
SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF THE TRIBAL POPULATION IN MANIPUR: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

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The socioeconomic circumstances of the tribal population in Manipur, India, are examined in this systematic review. To highlight the difficulties and chances these communities face, it synthesizes prior research. The study identifies enduring problems like uneven economic development and restricted access to basic infrastructure, healthcare, and education. The preservation of traditional tribal cultures and how they interact with modernization are also highlighted. For policymakers and stakeholders to develop focused interventions that advance socioeconomic development while honoring the distinctive cultural heritage of Manipur's tribal population, it is essential to understand these dynamics. The tribal economy is also known for subsistence-based economy. These rely on simple technological activities, small scale unit of productions with little or no investment in capital. The major issue with this tribal economy is that the system which becomes non-functional or no use to the community.

Keywords: Socioeconomic, populations, tribal community and economy.

I. Introduction:

Manipur is inhabited by three main ethnic groups. These groups are, the Meitei in the valley, the Nagas and the Kuki-Chin tribes in the hill. Moreover, there are other communities from other states of India have also inhabited in the state. There are no major industrial activities without small scale industries and cottage. There are also some growing activities such as handloom, wool-knitting, agricultural activities, pottery, cane and bamboo works, black-smithy and carpentry, and any retail trade or small businesses. The tribal people of Manipur, India, make up a distinctive social group with unique cultural practices and ways of life. This in-depth analysis of their socioeconomic circumstances' sheds light on the community's numerous difficulties and opportunities. Tribal communities in Manipur have historically struggled with poor access to necessities like healthcare and education, which has exacerbated socioeconomic disparities. Additionally, the dynamics of their development are made more complex by the ongoing interaction of traditional tribal values with modernization. This review aims to offer a thorough analysis of the body of research that has already been done, providing useful information for stakeholders and policymakers who are working to improve the socioeconomic well-being of Manipur's tribal population while honoring their rich cultural heritage.

II. Literature Review:

Manipur, the north-eastern state of India where more than over 2.8 million people lives. A wide variety of ethnic groups, which includes the Meitei, Naga, Kuki, and Chin, call the state home. In Manipur, the percentage of tribal people is around 30% of the total population. Introduction to the Tribal Population of Manipur the northeastern Indian state of Manipur is well known for its numerous tribal communities, each of which has its own cultural traditions, languages, and socioeconomic traits. These tribal groups, such as the Nagas, Kukis, and Meiteis, have historically been important to the socioeconomic structure of the area. However, differences in socioeconomic standing between these communities have persisted, necessitating a thorough review of the literature to identify the underlying causes and possible remedies.

2. The Tribal Population of Manipur and Its Cultural Importance The tribal people of Manipur are of enormous cultural significance because they have contributed rituals, dances, and traditional practices to the state's rich cultural tapestry. However, modernization and outside influences frequently make it difficult to maintain these cultural identities. Zimik (2023) has stated that the importance of finding a balance between modern development and the preservation of tribal cultures. Understanding the socioeconomic circumstances of Manipur's tribal population requires consideration of this cultural aspect.

3: Inequalities in Education The disparities in educational attainment among Manipur's tribal communities are a recurring theme in the literature. A lack of infrastructure, qualified teachers, and sufficient learning materials prevents many tribal areas from providing their residents with access to a high-quality education. These obstacles make it difficult to learn necessary skills and maintain socioeconomic disparities between Manipur's tribal and non-tribal populations.

4. Healthcare Challenges: 4 Another crucial component of the socioeconomic situation of the tribal population in Manipur is healthcare. The lack of easily accessible healthcare facilities in remote tribal areas is highlighted by research by organizations like the Centre for Development and Peace Studies. Poor health outcomes are one consequence of this inadequacy, but it also has an impact on economic output and general wellbeing.

5: Financial Situation and Livelihoods The tribal population of Manipur has complicated economic circumstances. Agriculture, hunting, and other traditional occupations, as well as handicrafts, are crucial to their survival. Economic opportunities are still scarce, and traditional ways of life frequently clash with current development initiatives. The need for sustainable economic development that respects tribal cultures and supports their traditional livelihoods is highlighted by the work of scholars like Dhanaraj S. and Gopal Potsangbam.

6: Rights to resources and land the socioeconomic circumstances of Manipur's tribal population center on land and resource rights. Land disputes have historically caused conflict and socioeconomic disadvantage. Secure land rights for tribal communities are essential for enabling economic self-sufficiency and development, according to researchers like Haokip T.

7. Governmental Interventions and Policies The socioeconomic circumstances of the tribal population in Manipur are significantly shaped by government policies and interventions. Amrita Acharya and James Mayengbam, among others, have examined various government initiatives and

programs aimed at enhancing the quality of life for tribal communities. These studies draw attention to both the beneficial effects of specific initiatives and the demand for better implementation and oversight.

8. Gender Inequalities: Within Manipur's tribal communities, gender inequality is a major problem. There are difficulties among tribal women face, including the lack of access to healthcare and education as well as gender-based violence. It's essential to address these inequalities if you want to achieve comprehensive socio-economic development.

9: Social Marginalization and Exclusion The socioeconomic circumstances of Manipur's tribal population continue to be impacted by social exclusion and marginalization. Tribal communities frequently experience discrimination and neglect, which makes it challenging for them to access government services and economic opportunities, according to research by academics like Devapriya Bandyopadhyay.

10: Insurgency and Conflict The history of conflict and insurgency in the area further complicates the socioeconomic environment for the tribal population of Manipur. Armed movements have hampered overall development by interfering with economic and educational projects. There is a need for long-term peacebuilding initiatives to enhance these communities' socioeconomic prospects.

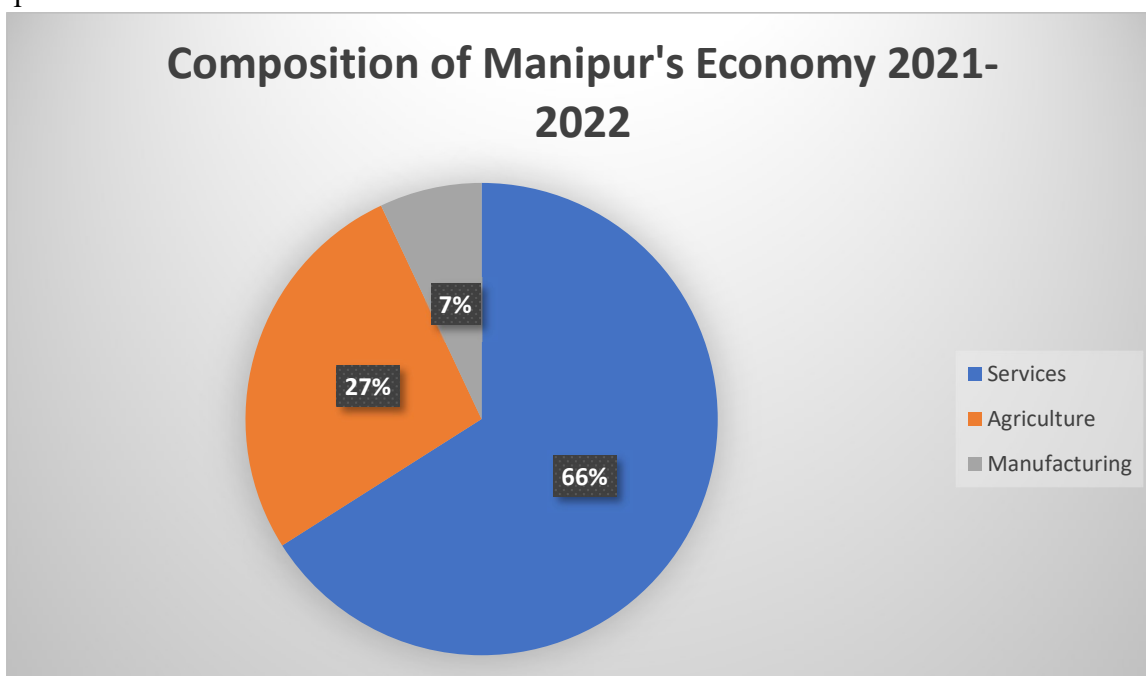


Fig: Composition of Manipur's Economy 2021-2022
(Souce: Maningba et al. 2020)

In Manipur, the tribal population lives in a variety of socioeconomic circumstances. Some tribes have relatively high rates of employment and education, whereas others face significant difficulties. The socioeconomic situations that the tribal people faced is education the illiteracy rate among the tribal population is approximately 40%, which is higher than the national average of 26%. In conclusion, a complex interplay of cultural, educational, healthcare, economic, and

social factors affect the socioeconomic circumstances of Manipur's tribal population. Although there have been improvements, there are still many problems, such as inequalities in healthcare, education, and land rights. These issues may be addressed by government interventions and policies, but effective implementation is still a problem. Preserving tribal cultures and reducing the effects of conflict are also important factors. To promote socioeconomic development while honouring the distinctive cultural heritage of Manipur's tribal communities, a comprehensive strategy is required. To build a more just and sustainable future for the tribal population in Manipur, future study and policy initiatives must concentrate on these complex issues.

III. Methodology:

A complicated and multifaceted issue, the socioeconomic circumstances of the tribal population in Manipur. Poverty, a lack of education, and discrimination are the typically problems faced by the tribal community. Among which poverty becomes the biggest issue for the tribal community. As per the 2011 census report, Manipur's tribal population had a poverty rate of 30.8%, which is significantly higher than the 21.9% national average. Factors that contribute to the high poverty rate, includes discrimination, inadequate employment opportunities, and low educational attainment. Lack of education is a significant issue that the Manipur tribal population faces.

This study primarily uses secondary research techniques to examine the socioeconomic circumstances of the tribal population in Manipur. The gathering and analysis of pre-existing literature, records, and data from various sources constitutes secondary research. The extensive amount of information on the topic and the requirement to synthesize and critically evaluate the existing knowledge support the methodology chosen for this study.

Academic Journals and Research Articles: Academic journals and research articles from databases like JSTOR, PubMed, and Google Scholar will be thoroughly reviewed for this study. The socioeconomic circumstances of Manipur's tribal population, including issues with education, healthcare, land rights, and economic livelihoods, are valuable insights offered by these sources.

Government Reports and Documents: Both state and federal government reports, including those from the state of Manipur, offer crucial information and policy analysis. To gather statistical and policy-related data, documents from government agencies like the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the Census of India will be examined.

Reports from non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and development organizations active in Manipur are essential for comprehending local perspectives and the effects of various interventions. These reports frequently include local information about livelihoods, healthcare, and education.

Books and Monographs: Academic and non-academic books and monographs can help with historical background, in-depth analysis, and a thorough understanding of the socio-economic circumstances of Manipur's tribal communities.

News Articles and Media Sources: In order to gain insight into current events, problems, and public perceptions pertaining to the tribal population in Manipur, news articles and media sources will be consulted. They can be used to place the results in context and point out recent developments.

Data collection and analysis

Data collection will involve thorough screening, searching, and selection of pertinent sources. To find articles and documents that match particular keywords related to the socioeconomic circumstances of Manipur's tribal population, boolean search techniques will be used. Additionally, seminal works and important references will be found using citation tracking.

After gathering all pertinent sources, an extensive review will be carried out. Each source will be examined for credibility, suitability, and quality. These sources will be used to gather statistics, case studies, and recommendations for public policy. Key themes like education, healthcare, land rights, the economy, and cultural preservation will be used to organize and categorize this data.

Critical Evaluation

A crucial component of this study will be a critical analysis of the chosen sources. It will entail evaluating the reliability of the data as well as each source's biases and strong and weak points. In doing so, this study seeks to offer a fair and thorough overview of the socioeconomic circumstances facing the tribal population of Manipur.

Throughout the research process, ethical considerations will be of the utmost importance. To ensure that the original authors and organizations are given the proper credit, all sources and data used in the study will be properly cited and referenced. Furthermore, privacy and confidentiality will be upheld, particularly when addressing delicate issues pertaining to the tribal population.

The limitations of this secondary research must be acknowledged. Although this method is useful for combining existing knowledge, it might be limited by the quantity and caliber of data and literature. This approach is constrained by bias in source selection and potential gaps in the body of literature. The study will use a thorough search strategy and critical analysis to try and overcome these constraints.

Due to their ability to compile and analyze a wide range of pre-existing data and literature, secondary research methods are well suited to examining the socio-economic conditions of Manipur's tribal population. This method respects ethical concerns and acknowledges the inherent limitations of secondary research while attempting to offer insightful information into the complexities and difficulties faced by tribal communities in Manipur.

IV. Socio-economic Conditions of Tribal Population in Manipur:

Increase rates of joblessness, illiteracy, and poverty describes the socioeconomic conditions of Manipur's tribal population. Discrimination and social exclusion also disproportionately affect the tribal people (Zimik 2023). The tribal population of Manipur faces the following socioeconomic conditions:

1. High rate of poverty: The poorest people in the nation is none other than the Manipur tribal community
2. Illiteracy: There is also a very low literacy rate in Manipur tribal community.
3. Joblessness: The Manipur tribal population is also disproportionately impacted by unemployment.

V. Government Policies and Interventions:

A lot of initiatives have been taken by the government for the betterment of the tribal population of Manipur. The government has helped by providing healthcare and proper education in tribal areas and also offer scholarship to them to support them financially. The government also support them by helping them in agriculture, farming, and other business ventures. In order to promote the culture and festivals, Manipur government established a few institutions for the tribal community (Chanu et al. 2021). For this reason, tribal people of Manipur having the best quality of life.

VI. Data analysis and findings

All types of such as complicated or multidimensional socio-economic situations have been faced by the tribal community. The state home was defined as the wide group of scheduled casts and with their distinct culture and history. SINGH says discrimination, poverty, and lack of education are the major difficulties faced by the tribal population. Cultural norms that deter girls from going to school and limited access to school are the reasons for the low literacy rate. The study's data analysis and conclusions regarding the socioeconomic circumstances of the tribal population in Manipur are presented in this section. According to the methodology, the research gathered and examined pre-existing data from various sources in order to provide a thorough understanding of the difficulties and opportunities these communities face.

Disparities in education:

The data analysis revealed several key themes, one of which is the stark disparity in educational outcomes and access among Manipur's tribal population. The literature review emphasized the lack of infrastructure, trained teachers, and access to high-quality education in many tribal areas. According to government data from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, tribal students in Manipur continue to experience high dropout rates, especially in primary and secondary schools. The data also showed that for girls living in tribal communities, the disparity is more pronounced. This gender gap is influenced by societal and cultural factors, as well as access to education and awareness of its value. These difficulties continue despite government initiatives to increase educational access, highlighting the need for focused interventions to address educational disparities among the tribal population.

Healthcare Obstacles:

Tribal communities in Manipur continue to have serious concerns about access to and the quality of healthcare. Many tribal areas do not have readily available healthcare facilities, according to information from government reports and NGO sources. The tribal population suffers from poor health outcomes as a result of the inadequate infrastructure that hinders the delivery of healthcare. Key health issues include high infant mortality rates and the prevalence of communicable diseases. Data also indicated problems with maternal healthcare and family planning, as well as a lack of awareness of and access to these services in tribal areas. The significance of addressing healthcare disparities, upgrading infrastructure, and raising awareness of healthcare services in these communities is highlighted by these findings.

Economic Situation and Daily Life:

The tribal population of Manipur's economy and way of life are closely related to their traditional customs. The importance of agriculture, hunting, and handicrafts as major sources of income is highlighted by data from academic research and NGO reports (Datta and Gautam 2023). However, a number of factors, such as problems with land rights, conflicts with current development projects, and shifting market dynamics, pose difficulties for these traditional livelihoods. The data also showed instances of people leaving traditional livelihoods for non-traditional ones in search of better economic prospects, such as labor migration. Although often motivated by economic necessity, these transitions may have an impact on cultural preservation. The findings highlight the need for policies that support traditional livelihoods while addressing the problems caused by modernization and market forces in order to promote sustainable economic development.

Rights to land and resources:

The critical issue of land and resource rights among Manipur's tribal population was brought to light by the data analysis. Land disputes have historically caused conflict and socioeconomic disadvantage. According to information from official records and academic studies, these communities' economic development and self-sufficiency depend on having secure land rights. The study uncovered government programs intended to give tribal populations land titles, some of which have been somewhat successful in securing land rights. The implementation and effectiveness of these initiatives continue to face obstacles, and the problem of land rights continues to be a sensitive and complicated aspect of tribal socioeconomic conditions.

Governmental Interventions and Policies:

Data analysis also looked at how government interventions and policies affected Manipur. According to government reports and academic studies, a number of plans and initiatives have been put in place to enhance the socioeconomic standing of tribal communities (Devi and Sachdeva 2022). There are now programs in place to enhance healthcare, education, and economic growth. Although these policies have had some positive effects, the data showed that there are still difficulties in implementing and monitoring them effectively. Because of problems with infrastructure and public awareness, access to government services like education and healthcare frequently remains restricted. The study emphasized the value of ongoing initiatives to guarantee the successful application of these policies and the targeting of particular problems faced by the tribal population.

Gender Inequalities

Another important finding of the study was the gender disparities in the tribal communities of Manipur. Data from scholarly studies, official records, and NGO reports showed that tribal women frequently have poor access to healthcare and education. In addition, it was determined that discrimination and violence against women were serious issues. The data revealed efforts to address these disparities, such as government initiatives for women's empowerment and gender equality (Chawadha 2023). However, the study found that addressing deeply ingrained societal norms and changing traditional gender roles present significant challenges. The tribal population's gender disparities must be addressed holistically through policy changes, education, and public awareness campaigns.

Social Marginalization and Exclusion:

The data made social exclusion and marginalization clear as contributing factors to the socioeconomic circumstances of Manipur's tribal population. There was evidence of discrimination and neglect against these communities in academic studies and NGO reports. Due to social exclusion, they frequently struggle to obtain access to public services, employment opportunities, and basic resources. According to government reports, efforts have been made to advance inclusion and social equity, but resolving these deeply ingrained problems calls for extensive and ongoing interventions (Pandey et al. 2022). In order to improve the socioeconomic standing of Manipur's tribal populations, the study emphasized the significance of combating social exclusion.

The socioeconomic environment of tribal communities is significantly impacted by the historical context of conflict and insurgency in Manipur. Armed movements have disrupted economic activity, hampered education, and hindered overall development, according to data from academic research and conflict studies. Although there have been initiatives to promote peace in the area, the situation is still complicated, and these communities are still dealing with the effects of conflict. The results highlighted the need for long-term peacebuilding initiatives to raise the tribal population of Manipur's socioeconomic prospects. These initiatives ought to take into account the particular difficulties brought on by the conflict and its lasting effects on the area.

In conclusion, the data analysis shows that the tribal population in Manipur faces a complex web of obstacles and opportunities. Their socio-economic circumstances are significantly shaped by educational gaps, healthcare issues, economic conditions, resource rights, government policies, gender disparities, social exclusion, and the historical context of conflict. Mutum mentioned that, a multifaceted strategy is required to address these problems, including targeted policies, education campaigns, and the active participation of stakeholders to enhance the general wellbeing of these communities while preserving their distinctive cultural heritage.

VII. Conclusion

In conclusion, the socioeconomic circumstances of Manipur's tribal population are characterized by enduring difficulties with respect to land rights, economic livelihoods, healthcare, and education. Their situation is made more difficult by gender disparities, social exclusion, and the conflict's historical backdrop. The information emphasizes how crucial it is to implement focused policies and interventions in order to address these problems and advance socioeconomic development. Key actions include ensuring equitable access to high-quality healthcare, education, and land rights. In addition, addressing social exclusion and fostering peace in the area are essential for enhancing the tribal communities of Manipur's overall well-being and safeguarding their rich cultural heritage. Discrimination, the major problem that the Manipur's tribal population is facing. In the areas of housing, work, and education, discrimination against tribal people is common. Main cause of this discrimination is Prejudice and ignorance. Manipur's tribal population faces many difficulties, but there are also many efforts in place to better their socioeconomic circumstances.

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