

A STUDY OF OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE OF MANIPUR FROM 1991 – 2011

Dr. Oinam Sanaton Singh

Assistant Professor in Economics, Thambal Marik College, Manipur

DOI: 10.46609/IJSSER.2023.v08i03.004 URL: <https://doi.org/10.46609/IJSSER.2023.v08i03.004>

Received: 5 March. 2022 / Accepted: 21 March. 2023 / Published: 30 March 2023

ABSTRACT

The growth of the population adversely impacts the employment situation, land-man ratio, and standard of living. It also frequently happens in food shortages and import of food grains and usually prevents change in the occupational distribution of a backward economy. The significance of the occupational structure of a region shows the socio-economic characteristics of the people inhabiting a particular region or country because a study on trends in the occupational structure of Manipur is necessary. The paper attempts to have brief studies on the trends in the occupational structure of Manipur during the period from 1991 to 2011 Censuses.

Keywords: Occupational Structure, Trend, Economic Development, Working Population, Manipur.

Introduction

Occupational structure plays an important role in the economic development of a country. The basis of economic development of every nation i.e., developed, developing and under-developed depends upon the occupational structure. The occupational structure of a country or region refers to the distribution or division of its population according to different occupations (Gaurav Datt and Ashwani Mahajan, 2016). An important aspect of a country's population relates to the size and structure of its workforce. The number of working persons constitutes the working population of a country (Agrawal A.N, 1998). It depends upon many factors such as age composition; sex composition; life expectancy; definition of the worker; attitude towards work; availability of work etc. The changes in the proportion of workers engaged in various occupations provide an idea about the diversification of the economy of a region. In other words, the economic condition of a region depends on the productive population engaged in various economic activities. The occupational structure is shaped by various factors like the structure of the economy, technology and administration responsibility, labour market (which determines the

pay and conditions attached to occupations), and status and prestige (influenced by occupational closure, lifestyle, and social values). It is difficult to attach casual primary to any one of these factors, moreover, their role in shaping the occupational structure changes over time, as society changes. For example, during the early phase of industrialization, the dominance of manufacturing made for a preponderance of manual occupations, while in recent times the shrinking of this sector, together with the growth in services, has made for an expansion of white-collar occupations. Changes in the occupational structure are also related to changes in demand for different occupational services, as a result of socioeconomic improvements and technological advances (Blau and Duncan, 1967). Thus, the occupational structure is the capacity to upgrade socio-economic development and future progress in a region. Colin Clark says that there is a close relationship between the development of an economy on the one hand, and occupational structure on the other and economic progress is generally associated with certain distinct necessary and predictable changes in occupational structure. The significance of the occupational structure of a region shows the socio-economic characteristics of the people inhabiting a particular region or country. Hence, it is a key measure of the socioeconomic development of the region.

Study Area

Manipur is a socially and economically backward state of India. It is a small state situated in the North Eastern Region of India. It is situated between 92°58' E to 94°45' E longitudes and 23°50' N to 25°42' N latitudes. It is a charming place encircled by the nine hill ranges on all sides with a small and beautiful oval-shaped valley at the centre. The state has a 352 km., long international border with Burma (Myanmar) to the South-East and 502 km., the longest border with the adjacent states of Nagaland in the North, Cachar District of Assam in the West and Chin Hills (Myanmar) and Mizoram in the South and the South-West and Surma Tract and Upper Chindwin of Myanmar (Burma) in the East (Government of Manipur, 2022). It has an altitude of 790 metres above mean sea level. On 21st January 1972, Manipur became a full-fledged state. The total geographical area is 22,327 sq. km with a population of 28,55,794 persons according to the 2011 Census as against 2,84,465 persons in the 1901 Census. The density of the population is 128 persons per sq. km., in the 2011 Census as against 13 persons per sq. km. in the 1901 Census. Today, the increasing population is living in poverty, facing the availability of employment, suffering from ill health and hindrance to the development of the economy. Thus, it has been same the happened in the study area.

Objectives of the Study

The objective of the Study is as detailed below:

1. To examine the trend in changes in the occupational structure of Manipur from 1991-2011

Methodology

The study is based on the secondary data available from different sources, such as books, census data, newspapers, and reports published by both government and non-government organizations. To supplement the secondary data, the primary data have been consulted. Further, data have generated through a questionnaire in the form of a random survey method from the research workers, prominent scholars, and social workers in the different related fields.

DISCUSSION & RESULT

Working & Non-working Population of Manipur:

In the study of the occupational structure of Manipur, there is necessary to discuss the working (main + marginal) and non-working population. The number of workers engaged in different economic activities is a positive response to the socio-economic development level of Manipur. The working and non-working populations of Manipur during the census years 1991, 2001, and 2011 are presented in Table No.1.

Table No.1 Distribution of Workers and Non-workers to the Total Population in Manipur

(Percentage to the total workers)

Categories	1991			2001			2011		
	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person	Male	Female	Person
Main Workers	44.21	32.62	38.55	39.27	21.39	30.43	42.76	25.33	34.11
Marginal Workers	1.06	6.31	3.63	8.85	17.63	13.19	8.64	14.55	11.57
Total Workers	45.27	38.96	42.18	48.12	39.02	43.62	51.40	39.88	45.68
Non-workers	54.73	61.40	57.82	51.88	60.98	56.38	48.60	60.12	54.32

Source: Government of Manipur (2022): Economic Survey of Manipur: Directorate of Economics & Statistics.

In the 1991 census, the working population was 42.18%, and the non-workers' accounted for 57.82%. About 45.27% of males and 38.96% of females were workers. According to the 2001 census, the number of workers increased to 43.63%, with male workers comprising 45.27% and female workers 38.96%. The non-workers' proportion declined to 56.38%. In the 2011 census, the total number of workers was 45.68%, and non-workers' accounted for 54.32%. During this census, 51.40% of males and 39.88% of females were workers. Table No.1 shows an increase in total workers and reduces in non-workers during the period. There is an increase in the

proportion of males and females. Thus, it is evident that the occupational structure shows a slight growth structure during the study period.

Trend of Occupation Structure(1991-2011)

The 1991 census, the total number of workers in Manipur was 42.18% of which 38.55% were main workers, and 3.63% were marginal workers. The cultivators to the total workers were 61.77%, agricultural labourers accounted for 6.68%, household industries stood at 8.11%, and engaged the other workers was 23.44%.

The 2001 census indicated that the total number of workers in Manipur was 43.62% of which 30.43 % were main workers, and 13.19% were marginal workers. The cultivators to the total workers were 40.17%, agricultural labourers accounted for 12.02%, household industries stood at 10.25%, and engaged the other workers was 37.56%.

The 2011 census revealed that the total number of workers in Manipur was 45.68% of which 34.11% were main workers, and 11.57% were marginal workers. The proportion of cultivators to the total number of workers was 44.00%, agricultural labourers accounted for 8.81%, household industries stood at 7.00%, and engaged in other workers was 40.19 %. Hence, the cultivators significantly dominated during the study period (Table No.2).

Table No.2. Distribution of Workers by Cultivators, Agricultural Labourers, Household Industries, and Other Workers in Manipur as per 1991, 2001, and 2011 census

(Percentage to the total workers)

Sl.No.	Categories	1991	2001	2011
1	Cultivators	61.77	40.17	44.00
2	Agricultural Labourers	6.68	12.02	8.81
3	Household Industries	8.11	10.25	7.00
4	Other Workers	23.44	37.56	40.19

Sources:

1. Government of Manipur (2004): Economic Survey of Manipur(2002-03): Directorate of Economics & Statistics.
2. Government of Manipur (2007): Economic Survey of Manipur(2006-07): Directorate of Economics & Statistics.
3. Government of Manipur (2022): Economic Survey of Manipur(2021-22): Directorate of Economics & Statistics.

Trend of Agricultural Workers & Non-Agricultural Workers

The trend of the workforce and their proportion in the different working categories show the changing pattern in the occupational structure of a country. Table No.3 shows that the proportion

of workers engaged in agricultural activities was 68.45% in 1991, 52.19% in 2001, and 52.81 in 2011 censuses including cultivators and agricultural labourers. On the other hand, the number of workers engaged in non-agricultural activities was 31.55% in 1991, 47.81% in 2001, and 47.19% in 2011 which comprised household industries and other workers. Hence, the above discussion indicates that there is still dominated by agricultural workers in Manipur.

Table No.3. Agricultural Workers and Non-Agricultural Workers in Manipur as per 1991, 2001, and 2011 census

(Percentage to the total workers)

Sl.No.	Categories	1991	2001	2011
1	Agricultural Workers	68.45	52.19	52.81
2	Non-Agricultural Workers	31.55	47.81	47.19

Sources:

1. Government of Manipur (2004): Economic Survey of Manipur(2002-03): Directorate of Economics& Statistics.
2. Government of Manipur (2007): Economic Survey of Manipur(2006-07): Directorate of Economics& Statistics.
3. Government of Manipur (2022): Economic Survey of Manipur(2021-22): Directorate of Economics& Statistics.

Conclusion

The above discussion showed the working population in Manipur has marginally increased from 1991–2011 census. The working population was 42.18%, and the non-workers’ accounted for 57.82% in 1991. According to the 2001 census, the number of workers increased to 43.63% and the non-workers’ proportion declined to 56.38%. In the 2011 census, the total number of workers was 45.68%, and non-workers’ accounted for 54.32%. Besides, the proportion of workers engaged in agricultural activities was 68.45% in 1991, 52.19% in 2001, and 52.81 in 2011 censuses including cultivators and agricultural labourers. On the other hand, the number of workers engaged in non-agricultural activities was 31.55% in 1991, 47.81% in 2001, and 47.19% in 2011 which comprised household industries and other workers. However, the major portion of workforce participation is still involved in agriculture and allied sector activities. Thus, a slow rate of growth in the workforce engaged in non- agriculture compared to that of agriculture could not bring any radical change in the structure of the workforce –a small change in the workforce shifting towards non-agriculture.

References

1. Gaurav Datt & Ashwani Mahajan, (2016): Indian Economy: S. Chand & Company Pvt. Ltd. New Delhi.
2. Agrawal A.N, (1998): Indian Economy (Problems of Development Planning: Wishwa Prakashan, New Delhi.
3. Blau, Peter M, and Duncan, Duley Otis (1967): The American Occupational Structure: Wiley and Sons, New York.
4. Kohili, K.J (1973): Regional Variations of Occupational Structure of the Labour Force of India, Demography of India, Vol.2.
5. Government of Manipur (2004): Economic Survey of Manipur(2002-03): Directorate of Economics & Statistics.
6. Government of Manipur (2007): Economic Survey of Manipur(2006-07): Directorate of Economics & Statistics.
7. Government of Manipur (2022): Economic Survey of Manipur(2021-22): Directorate of Economics & Statistics.