

**CHAPTER-V**  
**SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF MANIPURI**  
**WOMEN WITH A SPECIAL REFERENCE TO**  
**KUKI WOMEN**

## CHAPTER-V

### SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF MANIPURI WOMEN WITH A SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KUKI WOMEN

#### 5.1 Introduction

The socio-economic status of women plays a very crucial role in both individual and community life as women constitute half of the society. In Manipur from the historic period, women have been an important part of the society. In this chapter an attempt is made to analyse the socio-economic status of women in Manipur and also to investigate the socio-economic status of the Kuki women as a special case in contemporary time. Further we also make an attempt to bring out the possibility of social and economic deprivation of women in Manipuri society with help of some prominent demographic and socio-economic indicators like the sex ratio, health, education and the participation in the workforce.

##### 5.1.1. The Jewels of India: Manipur

Manipur is a small state in the far Northeast part of India. Like the other seven northeastern states, Manipur is also geographically isolated from the mainland India. The state is surrounded by blue hills with an oval shaped valley at the center. The land of Manipur can be broadly classified into the valley and the hilly region. It is famous for its beauty, rich tradition; art and culture. Manipur is very often described as the “melting pot of culture”. The beauty of Manipur which once inspired Mrs. St. Clair Grimwood had described the state as “A Pretty Place more beautiful than many show places of the world”(Grimwood, 2008). On her stay in Manipur, Mrs. Grimwood came in close contact with the ruling royal family, the Meiteis and the tribal group of Manipur. According to Roy, it is one of the beautiful spots of the earth and rightly called "The Jewel of India (Roy, 1973). Still another scholar Ghosh described the state as the gem of India, her velvety green fields; transparent lakes, zigzag streams and bracing climate induce a visitor to feel as if he or she is in Kashmir (Ghosh, 1992).

The word ‘Manipur’ is described as a romantic name, whose aesthetically described by many as “Land of Gems”, “Jewels of India”, “A Little Paradise”, “A Flower on Lofty Heights” and “the Switzerland of India”(Jeyaseelan, 1996).

# MANIPUR



Figure-5.1: Map of Manipur

## 5.1.2. Administrative Division of the Manipur

Manipur is divided into nine districts namely, (i) Imphal West (ii) Imphal East (iii) Thoubal (iv) Bishenpur (v) Churachandpur (vi) Chandel (vii) Ukhrul (viii) Senapati (ix) Tamenglong districts. The population of Manipur may be broadly classified as the Meiteis, the Kukis and the Nagas. Under the umbrella of these three major groups, there are number of sub-groups and sub-tribes The Kukis and the Nagas mostly inhabited in the hill areas and the Meiteis are the main inhabitant of the valley area of the state. But in today time many of the Kukis and Nagas have settle in the valley

along with Meiteis and the Meitei Pangal (Manipur Muslim). Each community has its own social order that influences of development and progress of the state.

**Table-5.1: Demographic Profile of Manipur**

Features	2011	2001
Population	25,70,390	22,93,896
Population Growth	12.05%	24.86%
Population Density/sq. km	115	103
Male	1290171	1161952
Female	1280219	1131944
Sex Ratio	992	947
Schedule Caste	97042	60037
Schedule Tribe	902740	741141
Literacy	79.21%	70.53%
Male Literacy	86.06%	80.30%
Female Literacy	73.37%	60.50%
Main workers	855012	659364
Marginal workers	304041	285849

Source-Economic Survey of Manipur 2012-2013, Gender Statistics Manipur, 2006

*Note\** Excludes population of Mao-Maram, Paomata and Purul sub-divisions of Senapati District

### **5.1.3. Historical Background : Status of Women in Manipur**

For understanding the present status of the women in any society, it is very essential to know their role, contribution and the response the women have receive from the society. Characteristically, the women are found to be more physically weaker than their male counterpart. In spite of this shortcoming, a woman tends to be stronger psychologically. Women have tendency to bear all the trauma, torture and tolerate various form of injustice and inequalities. The women are often seen to be performing the trade of both man and woman in the family as well as in the society.

In Manipur, the women have shown tremendous functioning in the development process of the State. The women have taken up the role of watch dogs of their society from centuries. An excellent example is that during the 19<sup>th</sup> century there was a

system called “Lalup” (forced labour for the state under the colonial system). Under this system every male between the ages of 17 and 60 has to place his service to the State without any remuneration for 10 days in every 40 days. Under any circumstances if a man was unable to perform his “Lalup” through any unavoidable situation, he must either provide a substitute or pay a certain sum. So the men in Manipur were compelled to surrender to such kind of system as they were not left with the choice to escape from it. Therefore such a situation had demanded the women to take up the responsibilities of the family and it is a very interesting thing that the most of women were able to take up this responsibility. The support for them to face such a situation was that from that time onwards the internal trade of the valley was carried on by the women.

The stupendous role of the Manipuri women in the economic sphere can be seen through the “Ima Keithel” which is the centre for trade and commerce in Manipur. The market is situated in the heart of Imphal city which is believed to have been founded by Maharaja Khagemba in the year 1580 A.D. The market was known as “Khwairamband Bazaar” in the earlier period and it is a historic market which has the sphere of influence purely by the women traders and this traditional practice is still continuing till date. More than one thousand women are engaged in regular stalls for earning of their livelihood. There were legally no 'reserved' seats, in practice but the women had their own individual places, which were often passed down from one generation to another. Any outsiders were not allowed to occupy the reserve stall. The womenfolk are gathered in the market selling rice, vegetables, fish, tobacco, salt, oil, baskets, cloths and other basic necessities. Apart from the economic activities, the market is an important venue of social and political interaction. It was this aspect of the Khwairamband Bazaar which played a vital role in the Second Nupi Lal in 1939.

Apart from the economic sphere, the women of Manipur have occupied a very high status in the public sphere as well. A very good example is the two social movements which are mainly known as the “Women’s War”. It has been called as the women’s war because in both the movements the women were the dominant participants and because of their firm stand the agitation sustained to a large movement. The outbreak of the First and the Second Nupi Lal (women agitation) during the Colonial Rule (1891-1947) has marked the history with Women’s movement for upliftment and betterment of the society.

**a) First Nupi Lal (First Women's War, 1904)**

The first “Nupi Lal” or “Women's War” began after an incident in which the bungalow of British's official was burnt down by some unknown person. The culprit couldn't be arrested even after many efforts made by the British's official. Then the Political Agent had ordered for a law under which free labour to be provided by the male-folk for reconstruction of the colonial officers' bungalow. The people responded with protest against the unjust order but the agitation was suppressed as the prominent leaders were arrested. The men-folk were compelled to follow the orders as there was no one to lead them. Thus the responsibility now felt on the women-folk to protest against the injustice befell on their men-folk. In spite of numerous actions by the British authority, the women stand firm in their demand. Finally the British authority had withdrawn the orders, with this success; this protest came to be known as the First Nupi Lal (First Women's War).

**b) Second Nupi Lal (Second Women's War, 1939)**

In 1939 when the world had witness the outbreak of Second World War, Manipur witness the Second Nupi Lal. It signified the role of women in the emergence of new Manipur after the Second World War. The agitation began late in 1939 when the British authority adopted a policy of exporting rice outside the state.

The main production in the state is rice and large exports of rice begin only after 1891. Most of the paddy milled was meant for export and had continued until that year (1939). During that period because of excessive rainfall, the crops were destroyed and due to large export of rice in the previous year, there was severe shortage of rice in the state. The purchasable rice was not available in the market as the Malwaris (traders from outside the state) bought all the rice. So the poor people were hit hard under such circumstances. Though there were several rice mills in Manipur, the bulk of the rice consumed in the state was at that time husked by hand by the women, and then sold in the markets. Moreover the women who traded paddy and rice were deprive of their mean of livelihood. The women took the initiative and were determined to start the agitation and protest against the export of rice outside the State. Some prominent leader like Hijam Irabot had organised large public meetings and inspired the people. From his support the women got the political support which they required for the movement. The men had joined the agitation but it was the

women who rose for the protest and sustain the agitation. The main market that is 'The Ima Keithel' or 'Khwaairamband Bazaar', where the trade and commerce of the state takes place was boycott for more than one and a half years. The British authorities by then were convinced that the women of Manipur could take up any form of agitation once they were convinced of their purpose. The authorities were left with no other choice rather than to issue necessary orders to ban the export of rice immediately. This great uprising of women came to be known as the 'Second Nupi Lal' in the history of Manipur.

#### **5.1.4. Manipuri Women in 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

The women in Manipur have sustained the unique traditional characteristic to stand up against any injustice within a predominantly male dominated society. Despite constraints, women in Manipur are actively participating in the development process. They work for the progress of the society by contributing in many forms like civil right activist, political right activist, entrepreneur, handling trade and commerce in the Ima Keithel (the main market in the Imphal city), doctors, teachers, engineers, the most fascinating role of a homemaker etc. The Manipuri society is patrilineal as well as patriarchal. However, social status of Manipuri women in the society is considered quite high as compared with that of women belonging to other patriarchal societies of India. They are found to be enjoying a lot of freedom and liberty (Singh, 2014, p134). There are some prominent names of women in Manipur whose noble deed and contribution are example for many others. And it would be an incomplete script of Manipur without the mention of these individuals.

##### **a) Maharaj Kumari Binodini Devi**

Maharaj Kumari Binodini Devi was an India writer and a social worker from the state of Manipur. She was born in the year 1922 in Imphal and pass away in the year 2011. She was notable for bridging the two worlds of ancient royalty and modern art. She received the Padma Sri, the highest civilian awards in the year 1976. She was also honoured by the Sahitya Akademi, the Sahitya Akademi Award in the year 1979 and received Kumari Barooah Foundation Award for culture in 2002. However, Maharaj Kumari Binokumari had returned the Padma Shri in the year 2004 to protest the alleged rape and killing of a woman by the Assam Rifles personnel. Some of her

prominent writing includes the “Boro Saheb Ongbi Sanatombi (The Princess and the Political Agent)”, “My Son, My precious” and “The Chosen one”.

**b) Rani Gaidinliu**

Rani Gaidinliu was a spiritual and political leader who led a revolt against the British rule in India. Rani Gaidinliu was born in the year 1915 in Tamenglong district of Manipur and expired in the year 1993. At the age of 13, she joined the political movement and become one of the prominent leaders in the freedom struggle. But unfortunately she was not recognised to the extend she has had sacrifice. After Independence her struggle continues against the Christianity and the anti –national activities of underground of Naga. She was honoured by Government of India by awarding the Padma Bhushan (1982), Tamrapatra Freedom Fighter Award (1972) and Vivekananda Seva Award (1983).

**c) Irom Sharmila Chanu**

Ms Irom Sharmila Chanu is also known as the "Iron Lady of Manipur" or "Mengoubi" ("the fair one"). Irom Sharmila is a civil rights activist, political activist, and a poet. She has been on fast-up-to-death since the 2<sup>nd</sup> November of 2000 for demanding to Indian Government to repeal the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958(AFSPA). According to this Act, the Indian Army and the Paramilitary Forces were authorized with the power to shoot or arrest on a mere suspicions an individual in the State. Ms. Chanu has refused to take food and water for more than 15 years. Believing in the teaching of Mahatma Gandhi to fight injustice, Ms.Chanu has adopted the principle of Ahimsa and Satyagraha. Irom Sharmila's story is magnetic and has been a moral inspiration for the women in the Manipur state as well as in other part of Northeast State. She has made a self-sacrificing movement and is struggling for the people to get back the dignity of every individual. In recent time her struggle has got much attention from both National and International level. Irom Sharmila has been appreciated and awarded Gwangju Prize for Human Rights (2007), Mayilamma Awards of Mayilamma Foundation (2009), Lifetime achievement award from the Asian Human Rights Commission (2010), Rabindranath Tagore Peace prize for Peace and Harmony (2010) and Prisoner of Conscience Award by Amnesty International (2013).



**d) MC Mary Kom**

Mangte Chungneijang Mary Kom is an Indian boxer belonging to the state of Manipur. She was born in the year 1983 at Kangathei, in Churachandpur district of Manipur. She is a five-time World Amateur Boxing champion (2002, 2005, 2006, 2008 & 2010) and is the first woman boxer to get a Gold Medal in the Asian Games in 2014 in Incheon, South Korean. In 2010, she was voted India's Sportswoman of the Year. Mary Kom also became the International Boxing Association's Ambassador for Women's Boxing in 2009. Mary Kom has been appreciated and awarded, Arjuna Award for Boxing (2003), Magnificent Mary by AIBA (2008), Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award (2009), Padma Shri for Sports (2010), Sportswoman of the Year by Sahara Sports Award (2010), Summer Olympics bronze medal in 2012 and the Padma Bhushan for Sports (2013).

**e) Binalaskmi Nepram**

Ms Binalaskmi Nepram born in the state in Manipur is a writer-activist and is strong voice in India and Asian region. She is the founder of Manipur Women Gun Survivor Network and Secretary- General of Arms Foundation of India. Her main focus is on working towards the disarmament movement in India. She has represented Indian civil society at the United Nations in several forum such as those related to the Control Arms campaign, disarmament and the Commission on the Status of Women. Ms Nepram co-founded the Control Arms Foundation of India (2004) which is working on conventional disarmament issues and in 2007 launched the Manipuri Women Gun Survivor Network in order to help thousands of women who are affected by gun violence in her home-state Manipur. In 2004, Ms Nepram was awarded a Ploughshares fellowship, Dalai Lama Foundation's WISCOMP Scholar of Peace Award (2006), Best Humanitarian Initiative of the Year (2010), international Sean MacBride Peace Prize (2010) by International Peace Bureau based in Geneva, CNN IBN Real Heroes Award (2010) and CNN IBN Indian of the Year (2011).

**f) Some Prominent Figure From The Kuki Community**

**i. Kim Gangte**

Kim Gangte is the president of the Trinamool Congress Party in Manipur. She is a social worker, human rights activist and politician and the first woman from Manipur to become a Member of the Indian Parliament. She was born in the year 1962 at

Uyungmakhong village of Churachandpur district of Manipur. Kim Gangte has been involved for more than decades with the activities of the Kuki Women Human Rights body as well the Kuki Students' Organisation. She is also the founder secretary of AWARD, an organisation working for the betterment of women in rural areas of the state. She has work for the cause of the people. She had call upon the women to be united and work together. She further said that the changes and development can be possible only when women are economically independent.

ii. **Rose Mangshi Haokip**

Rose Mangshi Haokip was born in 1960 at Saitu village of Senapati district. She got the distinction of being the first tribal women in Manipur to hold a degree of Master of Arts. She also became the first lecturer among tribal women and is the founder president of the Kuki Mother's Association which was form in 1995 in a place called Haokip Veng. Rose Mangshi Haokip was awarded Dr BR Ambedkar National Award in 2013 and Dedicated Mother and Social Worker Award and Certificate of Honour by Friendship Forum of India, New Delhi in 2007.

iii. **Chinthem Kipgen**

Mrs C. Kipgen was the first Kuki women IAS officer. She was born in Pangshang village in the year 1939 and pass away in the year 2010. She had set an example that make a person hard work can do to achieve one's aim and goal in life.

iv. **Lhingjaneng Gangte**

Lhingjaneng Gangte is the first woman of Manipur to receive the prestigious award of Padma Shri for her dedication in field of Social welfare. She was born in the year 1939 at Laijang village of Tamenglong district .She is one of those who pioneered the social welfare movement in Manipur. Giving due cognizance to her dedication and contribution in Social Service, She was later conferred with the Padma Shri award in 1975 by the Government of India. Adding feather to her cap, she was also selected "Women of the Year 1997" by American Biographical Institute (ABI), USA. Many society or training centers for both women and children was formed under her initiatives like the Balwadi, Mahila Mandal Society, and Tribal Women Training Centre. Besides that she was also Founder Member of Churachandpur College and established the Law College Churachandpur in 1984.

## 5.2. Socio-economic Profile of Women in Manipur

After discussing some prominent names of women who have shaped the Manipur society from their different field, next we proceed to discuss the socio-economic status of women in Manipur. Prior to that, first we discussed the socio-economic and demographic indicators which will highlight socio-economic status of women in Manipur. The indicators along with their importance are discuss below.

- i. **Literacy Rate:** Education is one of the most essential factors to face any socio-economic changes taking place in the society (Rani et al. 2011). Therefore, higher literacy rate of female signify higher degree of opportunities to them for attaining a better socio-economic status in that society. Education also increases the lifetime earnings of individuals, making the opportunity cost of becoming ill high and thus discouraging them from engaging in health-reducing activities (Cowell, 2006). Education has a positive relationship with income which in turn has positive effect on the health status (Antonovsky, 1967). Acquisition of education helps workers to take advantage of technical changes, which increases their productivity and earnings. (Basu, 2002). Higher literacy indicates a better society as education has a positive impact on the income, health and increase earning capacity.
- ii. **Sex Ratio:** The number of men and women in a country is an important demographic characteristic. In a country like India, low sex ratio is assumed to be consequences of excess female mortality (Kynch et al.1983; Agarwal 1989). In India, the account of female- deficit has been largely observed and it can be best explained by excess female mortality in younger ages, gender discrimination, son- preference, selective abortion of female fetus and prenatal sex determination. In Asia both infanticide and fatal neglect of female children seem to have lately been supplemented by sex identification and sex-selective abortion to achieve the desired family size and gender composition (Sudha and Rajan 1999). An unfavourable female-male sex ratio, where males have outnumbered females is an important indicator of gender favoritism and low status of women in India. In such a situation, sex ratio acts as a prominent indicator which reflects the socio-economic status of women in the society. Sex ratio is bound to be unfavorable to women in a society where there is gender discrimination.

- iii. **Work Participation:** The level of women's work participation has a direct bearing on their status. Workforce is a very significant socio-economic characteristic of population. It bears significant influence on social, cultural and economic characteristics of any society. In a developing country like India, female work participation is discouraged by number of factors such as unequal wages, unequal treatment in the work place and less support from the family. When the female work participation rate is increasing it gives indication of women economic independence and their involvement in the development process. Economic independence may affect women's ability to influence decision making processes at different levels of their social life (Kumari, 1998). Women's employment is a critical factor in their progression towards economic independence and is also considered as an indicator of their overall status in society (Mammen and Paxson 2008).
- iv. **Health:** It is found from literature that there is a strong relationship between SES and health and it date back to ancient Greece, Egypt and China (Krieger, Willains, & Moss, 1997; Liberratos, Link, &Kelsey, 1988; Lynch, Kaplan, Cohen, Tuomilehto, & Salonen, 1996). Better SES will improve health status of women and with better health condition one can perform better in education and become more efficient to take part in economic activities. Here solely the Reproductive health of women is taken as indicators for health of the women. United Nations (UN, 1995) defines, reproductive health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, in all matters relating to the reproductive system and to its functions and processes.

In the next section, we proceed to discuss the socio-economic status of women in Manipur using demographic variables like population growth and sex ratio, social variables like literacy rate, Reproductive Health of women and Nutritional health ; and economic variable like work force participation, number of employees in the Public sector. Lastly a special discussion on the socio-economic status of Kuki women of Manipur is followed.

### 5.2.1. Demographic Profile of Manipur

Population of a country is its most important asset and resources for all kind of development. According to 2011 census report the female population is 12.8 lakh and male is 12.9 lakh. The following table shows the population growth of female of Manipur from 1901-2011.

**Table-5.2:Female population of Manipur during the year 1901-2011**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total population</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>% of female population</b>
1901	284465	144833	50.91
1911	346222	175556	50.71
1921	384016	195897	51.01
1931	445606	229791	51.57
1941	512069	262886	51.34
1951	577635	293950	50.89
1961	780037	392979	50.38
1971	1072753	531078	49.51
1981	1420953	699947	49.26
1991	1837149	898790	48.92
2001*	2166788	1071154	49.43
2011*	2570390	1280219	49.81

Source-Economic Survey of Manipur 2012-2013, Gender Statistics Manipur, 2006

*Note\** Excludes population of Mao-Maram, Paomata and Purul sub-divions of Senapati District

In Manipur, the female population of Manipur was 144833 which rose to 1071154 in 2001 and then to 1280219 in 2011. It is observed that in a period of 110 years, the female population has increased by 1265736 female which is 8 times of 1901. When we considered the percentage of female to the total population, the figure shows a declining trend. According to 1901 the percentage of female to the total was 50.91 percent which decline to 49.51 percent in 1971 and then 49.81 percent in 2011.

### 5.2.2. Literacy And Education Profile

The extent of literacy of a society reflects the qualitative aspect of the population. Higher literacy emancipates economic and social backwardness. If we go through the female literacy rate of Manipur from the period of 1921 to 2011, we can note a substantial increase in the number of educated women in the state. It is a fact that after 1961 onwards the progress of women's education in Manipur is higher.

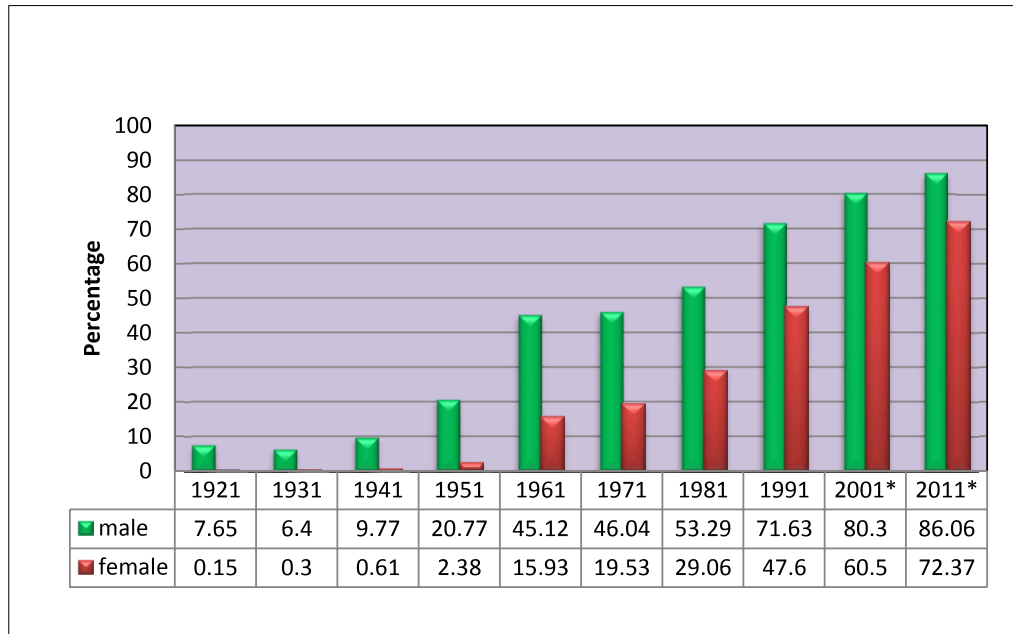


Figure-5.2: Trend of Male-Female literacy rate of Manipur from 1921 to 2011

Source: Economic Survey of Manipur 2012-13

Note\*Excludes population of Mao-Maram, Paomata and Purul Sub-divisions of Senapati District

It is revealed from figure that the female literacy rate of Manipur has risen from a mere 0.15 1921 to 47.6 in the Census year 1991. In the year 1991 the female literacy rate of Manipur is found comparatively higher than that of All India female literacy rate. Further, according to 2001 census, the female literacy is 60.5 percent which literally rose to 72.37 percent in 2011. From this increasing trend in the female literacy in Manipur, we can conclude that the number of female is increasing over the year. However, female literacy is found to be lower than the male literacy. The lower female literacy than the male literacy rate gives an indication of disparity prevailing in the state which we have found out using an index known as Sopher Disparity Index. The Sopher Disparity Index is calculated using the following formula

$$SDI = \frac{\log\left(\frac{X_2}{X_1}\right) + \log(Q - X_1)}{Q - X_2}$$

Where,  $X_2$  and  $X_1$  the literacy rate of male and female respectively

$$X_2 > \text{Or} = X_1$$

$$Q=100$$

**Table-5.3: Disparity in Male-Female Literacy Rate of Manipur (1921-2011)**

Category → Years ↓	Male( $X_2$ )	Female( $X_1$ )	Gender Disparity*
1921	7.65	0.15	4.00
1931	6.4	0.3	3.12
1941	9.77	0.61	2.87
1951	20.77	2.38	2.37
1961	45.12	15.93	1.46
1971	46.04	19.53	1.25
1981	53.29	29.06	1.02
1991	71.63	47.6	1.02
2001	80.3	60.5	0.97
2011	86.06	72.37	0.85

Source-Government of Manipur, 2013

\*compiled and calculated

The analysis of the result of disparity index show that the value of the index is declining over the years. The index value was 4 in 1921 which has reduced to 0.85 in 2011. This implies that the literacy rate of the female is increasing over the decades and the gap of disparity between male literacy rate and female literacy is reducing. However, still disparity in literacy rate prevails in Manipur.

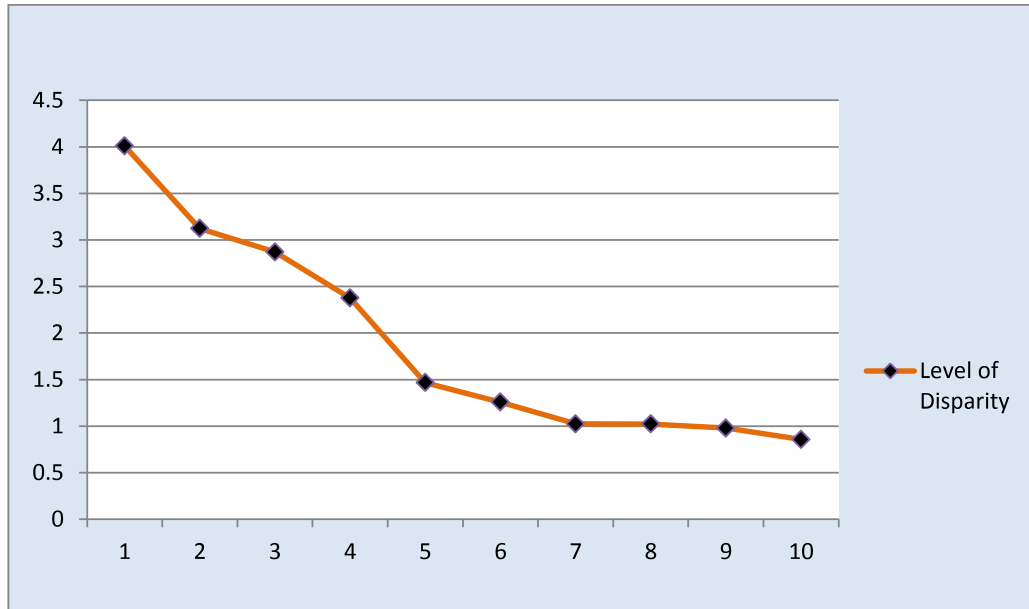


Figure-5.3: Trend Line Showing Disparity in Literacy Rate of Manipur

Source: Economic Survey of Manipur 2012-13

Note\*Excludes population of Mao-Maram, Paomata and Purul Sub-divisions of Senapati District

The Figure-5.3 shows a trend line of the gender disparity prevailing in the state from the year 1921-2011. It is easily observed from the figure that the gender disparity in term of the literacy rate is showing to be declining in the state. There has been an increase in the number of female getting primary education and also the number of enrollment in higher studies but still the numbers of female outnumber the number of male. Enrollment in primary education and also the number of enrollment in higher studies will be discussed in the subsequent section.

### 5.2.3. Enrollment in Different Level of Higher Education

Using the Gender Parity Index (GPI), we discussed the enrolment in different education level from the period 2007-08 to 2011-12. The Gender Parity Index is a socio-economic index to measure the relative access to education of male and female. It can be defined as a ratio of the number of female students enrolled at primary, secondary and tertiary levels of education to the number of male student in each level. It is numerically presented as

$$GPI = \frac{\text{Number of female enrolled}}{\text{Number of Male enrolled}}$$



Over the year from 2007-08 to 2011-12, the Gender Parity Index for enrollment in Ph.D./M.Phil shows a gap between the number of female enrolment and number of male enrollment. However the scenario is different in case of enrolment of male and female in Post-Graduation. For a continuous of three year period the GPI shows that the access to post graduation is very much favorable to female. But there is a sharp decline in the year 2010-11, showing that the enrolment of the female has declined and number of enrolment of male has favorable access to Post Graduation.

The GPI for Under Graduation level of education shows a pattern favoring the access to education of the females more than the males. The GPI value has increase from 0.52 in the year 2007-08 to 1.12 in the year 2011-12.

<b>Table-5.4: Growth of Enrolment in Higher Education in Different Levels, 2007–08 to 2011–12</b>					
Year→ Education Level ↓	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
<b>Ph.D./M.Phil.</b>					
<b>Male</b>	1304	480	478	447	431
<b>Female</b>	940	470	411	422	380
<b>GPI</b>	0.720	0.979	0.859	0.944	0.881
<b>Post Graduate</b>					
<b>Male</b>	1587	934	1012	3313	3042
<b>Female</b>	1794	963	1018	2290	2170
<b>GPI</b>	1.130	1.031	1.005	0.691	0.713
<b>Under Graduate</b>					
<b>Male</b>	12,102	14,704	16,295	62690	43715
<b>Female</b>	6320	11,540	12,588	53923	49278
<b>GPI</b>	0.522	0.784	0.772	0.860	1.127

Source: Economic Survey of Manipur 2012-13

Note\*Excludes population of Mao-Maram, Paomata and Purul Sub-divions of Senapati District

The figure presented next shows the trend lines of GPI for different level of education, where we can observe that the trend line for the under graduation is moving upward. However, in the case of Ph. D. and Post-Graduation level of

education, the trend line is sloping downward showing that over the year the disparity is increasing.

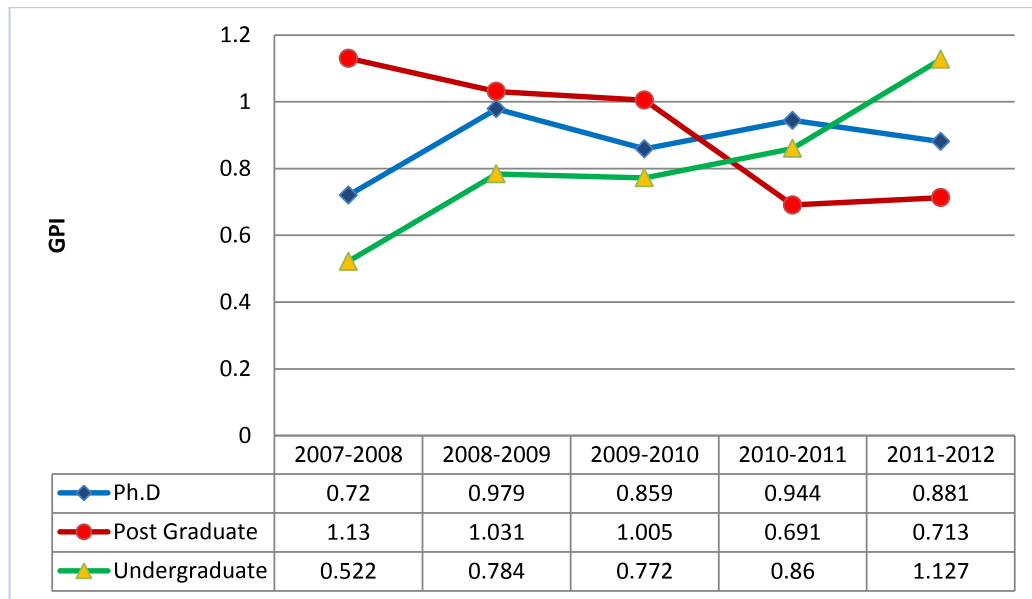


Figure-5.4: GPI in Higher Educational Level of Manipur

Source: Economic Survey of Manipur 2012-13

Note\*Excludes population of Mao-Maram, Paomata and Purul Sub-divions of Senapati District

#### 5.2.4. Enrollment in Different Level of Primary Education

The number of enrollment in different level of primary education has shown a tremendous change over the decades. As one of the objectives of Millennium Development Goal is to ensure primary education to every child, the percentage of enrollment has shown a rise in primary education. From the table 5.5 below, it can be observed that in Manipur the GPI in case of primary education has risen from 0.905 in the year 2006-07 to 0.969 in 2010-11.

However in the year 2008-09 and 2009-10, the GPI is found to be slightly reduced which indicate disparity was more from the previous years. The rise in the GPI can be seen from the trend line in the figure below (fig .5.4).When come to upper primary education, there has been an insignificant change in GPI from 0.921 in the year 2006-07 to 0.975 in the year 2009-10. Thereafter there was slight decline to 0.916 in the year 2010-11.

In the Class X educational level, the GPI value is nearer to value “1”, which shows there was less gap in the disparity of females and males. But in case of the Class XII educational level, there is a fluctuation in the value of GPI and showing more of disparity in access to education between the males and females.

**Table-5.5: Gender Parity at Various Level of Schooling from 2006-07 to 2010-11**

Year→ Education Level ↓	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Primary					
Boy	31029	31103	30163	34520	28552
Girl	28103	28235	26208	29525	27684
GPI	0.905	0.907	0.868	0.855	0.969
Upper Primary					
Boy	24476	24533	24580	23618	23388
Girl	22565	22551	22278	23051	21428
GPI	0.921	0.919	0.906	0.975	0.916
Class X					
Boy	18587	18530	15854	17546	23366
Girl	18201	18454	15090	17486	22338
GPI	0.979	0.995	0.951	0.996	0.956
Class XII					
Boy	7615	7623	8782	10806	10856
Girl	6108	6058	7858	8463	9146
GPI	0.802	0.794	0.894	0.783	0.842

Source: Economic Survey of Manipur 2012-13

Note\*Excludes population of Mao-Maram, Paomata and Purul Sub-divisions of Senapati District

We now present the data in Table-5.5 graphically to get more prominent picture about the present situation of enrollment. The Figure-5.5 shows the growth of trend line of GPI in Primary, Upper Primary, Class X and Class XII.

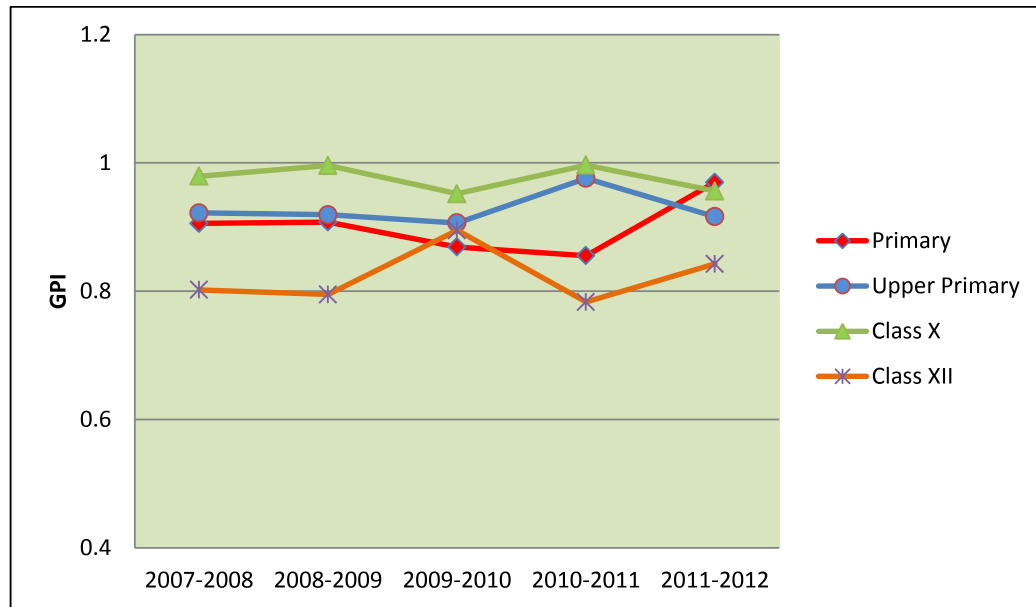


Figure -5.5: Trend of GPI in Primary, Upper Primary, Class X and Class XII

Source: Economic Survey of Manipur 2012-13

Note\*Excludes population of Mao-Maram, Paomata and Purul Sub-divisions of Senapati District

### 5.2.5. Sex Ratio of the Manipur

Sex ratio is one of the important indicators for understanding the status of women in any society. It is defined as the ratio of males to females in the per thousand population. When the number of male outnumber the number of female it is referred as unfavourable sex ratio. In a country like India sex ratio had always remained unfavourable to females and unfavourable sex ratio exists because of practice of sex-selective abortion, female infanticide, under-enumeration, and lesser care of female children to male children. Therefore, it is essential to focus attention on daughter-discrimination, family planning, children differentiated by their gendered value, their birth order and sibling configuration. The sex ratio is calculated in India, using the formula as

$$\left( \frac{\text{Female Population}}{\text{Male Population}} \right) * 1000$$

Thus a sex ratio of 1000 implies complete parity between the number of male and number of female. The trend of sex ratio in Manipur is up to some extent different from other states of India. It is among the few states in India which has a history of

sex ratios favorable to the females constantly for more than sixty years from the census of 1901 to that of 1961. The trend line of the sex ratio of the state is presented graphically in Fig-5.6 for decade of 1901-2011

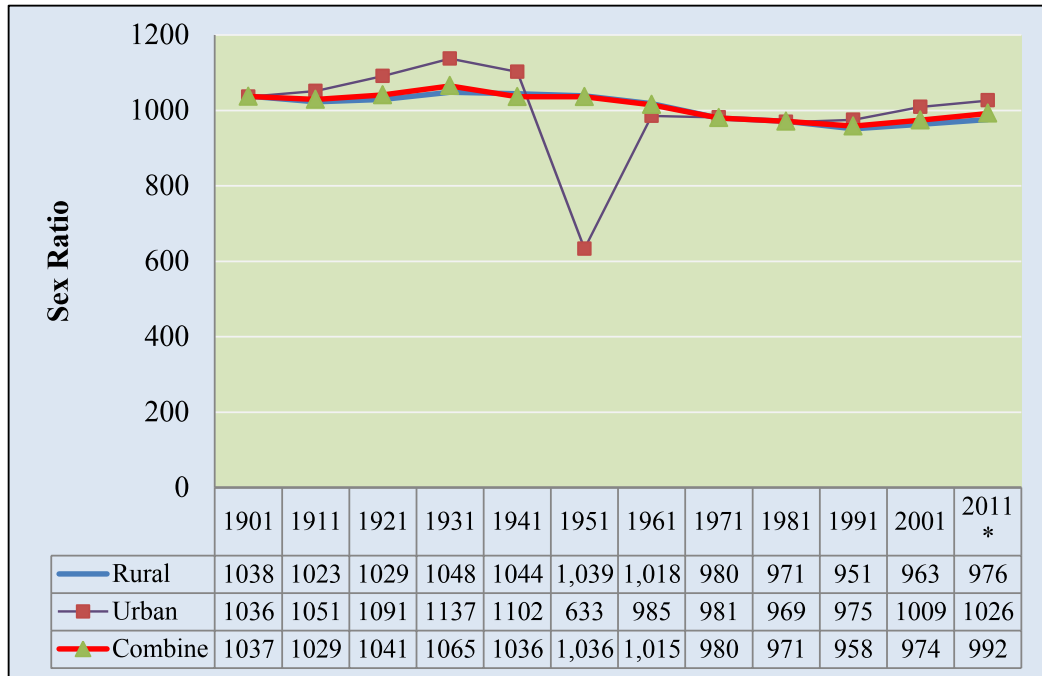


Figure-5.6: Sex Ratio of the Population in Manipur (1901-2011)

Source: Economic Survey, Government of Manipur, 2013

The urban sex ratio of Manipur shows a change in the year 1951 and the male population became more numerous than the females and thus for the first time in the census history of Manipur the sex ratio dropped below parity. It raises a query on how the females which outnumbered the males for a long instance became less in number. One of the main reasons found was that this was the phase when male immigrants from other Indian States like Uttar Pradesh, Assam, etc. and foreign countries particularly from Nepal, Bangladesh (previously East Pakistan) and Myanmar (previously Burma) arrived into the State.

The state sex ratio has shown an unchanging trend till 1951 after which it started slightly declining. In 1961 the ratio was still in favour of women but after 1971 the sex ratio in state became unfavourable to the female as males outnumber the female. The sex ratio of the State in 2001 and 2011 was found to be slightly higher than 1991 which stood at 974 and 992 respectively. It can be because of better education that the grimy of gender discrimination is realized by the masses

### 5.2.6. Women in the Workforce

The work participation rate is the percentage of total workers (main and marginal workers) to the total population in an area. It is the proportion of a country's working-age population that engages actively in the labour market, either by working or looking for work; it provides an indication of the size of the supply of labour available to engage in the production of goods and services, relative to the population at working age. Through this section, we endeavour to female engaged in the workforce.

The females are generally engaged in household domestic works or other unorganized sector of economy and therefore, they are not included in the working population by the census of India. The breakdown of the labour force by sex and age group gives a profile of the distribution of the economically active population within a country. A significant number of female constitute the workforce in Manipur. The women workers in rural area are mostly employed in agriculture as cultivator and labourer. They are mostly engaged in transplanting, weeding, applying fertilizers and also harvesting the produce. On the other hand the working women in urban area are primarily employed in the unorganised sector such as household industries, petty trades and services, construction works etc.

**Table -5.6: Number of Male and Female worker (1961-2011)**

Category Year	Main worker		Marginal Worker	
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE
1961	183127	174793	NA	NA
1971	245435	125428	NA	NA
1981	331242	242097	6200	34269
1991	414812	293471	9958	56663
2001	430227	229137	96989	188860
2011	554518	300494	110945	193096

Source: Economic Survey, Government of Manipur, 2013

According to 2001 census, 44.22 percent of the total workers in Manipur are women. The main and marginal workers among females constitute 54.82 percent and 45.18 percent of the total female workers respectively. Similarly according to 2011 census, 42.59 percent of the total workers in Manipur are women. The main and marginal workers among females constitute 60.88 percent and 39.12 percent of the total female

worker respectively. Out of the total 3,00,494 main female workers,1,33,582(44.46 percent) were cultivators, 20,171(6.71 percent) were agricultural labourers whereas the remaining 1,46,741(48.83 percent) were engaged in other sectors like Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairing other than Household Industries and other services etc.

Thereafter an attempt is made to find out the discrepancy between the male work force and female work force of Manipur. For that a Discrepancy Index is used and the formula for is as follows:

$$DI = \left( \frac{\text{Number of Male literate} - \text{Number of female literate}}{\text{Number of Male literate} + \text{Number of female literate}} \right) * 100$$

**Table -5.7: Working Population of Manipur (1961-2011)**

Category → Year ↓	Total Working Population		Discrepancy Index
	Male	Female	
1961	183127	174793	2.328453
1971	218435	125428	27.04769
1981	337442	276366	9.950343
1991	424770	350134	9.631645
2001	527216	417997	11.55496
2011	665463	493590	14.82874

Source: Government of Manipur, 2013

From the above table it is presented that discrepancy prevailed in the work participation between the male and the female population of the state. During the year 1961 it is seen that the value of discrepancy is only 2.3 which have increased to 14.82 percent in the 2011. The discrepancy between the male and female may be due to low educational qualification, social factor such as traditional taboo of a women working outside.

### **5.2.7. Main Workers by Type of Occupation**

In this section, we discussed the occupational classification of the Main Workers of the state on the basis of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary sectors.

**Table-5.8: Distribution of Main Worker in Primary Sectors** (in percentage)

Primary Sectors	Cultivators	Agricultural Labourers	Fishing, Hunting, Livestock, Plantation, Orchard & allied activities	Mining & Quarring	Total Percentage of the Total Working Male/Female
<b>1961</b>					
Male	77.1	0.65	0.31	NA	78.06
Female	53.2	0.57	0.13	NA	53.90
<b>1971</b>					
Male	68.06	3.53	0.83	0.03	72.45
Female	64.93	3.88	0.22	0.01	69.04
<b>1981</b>					
Male	63.96	3.31	1.45	0.04	68.76
Female	63.09	7.29	0.31	0.03	70.72
<b>1991</b>					
Male	58.65	4.62	2.09	0.04	65.40
Female	66.18	9.6	0.69	0.02	76.49
<b>2001</b>					
Male	40.65	5.90	NA	NA	46.55
Female	48.42	7.17	NA	NA	55.59

Source: Economic Survey, Government of Manipur, 2013

In the year 1961, 77.1 percent of male main worker and 53.2 female main workers were engaged in Cultivation. Maximum number of the main worker was involved in the cultivation and it continues till 2001. However in 2001, there was a decline in heavy proportion of both men and women in cultivation. The proportion of men engaged in agriculture as the main occupation was higher than that of women during 1961 to 1981. But from 1991 onwards we can observe a reverse of this scenario with the female proportion of main workers in the total female workers. In case of Primary sector the total percentage values show a declining trend of proportion for both male and female.

Next, we proceed to endeavour the classification of Main Worker in Secondary Sectors in the Table-5.9. The distribution of Main worker in the Secondary Sector shows the economic activities other than agriculture is evolving in Manipur. The



proportion of male in the total main male worker has remained very low. It reflects the non-emergence of modern industrial singlehanded by the women. There is a huge decline in female main worker engaged in the first category from 41.12 percent in 1961 to 22.91percent in 1971. This can be explained by drastic changes in the definition of ‘worker’ in the 1971 Census. The proportion of women in the total women Main workers is showing a declining trend. It has declined from 41.12 percent in 1961 to only 12.58 percent in 2001. In the secondary sectors most of the female were engaged in Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing & repairing in Household Industry. In 1961, 41.12 percent of female and then 22.91 percent in 1971 which stated declining in the next 1981 to 20.17 percent was seen in the Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing & repairing in Household Industry.

**Table 5.9: Distribution of Main Worker in Secondary Sectors** (in percentage)

<b>Secondary Sectors</b>	<b>Manufacturing , Processing, Servicing &amp; repairing in Household Industry</b>	<b>Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing &amp; repairing other than Household Industry</b>	<b>Construction</b>	<b>Total Percentage of the Total Working Male/ Female</b>
<b>1961</b>				
Male	3.98	0.46	1.09	5.53
Female	41.12	0.15	0.13	41.4
<b>1971</b>				
Male	2.4	1.86	1.85	6.11
Female	22.91	1.23	0.07	24.21
<b>1981</b>				
Male	2.01	2.36	3.05	7.42
Female	20.17	1.02	0.28	21.47
<b>1991</b>				
Male	1.45	2.72	2.37	6.54
Female	11.95	1.74	0.38	14.07
<b>2001</b>				
Male	3.33	-	-	3.33
Female	12.58	-	-	12.58

Source: Economic Survey, Government of Manipur, 2013

When it comes to the tertiary sector, the rise in important of this sector in economy of Manipur can be observed. The change proportion of main workers in the total female workers was 4.68 percent in 1961 to 31.83 percent in 2001 which means that the percentage of female main workers in the Manipur specialised in this sector has risen by 6.8 times from the year 1961 in the year 2001. However, the case is found different in case of male for the same period as only 3.05 times increasing from 1961 to 2001. In 1961, the proportion of male was about 3.5 times of that of the female in 1961, but in the year 2001, it reduced to 1.57 times only. From above three tables (Table-5.7, Table-5.8, Table-5.9), we can conclude that the occupational classification of main worker shows that the traditional productive activities are being sustained by the womenfolk, the increasing specialisation in new services sectors is observed more among women than among men.

**Table 5.10: Distribution of Main Worker in Tertiary Sectors (in percentage)**

<b>Tertiary Sectors</b>	<b>Trade &amp; Commerce</b>	<b>Transport, Storage and Communication</b>	<b>Other Services</b>	<b>Total Percentage of the Total Working Male/Female</b>
<b>1961</b>				
Male	2.90	1.64	11.85	16.39
Female	3.75	0.01	0.92	4.68
<b>1971</b>				
Male	3.12	1.63	16.69	21.44
Female	4.37	0.04	2.33	6.74
<b>1981</b>				
Male	3.14	1.53	19.15	23.82
Female	3.7	0.03	4.06	7.79
<b>1991</b>				
Male	4.18	1.97	21.91	28.06
Female	3.35	0.12	5.97	9.44
<b>2001</b>				
Male	-	-	50.5	50.05
Female	-	-	31.83	31.83

Source: Economic Survey, Government of Manipur, 2013

The occupation distribution of women of Manipur from period of 1961 to 2001 is displayed in the radar diagram which is presented below. From the figure, we can observe that the main occupation of women was in the Primary sector which is followed by the percentage of women engaged in Secondary sector. This pattern was observed throughout the four decades which was change in 2001, as the percentage of women dissolved in Tertiary sector in Manipur cross the percentage of women engaged in Secondary sector.

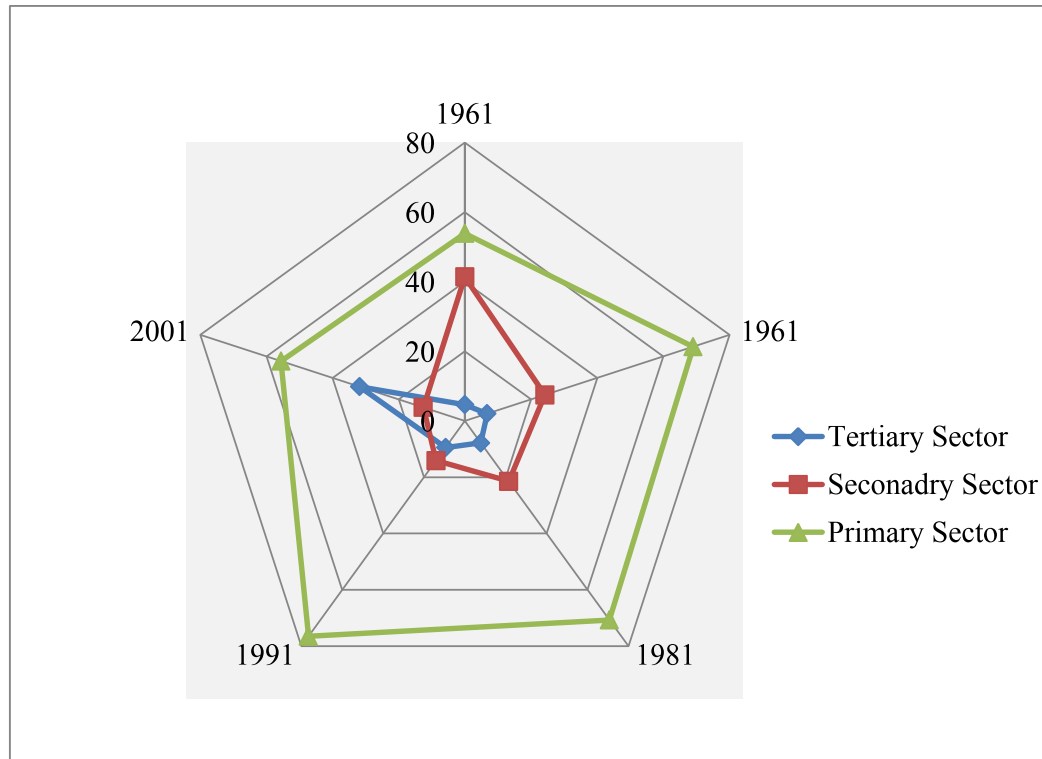


Figure-5.7: The Percentage of women in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Sectors in Manipur

Source: Economic Survey, Government of Manipur, 2013

#### 5.2.8. Number of Employees in Public Sector in Manipur

According to the Economic Survey (2012-2013), it is found that the numbers of individuals employed in the Public sector are increasing over the year. Public sector is the part of national economy providing basic goods or services by the Government, which are not provided by the private sectors. It consists of the Central Government, State Government, Quasi Central Government, Quasi State Government and Local bodies. In this, section we will discuss the number of employees of Manipur

employed in Central Government, State Government, Quasi Central Government, Quasi State Government and Local bodies.

In State Government, in 2004-05 the total number of employees was recorded as 45943, out of which 73.48 per cent and 26.51 per cent are males and females respectively. For the next year 2005-06, the figures has increased to 60982 as total number of employees, out of which 75.82 per cent were males and 24.17 per cent were females. The total number of employee increased in year 2004-2005 but in the year 2008-2009, the total number of employees employed in Central in decreased by 4.8 per cent from the previous year. As a whole, we can see maximum numbers of females are absorbed in the Public Sector under State Government.

**Table-5.11: Number of Employees in Public Sector in Manipur (as on 31<sup>st</sup> March)**

Sector	2004-2005			2005-2006*			2008-2009		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Central Govt.	-	-	-	2851	740	3591	-	-	-
State Govt.	33760	12183	45943	46238	14744	60982	43921	14251	58172
Quasi Govt. (Central)	-	-	-	3541	1047	4,588	-	-	-
Quasi Govt. (State)	4863	1698	6561	6043	1,801	7844	1901	558	2459
Local bodies	418	79	497	2721	1147	3868	3073	1504	4577
Total	39041	13960	53001	61394	19479	80873	48895	16313	65208

Source: Economic Survey of Manipur 2012-2013

The number of employees in the Quasi-Government (State) was observed as changing from 6561 in 2004-05 to 7844 in 2005-06. The number of female employees had increase by 6.06 per cent from 2004-05 to the year 2005-06. However the figure is again found to decline in 2008-09 by 3 times from the previous year. The number of female employees working in the Local bodies shows an increasing trend throughout

the 5 years. It increased of almost 15 times from 2004-05 to the year 2005-06 and has increase 19 times from the period of 2004-05 to 2008-09.

### **5.2.9. Women and Health**

World Health Organisation has defined Health as “A state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”. Since women’s health is a very vast concept which covers morality, morbidity, nutritional status and reproductive health. In this study the health status of women in Manipur is confined into the reproductive health and nutritional health of women considering the fact that these are among the most important concepts in framing up the health policy for woman.

In 1990s health research began to focus on women’s perception of reproductive health. Maternal deaths are causing an alarm indicating poor health condition of women and inequities in access to health services. This problem can be solved by access to antenatal care in pregnancy, skilled attended during childbirth, and care and support in the weeks after childbirth. The Nutritional status can be best explain by the Body Mass Index and the level of Anaemia, therefore in our next section we attempt to reveal the Nutritional Status of women in Manipur using Body Mass Index and level of Anaemia; and the Reproductive Health Status by using indicators such as Antenatal Care, Age at time of first marriage and Knowledge about AIDS.

### **5.2.10. Nutritional Status**

The nutritional health status of women strongly influences their well being and socio-economic status. Nutritional problems are particularly serious for rural, illiterate women, schedule tribes, schedule caste and women who live in households with a low standard of living. This section discusses the Body Mass Index and the prevailing of anaemia among the women in the state.

#### **a) Body Mass Index**

Body Mass Index (BMI) is an estimate of body composition that correlates an individual’s weight and height to lean body mass. Undesirable Body Mass Index is associated with several diseases like cardiovascular diseases, high blood pressure and mortality. BMI is measured as follows

$$\text{BMI} = \frac{\text{Mass(kg)}}{\text{Height(m)}^2}$$

}

Obese (BMI ≥ 30),

Overweight (25 ≤ BMI < 30),

Normal range (18.5 ≤ BMI < 25)

Underweight (BMI < 18.5)

(World Health Organization, 2000).

The Table-5.12 presents the mean Body Mass Index and Percentage of Body mass index at specified levels which are Normal, Underweight and Overweight. The discussion of the Body is carried out using data released by different series of the National Family Health Surveys (NFHS).

**Table-5.12: The Body Mass Index of Women in Manipur**

NFHS	Mean BMI	BMI (18.5-24.9) (Normal)	BMI<18.5 (Underweight)	BMI ≥25.0 (Overweight or Obese)
NFHS-3	21.5	72.0	14.8	13.3
NFHS-2	21.1	NA	18.8	10.8
NFHS-1	NA	NA	NA	NA

Source: NFHS-1, NFHS-2, NFHS-3

The mean BMI of the women in Manipur in National Family Health Surveys-2 is 21.1, which shows an increase of 0.4 in National Family Health Surveys-3. A good percentage of women of 72 percent were recorded to have a BMI within the normal range. It is observed that 14.8 percent of the women in Manipur are having BMI less than 18.5 which indicates prevalence of high nutritional deficiency. In case of NFHS-2, the percentage of women having a BMI less than 18.5 is found to be 18.8. From NFHS-2 to NFHS-3, there were decline in the percentage of women with BMI under Normal category. Moreover, the percentage of women in the Overweight category has increase from 10.8 percent to 13.3 percent in NFHS-3.

**b) Anaemia**

Anaemia is an indicator of both poor nutrition and poor health and it is results from deficiency of Iron. Iron deficiency is the most widespread form of nutritional

malnutrition in the world. It can be reduce with educational attainment and increasing the standard of living (National Family Health Survey).

Manipur has a lowest prevalence of anaemia as compared with others Northeast States of India however one-third of women are anaemic (NFHS-3). It is observed from the table that anaemia is persistent among the women in the state. From NFHS-2 the percentage of any anaemia among the women have increase from 28.9 to 35.7 in NFHS-3. When consider the severity of anaemia the mild anaemia has increase from 21.7(NFHS-2) to 30(NFHS-3). However in case of moderate anaemia and severe anaemia is found the percentages are found to be reduced

**Table-5.13: Level of severity of anaemia among women in the Manipur**

NFHS	Any Anaemia	Mild Anaemia	Moderate Anaemia	Severe Anaemia
NFHS-1	NA	NA	NA	NA
NFHS-2	28.9	21.7	6.3	0.8
NFHS -3	35.7	30.1	5.1	0.5

Source-NFHS-1, NFHS-2, NFHS-3

### 5.2.11. Reproductive Health

The Reproductive health of women has enormous importance and with realisation of it, the Government of India reiterates the government’s commitment to safe motherhood programmes within the wider context of reproductive health. The term health status has been considered as a multidimensional concept including education, occupation, income, ethnicity, land holding, age at marriage etc. But when we consider the health condition in regard to the status of women it is closely related to reproductive health and fertility behaviour of the women. Generally reproductive health status is measured in terms of several indicators like, (i) Antenatal Care (ii) Age at time of first marriage (iii) Knowledge about AIDS. The indicators are discussed in the next section one after another.

#### a) Antenatal Care

Antenatal care (ANC) refers to pregnancy-related health care, which is provided by a doctor, an Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANM), or another health professional. Antenatal care should include monitoring during pregnancy for signs of

complications, detect and treat pre-existing problems of pregnancy and delivery care. While postnatal cares include providing quality care of the newborn baby and the mother after the delivery. In India, the Reproductive and Child Health Programme aims at providing at least three antenatal check-ups which should include a weight and blood pressure check, abdominal examination, immunization against tetanus, iron and folic acid prophylaxis, as well as anaemia management (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 2005).

**Table-5.14: Antenatal Care and Deliveries by Skilled Person in the Manipur**

<b>NFHS</b>	<b>Percentage for once ANC visit</b>	<b>Percentage receiving Three or more ANC visit</b>	<b>Percentage of deliveries assisted by health professional</b>	<b>Percentage who receive all recommended type of ANC visit</b>
NFHS-1	63.4	NA	40.4	NA
NFHS-2	80.2	54.4	53.9	18.3
NFHS-3	86.3	68.6	59.0	10.5

Source: NFHS-1, NFHS-2 and NFHS-3

In Manipur, the number of women receiving Antenatal visit only once has increased over the year. The percentage for once Antenatal Care visit during the NFHS-1 was 63.4 percent, which increased to 86.3 percent during NFHS-3. The percentage receiving three or more Antenatal Care was found to increase to 54.4 percent. From this, we can figure out that percentage of women received one antenatal visit is more than the percentage of women who received three or more ANC visit. The scenario is worse in case of the percentage of women who received recommended type of ANC visit. It has decreased from a percentage of 18.3 percent in NFHS-2 to a percentage of 10.5 percent during the NFHS-3. The scenario of the ANC visit during the NFHS-2 and NFHS-3 are graphically presented in the bar diagram Figure-5.8.



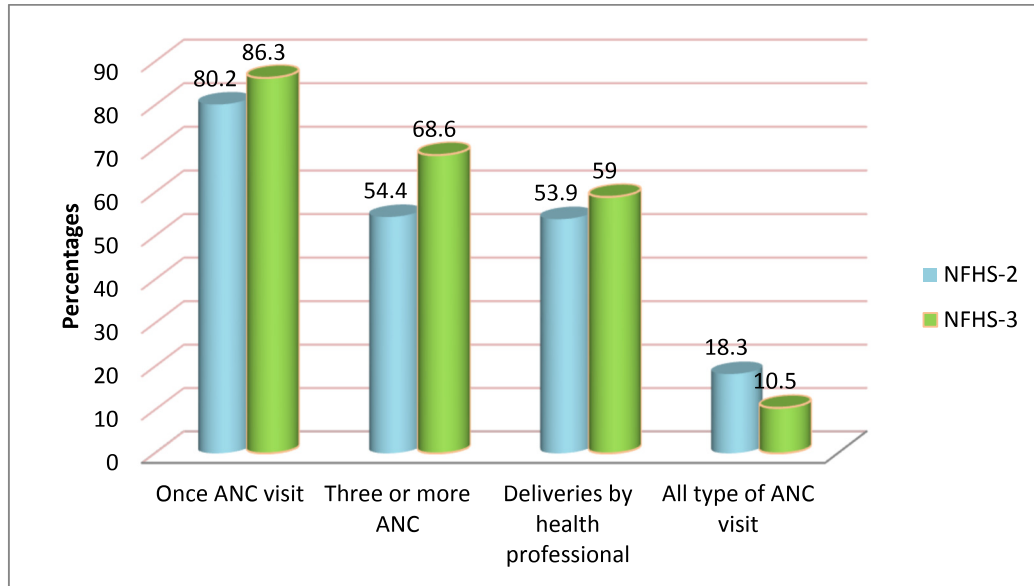


Figure-5.8: Antenatal Care visit during the NFHS-2 and NFHS-3

Source: NFHS-2 and NFHS-3

#### b) Age at Time of First Marriage

The age at the time of first marriage has several direct bearing on health, social and demographic outcomes. Early marriage encourages high fertility over lifetime, with the resulting risks to the health of women.

The Table-5.15 shows the mean age at marriage of both men and women in Manipur. In Manipur, the mean age at the time of marriage of women is lower than the mean age of men. The mean age of man increased from 26.5 in District Level Household Survey (DLHS-1) to 27.3 in District Level Household Survey- 3(DLHS-3). In case of women, it shows an opposite trend as it decreased from 23.8 to 23.6. The percentage of women marrying below the legal age at the time of marriage has decline from 9.8 percent in DLHS-1 to 6.3 percent in DLHS-3. Similar case was also seen in case of percentage of men marrying below legal age at marriage. It shows a positive trend, which is mainly due to education and the awareness brought by development

**Table -5.15: Mean Age at Marriage in the Manipur**

DLHS	Mean age at marriage		Percentage marrying below legal age at marriage	
	Men	Women	Men< 21	Women<18
DLHS-1	26.5	23.8	15.8	9.8
DLHS-2	27.5	24.1	11.0	9.6
DLHS-3	27.3	23.6	8.6	6.3

Source: DLHS-1,DLHS- 2 and DLHS-3

**c) Knowledge About Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)**

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is a syndrome caused by a virus called HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). AIDS is a pandemic in our country and the numbers of cases are increasing day after days. It is also observed that women those who are illiterate, women from rural area and younger women are less aware of HIV/AIDS. In Manipur, it has started to be a major public health problem since 1990. According to Manipur State AIDS Control Society (MACS), Manipur is one of the States with highest number with total number of HIV positive cases next to Maharashtra. The Table-5.16 shows the percentage of women who have heard about HIV/AIDS and knows any of the preventive measure from HIV/AIDS.

According to NFHS-1 the percentage of women who have heard about HIV/AIDS is 72.5 which increase to 92.9 percent during NFHS-2 and then ultimately reaches to 98.5 percent during NFHS-3. Similarly, it can also be observed that the percentage of women who knows any preventive measure of HIV/AIDS has rise from 37.4 percent in NFHS-1 to 48.3 percent in NFHS-2. In the latest NFHS-3, the percentage of women who knows any preventive measure of HIV/AIDS has reached 79.1 percent for Manipur state.

**Table-5.16: Percentage of Women, Age Group (13-49) Who Have Heard About AIDS and Who Knows About Prevention of HIV/AIDS**

NFHS	Who heard about HIV/ AIDS	Knows HIV/AIDS preventive measure
NFHS-1	72.5	37.4
NFHS-2	92.9	48.3
NFHS-3	98.5	79.1

Source: NFHS-1, NFHS-2 and NFHS-3

### 5.3. Demographic Profile of Kuki of Manipur

The Kuki consist of various sub-tribes in Manipur. Out of all the sub-tribes, the Thadou has the highest population. In this section we discussed the demographic profile, educational profile and the work force of the major sub groups of Kuki in Manipur.

The Thadou also has the highest population of all the tribes in Manipur with 24.63 percent of the total tribes. The table below presents the population composition of the some of the prominent sub group of Kuki in the Manipur. The sub-groups undertaken for the study are Thadou, Gangte, Vaiphei, Chothe and Simte. The highest population of 182594 is found among the Thadou Tribe which is 24.63 percent of the Scheduled Tribe population of the Manipur. The Gangte has a population of 9442 which is 1.24 percent of the Scheduled Tribe population of the Manipur. The Vaiphei composite of 38267 population is 5.16 percent of the Scheduled Tribe population of the Manipur. The Simte and the Chothe tribes have population of 0.37 percent and 1.49 percent respectively of the Scheduled Tribe population of the Manipur.

**Table-5.17: Demographic Profile of the Sub-Tribes of Kuki**

<b>Major Sub group</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total population</b>	<b>Percentage to total ST population</b>
Thadou	92261	90333	182594	24.63
Gangte	4806	4636	9442	1.27
Vaiphei	19335	18932	38267	5.16
Chothe	1347	1415	2762	0.37
Simte	5533	5532	11065	1.49

Source- Census Department Manipur, Census Report 2001

#### 5.3.1. Educational Status

Educational Status is a very important indicator of the development of any community. Here, we have discussed the male-female literacy of the major sub groups of the Kuki in Manipur. By using a Discrepancy Index (DI), we have attempted to find the disparity prevailing in term of education between the males and females. The Discrepancy Index (DI) is calculated using the following formula.

$$DI = \left( \frac{\text{Number of Male literate} - \text{Number of female literate}}{\text{Number of Male literate} + \text{Number of female literate}} \right) * 100$$

In order to highlight the educational status of the Kuki women, the Table-5.18 presents the number of literate female in comparison with number of literate male. The discrepancy index shows that in almost all the sub tribes, there is a discrepancy between the number of male literate and number of female literate. The highest discrepancy is found in the sub tribe of Gangte with a DI value of 15.23 and the lowest is found Chothe tribe with DI value of 6.74. The DI shows that among the Thadou, Vaiphei and the Simte, the discrepancy between the male literate and female literate are observed very high.

**Table-5.18: Male-Female Literacy of Sub-Tribes of Kuki**

Major Sub group	Literate Male	Literate Female	Discrepancy Index
Thadou	50998	38422	14.06
Gangte	2890	2126	15.23
Vaiphei	11505	8574	14.59
Chothe	1029	899	6.74
Simte	3549	2696	13.65

Source- Census Department Manipur, Census Report 2001

### 5.3.2. Total Working Population of the Kuki

The working population in the country shows the participation of the male and the female population who are involved in the economic activities. In this section we will discuss the Total working population of the five major sub-groups of the Kuki in Manipur and in the subsequent section we will discuss the Main workers and Marginal workers of the Kuki sub-groups. The Main workers will be discussing with different occupational structure in which they are absorbed.

In order to highlight the work participation of the Kuki women, the following table presents the number of total working female in comparison with total number of working male. Using the Discrepancy Index which we have described in the earlier section, we find out the gap in the working force between the male and the female. The discrepancy index shows that in all the five sub-groups, there is discrepancy between the total male workers and total female workers. The highest discrepancy is found in the sub-group of Chothe with a DI value of 12.10 and the lowest is found

Gangte with a DI value of 6.22. The DI values of 6.73, 9.10 and 9.08 were observed in case of Thadou, Vaiphei and Simte respectively.

**Table-5.19: Total Worker of the Prominent Sub-Groups of the Kuki**

Major Sub-group	Working Male	Working Female	Discrepancy Index
Thadou	44980	39307	6.73
Gangte	2313	2042	6.22
Vaiphei	9499	7914	9.10
Chothe	690	541	12.10
Simte	2791	2326	9.08

Source- Census Department Manipur, Census Report 2001

### 5.3.2.1. Main Workers by the Type of Occupation

The total number of male employed as the main worker is higher than the female main workers in the all the five sub-groups. In order to calculate the existing gap between the male Main workers and female Main workers, we have used a Discrepancy Index (which we have described earlier). Table-5.20 presents the number of male and female engaged as Main worker in Manipur. The DI value is found highest among the Simte sub-group (26.77) which is followed by Vaiphei sub-group. The discrepancy among the male and female of Gangte is found to be lowest with a DI value of 19.57, relative to the other sub-groups. But as an overall view it is observed that the discrepancy between the Kuki male and Kuki female employees as Main workers is high.

**Table-5.20: Kuki Male and Kuki Female Employees as Main Workers**

Major Sub-group	Total	Male	Female	Discrepancy Index
Thadou	58517	35078	23439	19.88995
Gangte	3275	1958	1317	19.57252
Vaiphei	12152	7679	4473	26.38249
Chothe	784	495	289	26.27551
Simte	3780	2396	1384	26.77249

Source- Census Department Manipur, Census Report 2001

After discussing the discrepancy between the male and female employed as Main workers, in this section we have discussed the Main workers engaged in different

types of occupation like Cultivators, Agricultural Labourers, Household Industry workers and Other Workers.

**Table-5.21: Main Workers of Kuki Employed in Different Types of Occupation**

Sub-group	Cultivators		Agricultural Labourers		Household Industry Workers		Other Workers		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Thadou	42.46	31.13	3.02	2.32	1.29	1.96	13.17	4.64	100
Gangte	38.96	28.79	2.02	2.05	1.04	1.62	17.77	7.76	100
Vaiphei	39.56	24.44	6.06	3.72	1.56	2.21	16.01	6.44	100
Chothe	23.85	22.32	2.42	3.19	8.93	3.57	27.93	7.78	100
Simte	46.53	30.63	1.69	1.30	1.03	1.08	14.13	3.60	100

The Table-5.21 presents the picture of percentages of male and female engaged in different types of Occupation. The percentage of male (42.46 percent) and female (31.13 percent) employed as Cultivators are highest than percentages engaged in the other types of occupation for Thadou. It is then followed by the percentage involved in the category of Other Workers. For the Gangte sub-group, large percentages of 38.96 percent and 28.79 percent are engaged as Cultivators while 17.77 percent and 7.76 percent are engaged as Other Workers. Similarly, in Vaiphei sub-group, highest number of both male (39.56 percent) and female (24.44 percent) are absorbed in the Cultivations. The Chothe and Simte also found to follow the same trend of occupation as maximum percentages of the male Main worker and female Main worker are seen to be engaged in Cultivation. From the table we get a picture that most of Main worker of the five Kuki sub-groups are engaged in Cultivation and less number engaged as Agricultural Labourers and Household Industry Workers.

The Distribution of female Main Workers engaged as Cultivator, Agricultural Labourers, Household Industry Workers and Other Workers are displayed with help of the below diagram . From the Figure-5.9 we can observe that in all the sub-groups, the highest percentage of women is engaged in Cultivations. The total number of Thadou female Main worker is 23439, of which 77.73 percent are engaged as Cultivators, 5.79 percent are Agricultural Labourers, 4.89 percent are Household

Industry Workers and 11.59 percent are Other Workers. The total number of Gangte female Main worker is 1317, of which 71.60 percent are engaged as Cultivators, 5.09 percent are Agricultural Labourers, 4.02 percent are Household Industry Workers and 19.29 percent are Other Workers. For the Vaiphei sub-group, 66.40 percent of female of the total female Main Workers are Cultivators, 10.11 percent are engaged as Agricultural Labourers and 6.01 percent as Household Industry Workers. A significant percentage of 17.48 percent are engaged in Other Workers category. Similarly, in both cases of Chothe and Simte sub-groups, the highest of percentage of female are employed as Cultivators which were followed by number of female engaged as the Other Workers.

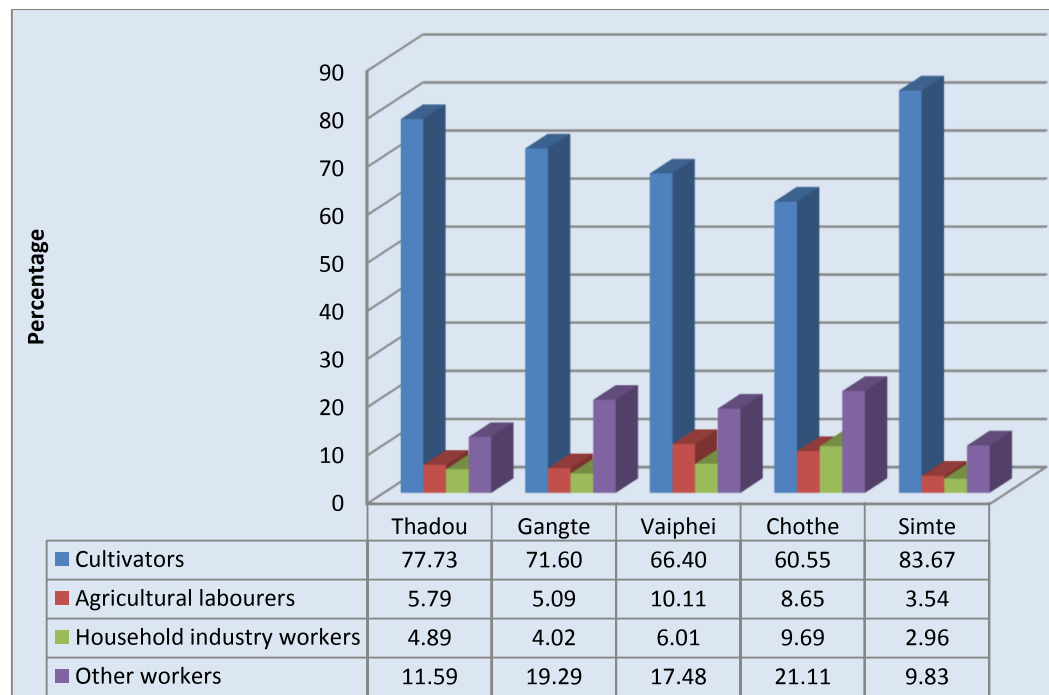


Figure-5.9: Main Workers by the Type of Occupations of Kuki Women

### 5.3.2.2. Marginal Workers by the Type of Occupation

The total number of male employed as the Marginal Worker is lower than the female Marginal Workers in Thadou, Gangte, Vaiphei and Simte sub-groups. However the case is reverse in the case of Chothe sub-group. In order to calculate the existing gap between the male Marginal Workers and female Marginal Workers, we have used a Discrepancy Index (which we have described earlier). Table-5.22 presents the number of male and female engaged as Marginal Workers in Manipur. The DI value is found highest among the Chothe sub-group (27.61). However in case of Thadou, Gangte,

Vaiphei and Simte the DI value shows a negative sign which indicates that the number of female employed as Marginal Workers exceed the number of male employed as Marginal Workers.

**Table-5.22: Kuki Male and Kuki Female Employees as Marginal Workers**

<b>Major Sub-group</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Discrepancy Index</b>
Thadou	13503	5744	7759	-14.9226
Gangte	550	189	361	-31.2727
Vaiphei	2637	980	1657	-25.6731
Chothe	210	134	76	27.61905
Simte	480	118	362	-50.8333

The Distribution of female Marginal Workers engaged as Cultivator, Agricultural Labourers, Household Industry Workers and Other Workers are displayed with help of the below diagram . From the Figure-5.10, we observed that among the Thadou, Gangte, Vaiphei and Simte sub-groups, the highest percentage of women is engaged in Cultivations.

The total number of Thadou female Marginal Workers is 15868, of which 48.9 percent are engaged as Cultivators, 18.33percent are Agricultural Labourers, 14.3 percent are Household Industry Workers and 18.48 percent are Other Workers. The total number of Gangte female Marginal Workers is 725, of which 49.79 percent are engaged as Cultivators, 13.38 percent are Agricultural Labourers, 13.52 percent are Household Industry Workers and 23.31 percent are Other Workers. For the Vaiphei sub-group, 48.15percent of female of the total female Marginal Workers are Cultivators, 17.44 percent are engaged as Agricultural Labourers and 13.51 percent as Household Industry Workers. A significant percentage of 20.9 percent are engaged in Other Workers category. Similarly, in both cases of Simte sub-groups, the highest of percentage of female are employed as Cultivators which were followed by number of female (25.58 percent) engaged as the Other Workers. The scenario of the Chothe shows a slight different picture. The highest female Marginal Workers are concentrated as Household Industry Workers with a 38.49 percent which is followed by 30.16 percent as the Cultivators.



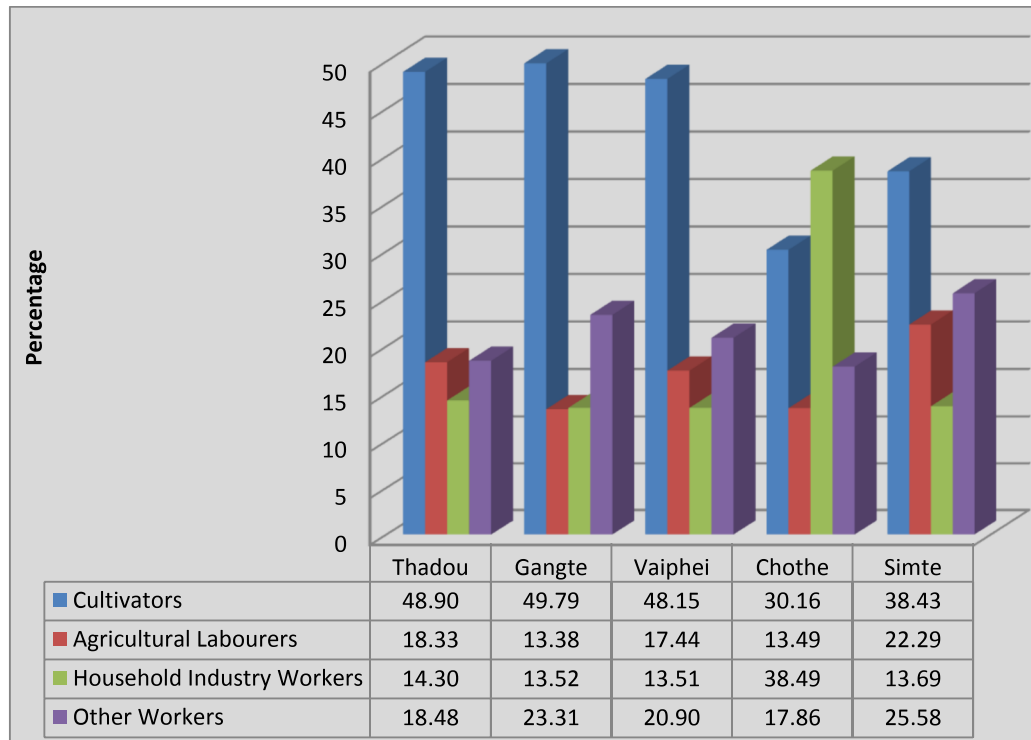


Figure-5.10: Marginal Workers by the Type of Occupations of Kuki Women

#### 5.4. Conclusion

From the above discussion we can observe that disparity prevailing in every aspect of socio-economic development. Over the year the female literacy rate has rise in Manipur, there is disparity between the male literacy rate and female literacy rate. The numbers of women are seen to be employed in unorganised sector where they are not receiving enough to meet their basic need. Moreover when we look at the Health scenario, the health status show a very poor condition with very few numbers of women obtaining all the recommended and available health facilities provided. A significant number of women are found having anaemia and a few number have proper knowledge about AIDS. The sex ratio was favourable to the female, but the recent change in the trend show an unfavourable trend toward the female. The sex ratios at birth may be considerably skewed by factors such as the age of mother at birth and sex-selective abortion and infanticide.

The same scenario is seen in case of the Kuki sub tribes. The women are found having low literacy rate relative to men. Moreover, they are mainly engaged in Cultivation and mainly employed as a Marginal Workers

Therefore, lack of education, lack of job facilities, poor education, poor health condition, lower work participation and disparity in numbers of male and female point toward low socio-economic status of women. In Manipur, the socio-economic status of women is improving with time but it will take an extensive time to have the paramount status the women can ever attain. This chapter is a path finding study for further grass root level study. In the next chapter, we discuss the socio-economic status of the Kuki women with primary data to come at an unambiguous conclusion.