It enjoys a bracing climate. The journey from Imphal to Churachandpur by bus takes about three hours. One can visit there and return to Imphal the same day, but staying overnight will be a memorable experience.

Khoupum valley in Manipur West Autonomous district is of great tourist attraction. It is a very beautiful small valley with flat land of about 8 square miles (20.72 sq. kilometres). It is at an elevation of about 2500 ft. (762.0 metres) above sea level. It is situated on the Old Cachar road, roughly half way between Bishenpur and Jirighat. Many people do not know that there exists such a spot of superb beauty in Manipur, perhaps because of its inaccessibility. At present there is a jeepable road to Khoupum from Bishenpur. There is a water fall at a distance of about three miles (4.83 kilometres) from the Khoupum Dak Bungalow. There are villages surrounding the valley and the fertile valley land is used for cultivation.

Moreh is the last eastern frontier outpost of India. It is at a distance of 68 miles (109.41 kilometres) from Imphal. There is a regular bus service from Imphal to Moreh. It is a small town on the Indian side of the international boundary. Its counterpart on the Burmese side is called Tamu. The visitors at Moreh are permitted to
go to Tamu for a short visit of some hours. This is a great advantage. Before entering into Moreh the Kabaw valley can be seen from certain vantage points. The landscape is exceptionally gorgeous. The twin towns namely Moreh and Tamu are situated within a distance of three miles (4.83 kilometres). They belong to two sovereign nations. They are mainly business outposts. They are noticeably different in appearance. During winter Moreh has a very enjoyable climate.

Ukhrul is a small town in Manipur East Autonomous district. It is of great tourist attraction. It is at a distance of about 50 miles (80.45 kilometres) from Imphal. There is a motorable road up to Ukhrul. It is at an elevation of about 6000 feet (1828.6 metres) above sea level. It is the habitat of colourful Tangkhul Nagas, and a hill resort offering rest and relaxation in plenty. Ukhrul goes gayest and most colourful during Christmas. Summer gives it the best climate.

There is Siroi peak not very far from Ukhrul. It is famous for Siroi Lily. There is a jeepable road from Ukhrul up to the foothill. There are many limestone caves at Kangkhui about 10 kilometres from Ukhrul. There are Karst features like stalactite, stalagmite and huge caves. A tourist will find it worthwhile to visit this area.

Mao is another hill station on the northern border of Manipur. It is situated at an elevation of 6600 feet (2011.33 metres) above sea level. It lies on the National Highway No. 39. A traveller coming from Dimapur to Imphal passes through Mao. It is the habitat of Mao Nagas. It has a bracing cool climate during summer.
Chakpikarong is another charming spot in Tengnoupal Autonomous district. It is 52 miles (83.67 kilometres) south of Imphal. There is a regular bus service from Imphal to Chakpikarong. It is a beautiful place at the confluence of two rivers.

The Imphal town which is to serve as the centre of attraction for the tourists has at present among other things two War Cemeteries, a Museum, a small Zoo, Kangla Park, Women's market, and the new township at Lamphel Pat. There is only one three-star hotel. Some more hotels and tourist homes are felt desirable. The beautification scheme of the city has to be speeded up (Map 17).

The over all picture is that up till now the Government of Manipur has not paid much attention towards the development of this industry. Even now there does not exist a tourist office in the so-called 'Kashmir of the East'. It is high time to realise that tourist industry, if developed properly, could bring a regular and sizeable income for the state. The writer feels that a tourist office be set up and be entrusted with the multifold task of organising and publicising tourism as a major industry. Efforts should be made for providing tourists an experience worth cherishing.