

Rural Development in Asia-Pacific Region
(Vol. I)

Rural Development in Asia-Pacific Region

(Vol. I)

Dr. Jayanta Choudhury
Dr. Narayan Sahoo
Dr. Rongsentemjen Ao



D.P.S. PUBLISHING HOUSE

NEW DELHI - 110002

**Rural Development in Asia-Pacific Region
(Vol. I)**

© Author

First Published: 2023

ISBN : 978-93-91870-87-4

[All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior written permission of the publisher]

Published by

D.P.S. PUBLISHING HOUSE

4598/12B, Gola Cottage,

Ansari Road, Darya Ganj, New Delhi- 110002

Ph. No.: 011-43586184 Mob. No.: 09811734184

Website: www.dpspublishinghouse.com

Printed at:

Delhi

Laser Typeset by:

Gurpal Computers, Delhi

Rural Development in Asia-Pacific Region
(Vol. II)

Rural Development in Asia-Pacific Region

(Vol. II)

Dr. Jayanta Choudhury
Dr. Narayan Sahoo
Dr. Rongsentemjen Ao



D.P.S. PUBLISHING HOUSE

NEW DELHI - 110002

Rural Development in Asia-Pacific Region

(Vol. II)

© Author

First Published: 2023

ISBN : 978-93-91870-94-2

[All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior written permission of the publisher]

Published by

D.P.S. PUBLISHING HOUSE

4598/12B, Gola Cottage,

Ansari Road, Darya Ganj, New Delhi- 110002

Ph. No.: 011-43586184 Mob. No.: 09811734184

Website: www.dpspublishinghouse.com

Printed at:

Delhi

Laser Typeset by:

List of Contributors

Abdur Rafique is currently associated with Pratichi (India) Trust.

Abhishek Kumar Das is a Banking Professional with experience in Treasury Front Office, Foreign Exchange, MSME Lending, Training Teaching, and consultancy.

Aditi Ghosh is an Assistant Professors at the Maryam Ajmal Women's College of Science & Technology, Hojai.

AlangbarSwargiary is an Artist who is also pursuing a Ph.D. in Assam University Silchar.

Amit Kumar Goyal is currently pursuing Ph.D. at International Institute for Population Science, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Amit Kumar Goyal is pursuing Ph.D. at International Institute for Population Science, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

Amrit Kour is doing her Ph.D. in the Special Centre for the Study of Northeast India at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi-110067.

Anusree Ghosh is working on different aspects of climate change specifically adaptive agriculture and gender issues. She has her MS thesis on genetic diversification of Jute.

Anusree Ghosh MS Student, Dept. of Genetics and Plant Breeding, Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University, Dinajpur, Bangladesh.

Ashique Ali K A Research Scholar (JRF), Department of Commerce, School of Commerce and Business Management, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur, Tamilnadu, India.

Ashok Brahma is pursuing a Ph.D. degree in the Department of Political Science from Bodoland University, Kokrajhar (India).

Benzir Ahmed is working as Joint Director at Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development, Comilla, Bangladesh.

Bhaskar Kumar is a manager at the Lords Education & Health Society| Wadhvani Initiative for Sustainable Healthcare (LEHS| WISH), New Delhi.

Chaitan Kumar is PhD research scholar at the department of Management and Humanities, National Institute of Technology, Arunachal Pradesh, India.

Development Specialist of Myanmar SaemaulUndong Project, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

DhritimanKakati is presently pursuing MPhil at Gauhati University.

Dolon Sarkar is a PhD Scholar in Cultural Studies at the School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, India.

Dr Monuj Dutta is working as an Assistant Professor at Centre for Social Work Studies, Dibrugarh University, India.

Dr R Nandakumar is an Assistant Professor in the department of Zoology at the St. Joseph University.

Dr. Navdeep Kumar is serving as Assistant Professor, Commerce in PG Department of Commerce and Business Administration, Lyallpur Khalsa College, Jalandhar (Punjab)-India.

Dr. A. Duraisamy taught Economics and Econometrics for the past 31 years (1990-2021) and retired as Head of the Department of Economics & Dean of Humanities, Madras Christian College, Chennai.

Dr. A. K. Singh is an Assistant Director at the Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies, Lucknow (India).

Dr. Abhishek Das is working as an Associate Professor and former Head in the Dept. of Computer Sc. & Engineering at Aliah University, Kolkata.

Dr. Abu Nurudeen is the Senior Lecturer of Economics at Musa Umaru Yar'adua University, Katsina State, Nigeria.

Dr. Ana Mateen is an Assistant Professor of Economics at AKI's Poona College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Camp, Pune, Maharashtra, India.

Dr. BaharulAlomLaskar is working as an Assistant Professor and Head in the department of Economics of Govt. Model College, Borkhola, Silchar

Dr. C. Lalrinmawii (M.A., MPhil, Ph.D.) is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics, Government Champhai College, Champhai, Mizoram.

Dr. C. Renuga Devi, is presently working as Assistant Professor in the Department of Education, Mother Teresa Women's University, Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu.

Dr. Chetna Sharma is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi, India.

Dr. Deep Narayan Mukherjee is an Assistant Professor since 2017, at Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute situated in Ranchi, Jharkhand.

Dr. Evgenii Gamerman, Laboratory of Regional Socio-Economic Systems, Institute for Comprehensive Analysis of Regional Problems of the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Blagoveshchensk city, Amur region, Russia.

Dr. Hare Krushna Parhi is working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Education, Dimapur Government College, Dimapur, Nagaland, India.

Dr. Jayanta Choudhury is an Assistant Professor in Department of RMD at Tripura University.

Dr. Joy Das is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Commerce, Tripura University (A Central University), Agartala, Tripura.

- Dr. KaberiBezbarua** has been working in the Department of Accountancy, Gauhati Commerce College, Assam since 2008 as an Assistant Professor.
- Dr. KakaniGrihalakshmi** is an Associate Professor, School of Management, Centurion University of Technology and Management.
- Dr. KangkanaBhagawati** Associate Professor, Department of Commerce, University of Science and Technology, Meghalaya.
- Dr. M. Momocha Singh** is Assistant Professor at the department of management and humanities, National Institute of Technology, Arunachal Pradesh.
- Dr. Moe Swe YEE** is assigned as a coordinator and officer-in charge of NGOs/ INGOs for rural development and sustainable agriculture in the Department of Agriculture, Mandalay Region, Myanmar.
- Dr. Nasruddin** is an Assistant Director at the Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies, Lucknow (India).
- Dr. NicodimBasumatary** is an Assistant Professor of Economics at Guwahati College, Guwahati (Assam).
- Dr. Pradyot Ranjan Jena** is an Associate professor at the School of Management, National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK), Surathkal, India.
- Dr. PranjalKalitah** has completed his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the Department of Mathematics & Computer Science, Mizoram University in the field of data mining.
- Dr. Praveen Dukpa** is an Asst. Professor in St. Joseph University Dimapur Nagaland in the Department of Economics
- Dr. PurabiBharali** is an Assistant professor in the Economics department at the Gauhati Commerce College.
- Dr. Rangalal Mohapatra** is working as Assistant Professor in the department of Economics, Sikkim Central University.
- Dr. Rinkiolu Chai** is an Assistant Professor at the Jomin Tayeng Government Model Degree College, Roing, Arunachal Pradesh.
- Dr. Rousy K. Baruah** is currently engaged in developing strategy & action plan to strengthen community institutions especially women Self Help Groups and their federations.
- Dr. S. Geethanjali** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Home Science at the Mother Teresa Women's University and at the Research and Extension Centre, Madurai.
- Dr. Sachita Yadav** is an Assistant Professor in the Finance and Accounts department at the Arun Jaitley National Institute of Financial Management.
- Dr. Sasmita Jena** is presently an ICSSR Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Institute of Development Studies Kolkata (IDSK), Kolkata.

- Dr. Sharmistha Bhattacharjee** is working as an Associate Professor at Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu.
- Dr. Shonreiphy Longvah** is currently serving as the Assistant Professor in the Dept of Political Science at St. Joseph University, Dimapur, Nagaland.
- Dr. Shruti Sudha Mishra** is an ICSSR Doctoral Fellow and has completed her PhD from the Department of Business Administration of Sambalpur University.
- Dr. Sonia Sharma** is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Education in the Lovely Professional University Phagwara, Punjab, India.
- Dr. Subhankar Mondal**, has been working on different rural development and social science projects.
- Dr. Udayprakash Sharma** is an Assistant Professor in Political Science-International Relations, School of Liberal Studies, Pandit Deendayal Energy University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India.
- Dr. Utpal Deka** is an Assistant Professor in the department of Economics in Krishna Kanta Handique State Open University, Guwahati, Assam.
- Ela Rani Chowdhury** is working with the UNICEF, Bangladesh.
- Fahad Hossain** is an undergraduate student of Urban and Regional Planning, Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology.
- for rural development and sustainable agriculture in the Department of Agriculture,
- Hardeep Kour** has completed a certificate course from International Institute for Population Science, Mumbai, Maharashtra in 2021.
- Hemant** is a Ph. D research scholar in the Department of Geography, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi.
- Juhaer Akhtab** is an undergraduate student of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning from Rajshahi University of Engineering & Technology (RUET), Rajshahi.
- Karuna Devi Mishra** is working with Amrita University accredited with NAAC A grade focused on research and publications.
- Kavitha Maheswari** is an Assistant Professor, Department of Home Science, Government Arts College for women, Nillakottai.
- Khagen Dutta** is working under Panchayati Raj & Rural Development.
- Lily Sangpui** is working as a Manager (Monitoring & Evaluation) at Magic Bus India Foundation for SCALE project in Mizoram.
- Lipoktoshi**, is working as Assistant Professor in the Department of Commerce, Mount Olive College, Kohima, Nagaland, since 2015
- Madhumita Das** is a Lecturer at the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Assam.

Manusha Paudel is a Lecturer in the Department of Population Studies at the Tribhuvan University, Patan Multiple Campus Lalitpur, Bagmati Province, Nepal.

Md. Abu Taher is working as a Post Graduate Teacher in Economics, Bagribari Senior Secondary School, under the district of Kokrajhar in Bodoland Territorial Region (BTR) since 2005.

Md. Lutfay Tariq Rahman is a Senior Program Officer at the Social Sector Management Foundation, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Md. Reazul Haque is a Professor & Chairman in the Department of Development Studies at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Miss Puja Nath is a Research Scholar at the Department of Comparative Religion in the Assam Don Bosco University, Tapesia, Assam, India.

Miss Vidisha Gogoi is an academician serving as an Assistant Professor at Ajmal Law College, Hojai, Assam..

Miss.T. Chumchano Kikon is currently pursuing doctoral degree in Political Science for her work entitled Lotha Naga Customary Law and the role of Dobashi: a study of Wokha District.

Mr Sofiul Ahmed an Advocate turned Academician working as an Assistant Professor at the School of Law, Presidency University, Bengaluru..

Mr. Akash Rao is the Founder and CEO at SahasNetMark Pvt Ltd belonging to the city of Bangalore, Karnataka.

Mr. Daithun Narzari is pursuing his Ph.D. in the department of Social Engineering at Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu.

Mr. Khawlsiamthanga Khawlhing is working in the State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj, Mizoram as a Senior Core Faculty (Economics).

Mr. Rajdeep Dutta is a Non-medical Faculty (MSW) at the Department of Community Medicine in Tezpur Medical College & Hospital, Tezpur, Assam, India

Mr. Shiv Kumar Sharma is an Assistant Professor at Don Bosco College Golaghat, Assam, India. He has a teaching experience of four years.

Mr. Soe Myint is a director (Rtd), Department of Agricultural Research and Rural Development Specialist of Myanmar Saemaul Undong Project, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Mr. Suryadyuti Banerjee is a Development Professional currently working as a Fellow at Haqdarshak, West Bengal.

Mrs. Mousumi Gogoi is working as an Assistant Professor in the department of Economics in Eastern Karbi Anglong College in Karbi Anglong district of Assam.

Ms. Dolon Mukherjee is a development expert currently pursuing PhD from University of Visva-Bharati.

Ms. Hiranmoyee Bhuyan is a M.Phil. Scholar, Department of Commerce, Dibrugarh University, Assam, India. She has a teaching experience of two years.

Ms. Magdalene Kiewhuo is an Assistant Professor in the department of Zoology at the St. Joseph University.

Ms. Piyali Sarkar is an Assistant Teacher (PGT) in a higher secondary school.

Ms. Prajna Parinita Das is a Development Professional at the NGO named PRASARI.

Ms. Sathyavani Gandham is a PhD scholar and working as a faculty member, designing, and imparting various trainings to the functionaries and elected representatives of PRIs.

Ms. Tandraleem Kashyap is a Research Scholar at the Department of Commerce, Assam University, Diphu Campus Karbi Anglong, Assam.

Mst. Samoly Aktaris working as Adjunct Lecturer in Sociology at Bangladesh University, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Muhammed Amjad Madani has done his MA Social Work from Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Sriperumbudur, Chennai.

Nanda Basumatary pursuing Ph.D. in Meghalaya, Northeastern Hill University (NEHU).

Nchumthung Murry: He did Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Nagaland university and currently working as JRF.

Nidheesh Kammadavil Sahodaran is working as an Assistant professor and Head at the Department of Botany, St Joseph University, Dimapur, Nagaland, India.

Oinam Sarita Devi is a research scholar in the Political Science Department of Guwahati University, Guwahati, Assam, India.

Olga Zaleskaia (Doctor of Historical Sciences) is an Associate Professor and Dean of the International Faculty, Blagoveschensk State Pedagogical University, Amur Region, Russia.

Partha Sarathi Sarkar is a Mphil Scholar in Kalyani University, in the department of Folklore.

Paulami Ray is working as a Guest Faculty in the Department of Business Management, Tripura University (A Central University).

Piyali Sarkar is a Research Scholar at the Department of Education in the Lovely Professional University Phagwara, Punjab, India.

Prankrishna Banik is a Research Scholar in the Department of RMD at Tripura University.

Prasenjit Barik is currently a PhD candidate in Development Studies at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India.

Pritten Sherpa is a Ph.D. Scholar in the Centre for The Study of Regional Development at the Jawaharlal Nehru University New Delhi, India.

Prof Dr. Vandana Panwar is currently working as Associate Professor, at Prin. L.N. Welingkar Institute of Management Development & Research (WeSchool) at Mumbai Campus.

Prof Vineel Bhurke is currently Associate Dean of Rural Management department at Prin L N Welingkar Institute of Management (WeSchool) at Mumbai campus.

Prof. A.K. Das Mohapatra is the Vice-Chancellor of Odisha State Open University

Prof. Bhagirathi Panda is a professor of Economics at North-Eastern Hill University Shillong (India) and at present he is also the Honorary Director of ICSSR-NERC Shillong.

Prof. Kanagaraj Easwaran teaches social work at Mizoram University and is presently the Head of Department.

Professor M Zulfiquar Ali Islam is working at the Department of Sociology, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh since 04 November 1997.

Prosenjit Das is studying at the Department of Urban and Regional Planning (URP) in Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (RUET), Rajshahi, Bangladesh.

Puja Das is a Doctoral Research Scholar in the Geography department of Cotton University in Guwahati, Assam.

R. Nakhro is currently professor and former HOD in the department of Agricultural Economics, SASRD, Nagaland university.

Rajshree Bedamatta is a Professor of Economics at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences in the Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India.

Rakesh Kumar, Scientist-C has joined India Meteorological Department (IMD) in the year 2013.

Rameshkumar Subramanian is an Associate Professor at the Department of Commerce, School of Management Sciences, Tezpur University (A Central University), Assam, India.

Ranjan Phukan, Scientist-C has joined India Meteorological Department in the year 2013. He has worked in the field of weather forecasting at Meteorological Centre, Agartala under India Meteorological Department during 2016-2020.

Ringkang Mushahary is a Research Scholar and a Guest lecturer at Janata College.

Salma Jahan Prity is a student of Urban & Regional Planning Department of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology.

Samad Hussien is a Free Lancer Researcher and former Guest Lecturer in the Dept. of Computer Sc. and Engineering at Aliah University, Kolkata. His Area of Research is in Machine Learning, Big Data, Data Science and IoT.

Sana Hanif Shaikh is a PhD candidate at Autonomous University of Madrid (UAM).

Sangeeta Singh Hada is a Research Scholar at the Department of Education in the Lovely Professional University Phagwara, Punjab, India.

- Sangeeta Singh Hada** is working as HOD, Education in S.V.S.D.P.G. College, Bhatoli, District Una (H.P.).
- Saswati Goswami** is currently carrying on her Ph.D. from the Department of Commerce, Gauhati University.
- Shahnaz Hussain** is an Assistant Professors at the Maryam Ajmal Women's College of Science & Technology, Hojai.
- Shammy Islam** is working as an Assistant Professor in Sociology at Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur, Bangladesh since 13 December 2020.
- Shri Monoj Paul** is working as an Assistant teacher for painting at Almal Foundation Nai Manzil Centre Hailakandi.
- Subhadip Barman** is a Junior Research Fellow at the Centre for Environmental Studies, Vidyasagar University in West Bengal, India.
- Sumanash Dutta** is presently working in the Department of Economics, Assam University, Silchar as professor.
- Sumi Choudhury** is an Assistant Professor of English in Nalbari College, Assam.
- Sunil Khosla** is a doctoral student at School of Management, National Institute of Technology Karnataka, Surathkal.
- Supriya Upadhyay** is pursuing her MPhil at Centre for Study of Regional Development (CSRD), School of Social Science, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
- Tahmina Khan Tithi** Project Officer- ICT and Development, Oxfam in Bangladesh.
- Tapas Ranjan Chakraborty** Disaster Risk Financing Coordinator, and Acting ICT & Development Coordinator Oxfam, Level- 8, RAOWA Complex, VIP Road, Mohakhali, Dhaka 1206, Bangladesh.
- Tulika Podder** has been working as Assistant Professor of Sociology at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University, Gopalganj, Bangladesh.
- Unmilan Kalita** is currently working as an Assistant Professor, Barnagar College (Assam).
- Utpaljit Deori** is a Phd Scholar currently in the Department of Economics, Sikkim Central University.
- Vidya Bhaskar Shukla** is a PhD Scholar in Political Science at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.
- Vipul Yadav** is presently pursuing M.Phil. in Population Studies from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
- Zerin Sultana Barbhuiya** is a Ph.D. Research Scholar in Assam University, Silchar.

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	v
<i>List of Contributors</i>	vii

SECTION 1 - RURAL ECONOMY AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION

1. Rural Economic Development through Sustainability in Handloom <i>Shruti Sudha Mishra & A.K. Das Mohapatra</i>	3
2. Economic Development through Rural Entrepreneurship Development in Nagaland <i>Lipoktoshi</i>	15
3. The Condition of Rural Growth Centers in Rajshahi: A Study to Analyze the Factors Resisting the Socio Economic Growth of the Rural Areas <i>J. Akhtab, F. Hossain, P. Das & S. J. Prity</i>	22
4. Using Payments Banks for Enhancing Financial Inclusion in North-east India <i>Paulumi Ray & Joy Das</i>	31
5. Study on Impact of Self Help Groups Participation on Income and Employment Generation among Tribal Women in Nagaland <i>Nchumthung Murry & R.Nakhro</i>	46
6. Financial Inclusion Schemes and Progress of Microfinance Programmes in India: An Evaluation <i>Ana Mateen</i>	51
7. A Study on the Assessment of Financial Literacy among College Students: With Special Reference to Bangalore, India <i>Dr. Sachita Yadav & Akash Rao</i>	64
8. Role of Financial Inclusion Programmes for Rural Development of India <i>Ms. Tandraleem Kashyap</i>	80

9. Financial Literacy of the Beneficiaries of PMJDY – The Case of Rural and Urban Areas in Madurai District of Tamilnadu 87
Rameshkumar Subramanian & Ashique Ali K A
10. Role of Micro Finance in Achieving Zero Poverty 107
Bhaskar Kumar

SECTION 2 – AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

11. Food Processing Sector for Rural Development in North-East India - Status and Prospects in COVID-19 131
Dr. Navdeep Kumar
12. A Study on Organic Farming in Nagaland 137
Praveen Dukpa
13. Farmers' Awareness on Agricultural Extension Education and its Impact on Sustainable Development 142
Vandana Panwar & Anup Kumar Das
14. Sustainable Agricultural Income through Tea Plantation: A Study of Small Tea Growers 168
Shiv Kumar Sharma & Hironmoyee Bhuyan
15. Artificial Intelligence and Agriculture: Feasibility and the Road Ahead 175
Saswati Goswami & Kaberi Bezbarua
16. Can Contract Farming become an Alternative Institutional Arrangement in the Vision "Doubling of Farmers' Income by 2022"? A Perspective based on Systematic Review of Literature 190
Prasenjit Barik & Rajshree Bedamatta
17. Potentials of Indigenous an Fungal Diversity as Means of Sustainable Livelihood for Rural Farmers 210
Nidheesh K S
18. Traditional Sustainable Methods in Agricultural Practices in Nagaland 223
Magdalene Kiewhuo & Nandakumar R
19. Problems Faced by Oil Palm Contract Farmers in Mizoram: Special Reference to Mamit District 229
Khawlsiamthanga Khawlhing
20. Role of Agriculture in Integrated Development 240
Kakani Grihalakshmi
21. Sustainability Standards in the Tea Industry: A Study of their Adoption and Impact 250
Pritten Sherpa

SECTION 3 – RURAL LIVELIHOOD AND CLIMATE CHANGE

22. Can Rural Livelihood Program Dent Vulnerability to Poverty?
Empirical Evidence from an Eastern Indian State 269
Sunil Khosla & Pradyot Ranjan Jena
23. A Study on Diversification of Livelihood Pattern among the
Tribal Community in Selected Areas of West Bengal 290
Dr. Subhankar Mondal
24. Livelihood Challenges and Familial Survival Strategies of the
Char Land Children in Bangladesh 302
Shammy Islam, Tulika Podder, Benzir Ahmed & Samoly Aktar
25. An Assessment of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee
Scheme in Assam 320
Dr. Monuj Dutta
26. Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation: MGNREGA
in Manipur 335
Oinam Sarita Devi
27. Knowledge Management for Climate Change Adaptation in
Rural Community 343
*Anusree Ghosh, Tapas Ranjan Chakraborty &
Professor Dr. Saiful Huda*
28. Climate Variability and Changes Over Tripura 353
Ranjan Phukan, Rakesh Kumar & Dilip Saha
29. Forest Rights Act (FRA) and its Impact on Tribal Livelihood:
An empirical Study in the State of Tripura 374
Prankrishna Banik & Dr. Jayanta Choudhury
30. Migration during Corona Virus Pandemic Era in Asia Pacific Region 386
Dr. A. K. Singh & Dr. Nasruddin
31. Climate Change Challenges in Lohit District, Arunachal Pradesh 407
Dr. Rinkiolu Chai
32. Bridging the Science-Policy Gap in Haor Context 415
*Tapas Ranjan Chakraborty, Tahmina Khan Tithi,
& Anusree Ghosh* 415

SECTION 4 -RURAL EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH

33. Gender Disparity in Elementary Education: A Spatial Analysis
of the North-Eastern States 425
Supriya Upadhyay & Amit Kumar Goyal

SECTION 3 – RURAL LIVELIHOOD AND CLIMATE CHANGE

22. Can Rural Livelihood Program Dent Vulnerability to Poverty?
Empirical Evidence from an Eastern Indian State 269
Sunil Khosla & Pradyot Ranjan Jena
23. A Study on Diversification of Livelihood Pattern among the
Tribal Community in Selected Areas of West Bengal 290
Dr. Subhankar Mondal
24. Livelihood Challenges and Familial Survival Strategies of the
Char Land Children in Bangladesh 302
Shammy Islam, Tulika Podder, Benzir Ahmed & Samoly Aktar
25. An Assessment of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee
Scheme in Assam 320
Dr. Monuj Dutta
26. Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation: MGNREGA
in Manipur 335
Oinam Sarita Devi
27. Knowledge Management for Climate Change Adaptation in
Rural Community 343
*Anusree Ghosh, Tapas Ranjan Chakraborty &
Professor Dr. Saiful Huda*
28. Climate Variability and Changes Over Tripura 353
Ranjan Phukan, Rakesh Kumar & Dilip Saha
29. Forest Rights Act (FRA) and its Impact on Tribal Livelihood:
An empirical Study in the State of Tripura 374
Prankrishna Banik & Dr. Jayanta Choudhury
30. Migration during Corona Virus Pandemic Era in Asia Pacific Region 386
Dr. A. K. Singh & Dr. Nasruddin
31. Climate Change Challenges in Lohit District, Arunachal Pradesh 407
Dr. Rinkiolu Chai
32. Bridging the Science-Policy Gap in Haor Context 415
*Tapas Ranjan Chakraborty, Tahmina Khan Tithi,
& Anusree Ghosh* 415

SECTION 4 – RURAL EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH

33. Gender Disparity in Elementary Education: A Spatial Analysis
of the North-Eastern States 425
Supriya Upadhyay & Amit Kumar Goyal

34. Challenges of Quality Education in Rural Areas of North-Eastern States of India	437
<i>Sangeeta Singh Hada & Piyali Sarkar</i>	
35. Challenges of Quality Education for Social Development in Rural Areas of Assam	443
<i>Ringkang Mushahary</i>	
36. Development of Higher Education and its Quality in Nagaland	451
<i>Hare Krishna Parhi</i>	
37. A Study on Absentecism in Primary School Students of Chagolia Gaon Panchayat under Dhubri, Assam	465
<i>Md. Abu Taheer</i>	
38. Art Education for Creativity and Socio-Cultural Development: A Study on Concise Perspective in Rural Schools	483
<i>Mr. Monoj Paul & Mr. Alangbar Swargiary</i>	
39. The Benison of Ajmal Foundation in the Development of Hojai District	492
<i>Aditi Ghosh & Shahnaz Hussain</i>	
40. Role of Swami Vivekananda and Rishi Aurobindo's Philosophy for Quality of Education with the Reference to Holistic Development	499
<i>Piyali Sarkar, Sangeeta Singh Hada & Dr. Sonia Sharma</i>	
41. Gunotsav- A 'Surgical Strike' on Quality School Education in Assam: A Sustainable Development Perspective	507
<i>Rajdeep Dutta</i>	
42. Inequalities in Demand for Healthcare and its Utilization in Mizoram	523
<i>Dr. A. Duraisamy Dr. C. Lalrinmawii</i>	
43. Composite Health Quality Index: Assessing the State of Public Health in the Districts of North Eastern States of India	534
<i>Hemant Mishra & Amit Kumar Goyal</i>	
44. A Real Life Study in line of Migration to Check with Food on Sunderban People	546
<i>Partha Sarathi Sarkar</i>	
45. Nutritional Status of Scheduled Tribe adolescent girls in Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu	565
<i>Geethanjali Santhanam & Kavita Maheshwari</i>	
46. Need of Cancer Prevention in Northeast India to Stop Economic Leakage	575
<i>Chaitan Kumar & Dr M Momocha Singh</i>	

SECTION 5 – INCLUSIVE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

47. Women Development under Integrated Housing Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) at Polashbari 587
Zerin Sultana Barbhuiya
48. Status of Social development of North-East India in the National Perspective 598
Mrs. Nanda Basumatary
49. The Dynamics of Temporary Child Migration: A Case Study from Murshidabad District of West Bengal 610
Abdur Rafique
50. Community Managed Low Cost Water Purification System in Tea Garden Areas of Assam under “Swachh Khowa Pani Yojana” 620
Dr. Rousy K. Baruah, Khagen Dutta & Dr. Pranjal Kalita
51. Indigenous NTFP Resource Utilization for the Rural Livelihood of Marma Ethnic Community of Mountainous Bangladesh 630
M Zulfiquar Ali Islam, Ela Rani Chowdhury, Samoly Aktar, Tulika Podder, Shammy Islam & Benzir Ahmed
52. Persons with Special Needs: Exclusion in Inclusive Education 656
Dr. C. Renuga Devi
53. Economics of Indigenous Legal System a Study of Tribal Customary Law in North East India 669
Purabi Bharali & Dr. Kangkana Bhagawati
54. Social Protection for Rural Elderly: Through the Vehicle of Elderly Self Help Groups 684
Dolon Mukherjee
55. The Stateless Transgender Deficiencies in; the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019, National Register of Citizenship, Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 703
Ms. Sana Hanif Shaikh
56. ‘Sustainable’ Social Development and Bangladesh: A Critique 719
Md. Lutfay Tariq Rahman & Md. Reazul Haque
57. Anti-oppressive Social Movements in Endosulfan Affected Rural Areas to Protect Disabled Persons in Special Reference with Kasargod District, Kerala 741
Muhammed Amjad Madan

SECTION 6 – GENDER ISSUES IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT

58. Gender Politics in Rural Society: A Study of Selected Works of Aruni Kashyap, Janice Pariat and Easterine Kire 758
Ms Sumi Choudhury
59. Spousal Violence in North East India: An Investigation of Its Nature, Extent and Variation 765
Dr. Baharul Alom Laskar & Dr. Sumanash Dutta
60. A Socio- Juridical Analysis of Witch-Craft as a Gender-based Violence: With Special Reference to the State of Assam 777
Vidisha Gogoi & Sofiul Ahmed
61. Determinants of Work Status of Rural Women in Odisha 785
Dr. Sasmita Jena
62. Role of Dobashi in Settling Gender-Based Violence in Nagaland 800
Chumchano Kikon & Shonreiphy Longvah
63. Spousal Violence in Rural Nepal: Prevalence and Risk Factors 816
Manusha Paudel
64. Lurking in the Documentary Dilemma in Gendered State, Some Reflections from the Case of Women and Transgender of Assam, India 828
Dr. Chetna Sharma
65. Women and Social Security Schemes in Assam 836
Amrit Kour

SECTION 7 – RURAL INSTITUTIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

66. Cultural Institution and Governmentality: A Study of Gambhira of North Bengal, India 847
Dolon Sarkar & Vidya Bhaskar Shukla
67. Corporate Social Responsibility Initiatives Undertaken by Tea Companies in India 856
Daithun Narzari & Dr. Sharmistha Bhattacharjee
68. Approach to Holistic Rural Development: Experience from Gram Panchayats of Jharkhand 868
Deep Narayan Mukherjee, Prajna Parinita Das & Suryadyuti Banerjee
69. Convergence and Inclusive Approach in Rural Development a Critical Study of Schemes/Projects in India 879
Sathyavani Gandham

SECTION 6 - GENDER ISSUES IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT

58. Gender Politics in Rural Society: A Study of Selected Works
of Aruni Kashyap, Janice Pariat and Easterine Kire 758
Ms Sumi Choudhury
59. Spousal Violence in North East India: An Investigation of
Its Nature, Extent and Variation 765
Dr. Baharul Alom Laskar & Dr. Sumanash Dutta
60. A Socio- Juridical Analysis of Witch-Craft as a Gender-based
Violence: With Special Reference to the State of Assam 777
Vidisha Gogoi & Sofiul Ahmed
61. Determinants of Work Status of Rural Women in Odisha 785
Dr. Sasmita Jena
62. Role of Dobashi in Settling Gender-Based Violence in Nagaland 800
Chumchano Kikon & Shonreiphy Longvah
63. Spousal Violence in Rural Nepal: Prevalence and Risk Factors 816
Manusha Paudel
64. Lurking in the Documentary Dilemma in Gendered State, Some
Reflections from the Case of Women and Transgender of Assam,
India 828
Dr. Chetna Sharma
65. Women and Social Security Schemes in Assam 836
Amrit Kour

SECTION 7 - RURAL INSTITUTIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

66. Cultural Institution and Governmentality: A Study of Gambhira
of North Bengal, India 847
Dolon Sarkar & Vidya Bhaskar Shukla
67. Corporate Social Responsibility Initiatives Undertaken by
Tea Companies in India 856
Daithun Narzari & Dr. Sharmistha Bhattacharjee
68. Approach to Holistic Rural Development: Experience from Gram
Panchayats of Jharkhand 868
*Deep Narayan Mukherjee, Prajna Parinita Das &
Suryadyuti Banerjee*
69. Convergence and Inclusive Approach in Rural Development a
Critical Study of Schemes/Projects in India 879
Sathyavani Gandham

70. The Impact of Rural Development and Mgnrega: Perspectives from
Tea Garden Areas of Jalpaiguri District, West Bengal, India 902
Puja Das & Subhadip Barman
71. Nexus between Delivery of Basic Services and Wellbeing 913
Nicodim Basumatary & Bhagirathi Panda
72. Is Solar Power the Future Alternative for Irrigating Small
Tea Plantations? Observations from the World's Largest
Tea-Producing Region 924
Unmilan Kalita, Dhritiman Kakati & Madhumita Das
73. A Study on Infrastructure Development in Rural Areas of
Karbi Anglong, Assam 936
Mrs. Mousumi Gogoi & Dr. Utpal Deka
74. "RUDSETI" Model for Rural Employment: A Case Study of
RUDSETI and its Role in Rural Youth Employment 949
Karuna Devi Mishra
75. Optimization and Development of ICT in Rural Areas of Sundarbans 956
amad Hussien & Dr. Abhishek Das
76. Infrastructure and Rural Development Activities with Saemaul
Undong Spirit: The Case Study in Patheingyi Township, the
Dry Zone Region, Myanmar 968
Dr. Moe Swe Yee & Soe Myint

SECTION 8 - BORDER ISSUES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

77. Cooperation between Russia and China in the Border Areas on
the Rural Development of Asia-Pacific Region 983
Olga Zalesskaya
78. Rural Out-Migration and its Impact on Agriculture: A Study in Assam 991
Utpaljit Deori & Dr Rangalal Mohapatra
79. The Politics of Justice within Borders: A Cosmopolitan Perspective 1004
Dr. Udayprakash Sharma
80. Border Trade and Rural Development: A Tale of Two Bordering
Villages in Mizoram 1023
Lily Sangpui & Easwaran Kanagaraj
81. Trends and Patterns of Influx of Migrants in the North-Eastern States 1038
Ms. Hardeep Kour & Mr. Vipul Yadav
82. Act East Starts with Bangladesh: Where Northeast India Identifying
Economic, Connectivity, and Trade Potential with Bangladesh 1051
Ashok Brahma

83. Rural Territories of the Russian Far East: Problems and Prospects
of Bilateral and Multilateral Interaction in the Asia-Pacific Region 1069
Evgenii Gamerman
84. Inter-Tribal Conflict and Forced Migration: A Brief Study in 1073
Assam-Meghalaya Border Region
Miss Puja Nath

Border Trade and Rural Development: A Tale of Two Bordering Villages in Mizoram

Lily Sangpui & Easwaran Kanagaraj

Introduction

The Look East Policy (LEP) rechristened as the Act East Policy (AEP) was formulated on the backdrop of looking towards the east, with the drive to integrate with the economies and in strengthening relations with the Southeast Asian (SEA) countries in the varied fields of security, trade and energy (Thomas, 2000; Haokip, 2015). As a part of India's external policy under AEP, bilateral trade agreement with Myanmar, considered as a gateway to SEA, was signed in 1994. Bilateral trade was seen as a rapprochement with Myanmar to mark India's new engagement in a pragmatic manner rather than banking on idealist manoeuvre that had continually ill-placed India in the past (Routray, 2011). It is in the domestic consideration of the AEP, to help transform the geographical constrained of Northeast region (NER) by taking advantage of its geo-strategic location, that generated much hype and attention.

The opening of borders for trade, where the troubled frontiers of NER aggravated it to be more receptive towards security, has assumed a new narrative in the light of the AEP. The connotation of border trade as a linkage to development changes the way how development narrative is seen for the NER. This ostensibly posits border trade not just as a strategic tool to build relations but also as a tool for development. As a strategic tool border trade helps in forging relations across countries especially with neighbouring countries within the objective for greater economic ties. Another aspect is that it helps draw the line of control and recognition of border line demarcation. At a local level, border trade is viewed as part of a larger border development plan, one that has the potential to usher in the much needed development in border regions. As part of border area development plan border trade provides alternative means of livelihood to border residents, generate employment opportunities, and inject infrastructures that are critical to boost the local economy. From these perspectives, border trade acts not just as a strategic tool on its own, but also as a catalysing agent for regional development.

Understanding the role of border trade in the development process is rarely taken care of by economic and trade reforms. Let alone its impact at micro level, focusing on border communities, who are placed at the heart of policy are dealt sporadically. Patgiri & Hazarika (2016) have observed that the relation between policy formulation and concerns of border areas of a state received scant attention due to the common assumption that national interest already incorporates the interest and concerns of all the regions. This development intricately positioned borderlands at the interjection of marginalising their narratives (Kurain, 2019). At this intersection, focusing on the narratives of border communities the paper attempts to examine how bordering villages on the Indian side respond to the formalisation of border trade, and draw benefits from border trade.

This paper is positioned to understand border trade from development connotation. Rather than focusing on frontier politics and placing border trade within the sub component of policy(AEP), the paper focuses on the role of border trade within the discourse of rural development. It attempts to understand liberalisation at the ground by placing border communities at the center of analysis.

Locating Zokhawthar- Rih Border Trade Zone

The Governments of India has opened up 40 Land Custom Services (LCS) in and around the borders of NER to facilitate economic linkages through border trade by taking advantage of its strategic location (MoDONER)¹. In 1994, the Governments of India and Myanmar signed the Border Trade Agreement (BTA) where it was agreed upon to open up border trade zones along the Indo-Myanmar border following which four border trade points were opened subsequently at Moreh-Tamu in Manipur, Zokhawthar-Rih in Mizoram, Longwa in Nagaland, and Pangsau Pass in Arunachal Pradesh. Till date, only Moreh and Zokhawthar trade centers function officially although trade is carried out unofficially across the other two trade centers.

The state of Mizoram is located in the extreme east of India, and shares its boundary with Myanmar in the east and south, in the west with Bangladesh and in the north with Assam and Manipur states respectively. Mizoram shares 450 km length of its international boundary mostly with the Chin Hills of Myanmar, where people on both sides of the borders share the same ethno-linguistic and cultural affinity. This greatly shapes the way borders are viewed by the borderland people. In view of the import driven economy of Mizoram and deficits in terms of basic infrastructures, inaccessibility coupled with slow growth of economy, facilitating trade across its border could inject the much needed market linkages and development. This was well recognised that the development of border trade was included in one of the clauses that were enshrined in the Mizoram Peace Accord of 1986 between the MNF leaders and the Government of India (Songate, 2010).

In 2004, the second Indo-Myanmar border trade point was opened at Zokhawthar. River Tiau which flows in between Zokhawthar, the last bastion village on the Indian side, and Rih (also known as Rihkhawdar) village of Myanmar acts as a natural boundary between India and Myanmar. In order to facilitate trade, Bailey bridge was

constructed over river Tiau in 2002. The Government of Mizoram acquired 126.96 acres of lands at Khawnuam in Melbuk Village, which is 8 km from Zokhawthar for the establishment of border Trade Township to accommodate customs officers and staff. Residential quarters of Type I, Type II, Type III and Type IV and other basic amenities and provisions along with one helipad have been constructed (Zokhawthar LCS report, 2018). In addition to it, Composite Land Customs Building situated at zero points at a distance of 30 meters from the border was constructed to accommodate different trade-related departments and agencies. Subsequently on account of border trade, bordering villages of Zokhawthar and Melbuk were elevated to border trade townships.

Border Trade Mechanism across Zokhawthar-Rih Trade Zone

Under the BTA, it was agreed upon three types of trade across the Indo- Myanmar border viz.,

- a) Traditional/Free Exchange of items not exceeding US \$ 1000 or its equivalent,
- b) Barter Trade of items up to the value of US \$ 20,000 or its equivalent, and
- c) Normal Trade against payment for the supplies.

Taking into consideration the importance of exchange of goods for the locals, traditional exchange and barter systems were permitted. Under these two mechanisms, trade is conducted without any documentation and in a non-monetised mode of transaction. However, contemplating on the difficulties and problems associated with barter trade system, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on November 5th, 2015 abolished it and laid down for the functioning of normal trade (Das, 2016). In a barter system the problem persisted in finding goods to export that are equivalent to the value of imported goods.

Methodology

The study was conducted in two border villages of Zokhawthar and Melbuk situated adjacent to the Indo-Myanmar border trade on the Indian state of Mizoram. With the formalisation of border trade, it placed these two villages at the heart of the Act East Policy (AEP) which are subsequently identified as border trade towns. Employing both qualitative and participatory methods the study captured narratives of border communities through Key informant interviews(KII) and timeline mapping of villages. KIIs was conducted with 30 informants representing sample across community leaders, government officials, and members from different associations/groups emerged on account of border trade. Timeline mapping was facilitated with members from respective village councils.

Review of Literature

Trade theory tends to suggest that trade fosters growth. It was considered as a driver for growth and development. Economists like W. Arthur Lewis, Nurkse, Myrdal and others have propagated trade as a strategy for growth (Riedal, 1984). As pointed out by Hanson (1994) and Krugman (1993), trade liberalisation strongly affects the

economy of the border region. Study by Brühlhart, Cadot, & Himbert (2019), observed that trade liberalisation stimulated economic activities around the border regions where expansion in trade boosted population growth and income of the border region.

The Sustainable Development Goal number 17 (SGD 17) recognised trade as an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction contributing towards for the promotion of sustainable development. Bird (2004) in examining the linkages of trade, poverty and sustainable development draws the need to analyse the impact of trade in the areas of intangible elements that are center to people's livelihood. LEAD Pakistan (2019) study on the social impact of border trade across the Pakistan-Afghanistan border region refocused the need to interlink trade and social development goals which can be achieved by making trade more inclusive where benefits are widely shared.

Trade liberalisation, along with the rise of regional cooperation heightened the process of globalisation that the concept of shared border began to take a forefront agenda in the politics of the nations. Borders which were once seen as liabilities are now seen as geo-economic potentials (G. Das, 2006). Borders were subsequently opened for bilateral trade which revitalised the potentials of border areas. According to P. Das (2014), as part of the AEP, the promotion of border trade played a dual role, one as a strategic policy of building diplomatic relationships with neighbouring countries and two as a development tool to advance border area development. Commenting on this, Thomas, Das & Singh (2005) and Baruah (2004) argued for the need to consider 'border trade' as a strategy for the development of border areas. At the local level, numerous studies have indicated that border trade generates employment opportunities and revives the local economy by providing a basket of livelihood opportunities (Whiteside, 2001; Aung, 2009; Gumbo, 2012; Awang, Sulehan & Bakar et al, 2013) and similar findings are also reported by several authors in the context of border trade in the northeast Indian context (Romalsawma, 2011; Sikder & Sarkar, 2005; Das, 2014; Singh, 2011). At this juncture, Taz Barua (2020) noted that since the advent of AEP, it has striven in placing physical infrastructures that are critical for the function of border trade over social development. This aspect creates imposition among the locals to view the AEP as a risk that makes the Northeast merely as a logistics transit hub. The development model that is centered around physical infrastructure development needs to be accompanied with visions for social development of the locals. However, a common feature indicative of border region where its economy is driven by trade is characterised by contestation and negotiation of resources, and where belonging is shaped by border practices with the adoption of exclusionary measures (Hansen, 1981; Flynn, 1997; McDuié-Ra, 2016; Rohluapuia, 2019).

It is seen that studies underpinning policy and border trade reclined more towards broader economic aspects, that the implication on border region development and narratives of the locals are scantily represented. In view of this, this paper attempts to bridge the gap by understanding the impact of border trade in the process of development of border regions through narratives of border communities.

Results and Discussion

To have a comprehensive understanding on the impact of border trade on bordering villages, it was examined on three major areas viz., Timeline development of bordering villages, livelihood promotion and community response to border trade. The first section deals with the development timeline of bordering villages of Zokhawthar and Melbuk. It captured chronological key events that help to assess changes over a period of time. The second section discusses along the line of livelihood promotion while the last section examines how border communities' response to economic opportunities generated by the formalisation of border trade.

Border Trade and Tale of Two Bordering Villages

Timeline mapping was conducted to understand the chronological development of Zokhawthar and Melbuk villages. Chronological mapping provides information as well as understanding on the making of villages and importantly pre and post border trade situation across the villages.

(1) Zokhawthar Village

Zokhawthar village is located at the extreme east of Champhai District at a distance of 30 km from the District Headquarter and situated at a distance of 228 km from Aizawl, the state capital. It came into existence partly on account of the formalisation of border trade. Earlier it was under the jurisdiction of Melbuk village and was known as 'Tiau Vaikai' meaning on the bank of river Tiau. As more people came to settle for the first time the inhabitants constituted a village committee in the year 1992. Later, Tiau Vaikai was renamed as Zokhawthar in 1994. It became a full-fledged village with a separate village council in the year 2002, however, with limited jurisdiction over forest land surrounding the settlement area.

Prior to the opening of border trade, cross border trade was in existence and to this day it continues to run parallel with formal trade. Free movement of goods and people continued to persist as well. Rope boat was used to cross river Tiau before the construction of weighbridge. There was no proper road and what existed was just a foot trail and it took two days to reach Champhai town on foot from Zokhawthar. According to Mr. Rinduma, who was among the first to migrate down to Tiau Vaikai (now called as Zokhawthar) narrated in this manner;

I shifted down to settle temporarily near the bank of river Tiau and opened up a hotel for boarding and loading. It was a thriving business as travelers often wished to cross over to Mizoram before dusk. There was also an urgent need for porters to carry the loads. Initially, I never assumed I would settle down permanently, but as trade expanded and business grew it attracted more people to Zokhawthar. Looking back, I can't never imagine it would grow in size. As of now we are around 3000 people here.

Cross border traders and travelers alike wanted to cross over river Tiau before nightfall. There was a considerable need for tea stall and hotel for travelers, and porters

Results and Discussion

To have a comprehensive understanding on the impact of border trade on bordering villages, it was examined on three major areas viz., Timeline development of bordering villages, livelihood promotion and community response to border trade. The first section deals with the development timeline of bordering villages of Zokhawthar and Melbuk. It captured chronological key events that help to assess changes over a period of time. The second section discusses along the line of livelihood promotion while the last section examines how border communities' response to economic opportunities generated by the formalisation of border trade.

Border Trade and Tale of Two Bordering Villages

Timeline mapping was conducted to understand the chronological development of Zokhawthar and Melbuk villages. Chronological mapping provides information as well as understanding on the making of villages and importantly pre and post border trade situation across the villages.

(1) Zokhawthar Village

Zokhawthar village is located at the extreme east of Champhai District at a distance of 30 km from the District Headquarter and situated at a distance of 228 km from Aizawl, the state capital. It came into existence partly on account of the formalisation of border trade. Earlier it was under the jurisdiction of Melbuk village and was known as 'Tiau Vaikai' meaning on the bank of river Tiau. As more people came to settle for the first time the inhabitants constituted a village committee in the year 1992. Later, Tiau Vaikai was renamed as Zokhawthar in 1994. It became a full-fledged village with a separate village council in the year 2002, however, with limited jurisdiction over forest land surrounding the settlement area.

Prior to the opening of border trade, cross border trade was in existence and to this day it continues to run parallel with formal trade. Free movement of goods and people continued to persist as well. Rope boat was used to cross river Tiau before the construction of weighbridge. There was no proper road and what existed was just a foot trail and it took two days to reach Champhai town on foot from Zokhawthar. According to Mr. Rinduma, who was among the first to migrate down to Tiau Vaikai (now called as Zokhawthar) narrated in this manner;

I shifted down to settle temporarily near the bank of river Tiau and opened up a hotel for boarding and loading. It was a thriving business as travelers often wished to cross over to Mizoram before dusk. There was also an urgent need for porters to carry the loads. Initially, I never assumed I would settle down permanently, but as trade expanded and business grew it attracted more people to Zokhawthar. Looking back, I can't never imagine it would grow in size. As of now we are around 3000 people here.

Cross border traders and travelers alike wanted to cross over river Tiau before nightfall. There was a considerable need for tea stall and hotel for travelers, and porters

to carry the loads. Sensing the opportunities, initially 5 households from Zotlang and 3 households from Champhai migrated down to the river bank of Tiau². In the words of Mr. Rinduma, "the speculation that border trade would open up greater opportunities attracted people to shift down to Zokhawthar even before the formal commencement of border trade has happened". Population continued to rise and in course of time as the momentum of trade increased more households migrated. In 2018-19 it is estimated that the population of Zokhawthar reached 3000 approximately, where the rise in population is accorded due to influx of migrants from Myanmar and from several part of Mizoram (Zokhawthar LCS Report, 2018).

As per the record of the village health worker, the population of Zokhawthar showed an increase yearly and continued to receive a host of migrants mostly from Champhai district and from Myanmar. The spur in population as commented by the health worker is added mostly by migrants. Considering the development of the village since the formalisation of border trade, schools, religious institutions and offices of importance have tripled. Despite being located away from main production centers and towns, it attracted the people and it is the growing employment opportunities that attract and pull people to this place and visitors alike.

Time Line of Zokhawthar Village

Year of inhabitation: 1987

Year when the village first constituted village committee: 1992

Year when the village name was renamed as Zokhawthar: 1994

Year when the village was conferred with separate Village Council and first election of Village council held: 2002

No of schools and year of establishment in Zokhawthar

1. Government Primary School: 1991
2. Zokhawthar Middle School: 1995
3. M P High School: 2005 (changed into Zokhawthar High School in the year 2010)
4. Zokhawthar Primary School: 2010
5. Zokhawthar English Middle school: 2011
6. Zokhawthar Higher secondary school: 2013
7. Presbyterian English school: 2017 (till 8th standard)
8. St Joseph School: 2013
9. Baptist English School: 2014

No. of Churches and year of establishment in Zokhawthar.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Zomi Baptist Church: 1991 | 2. Presbyterian Church: 1994 |
| 3. Baptist Church of India: 2003 | 4. Evangelical Free Church of India: 2008 |
| 5. Catholic: 2013 | 6. United Pentecostal Church: 2015 |

Offices/Institution of Importance and year of establishment in Zokhawthar

1. Police out post: 2000
2. Sub Centre: 2000
3. Year of completion of construction of Bailey bridge over river Tiau: 2002
4. Mercy Clinic: 2014
5. Composite Land Customs building: 2007
6. Tourist Lodge: 2008
7. State Bank of India (SBI): 2016

(2) *Melbuk Village*

Melbuk village is located 8 km away from Zokhawthar and about 21 km away from the District Headquarters, Champhai. It consists of around 160 households with an approximate population of 600³. Despite being relatively older than Zokhawthar village, development at Melbuk village is slower considering the development of various institutions. However, the village has indicated growth, and along the same line as Zokhawthar village it saw additional establishment of educational institutions. It attracts migrants but lesser in magnitude than Zokhawthar village.

Meluk village holds a place as a route in channelising informal trade mainly in exporting goods over to Myanmar. Commercial vehicles parked along roadside engulf the sight as one passes through Melbuk village. Melbuk's residents alone could contract freight service of exported goods indicating improvement is directed towards physical endowments of households.

Time Line of Melbuk Village

Year of establishment: 1976

Churches in Melbuk

1. Presbyterian Church: 1985
2. Salvation Army: 1989
3. United Pentecostal Church: 1995

Number of educational institutions

1. Government Melbuk primary school: 1980
2. Government Middle School: 1990
3. Melbuk High School (ADHOC): 1997
4. Lalrampana Memorial English School: 2013
5. Presbyterian English School: 2019

Offices

1. Melbuk Sub Centre: 2000
2. Completion of construction of border township (quarters and helipad): 2001

The formalisation of border trade has in many ways contributed to the growth of bordering villages. Improvement is seen majority in the number of educational

Offices/Institution of Importance and year of establishment in Zokhawthar

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Police out post: 2000 | 2. Sub Centre: 2000 |
| 3. Year of completion of construction of Bailey bridge over river Tiau: 2002 | |
| 4. Mercy Clinic: 2014 | 5. Composite Land Customs building: 2007 |
| 6. Tourist Lodge: 2008 | 7. State Bank of India (SBI): 2016 |

(2) Melbuk Village

Melbuk village is located 8 km away from Zokhawthar and about 21 km away from the District Headquarters, Champhai. It consists of around 160 households with an approximate population of 600³. Despite being relatively older than Zokhawthar village, development at Melbuk village is slower considering the development of various institutions. However, the village has indicated growth, and along the same line as Zokhawthar village it saw additional establishment of educational institutions. It attracts migrants but lesser in magnitude than Zokhawthar village.

Meluk village holds a place as a route in channelising informal trade mainly in exporting goods over to Myanmar. Commercial vehicles parked along roadside engulf the sight as one passes through Melbuk village. Melbuk's residents alone could contract freight service of exported goods indicating improvement is directed towards physical endowments of households.

Time Line of Melbuk Village

Year of establishment: 1976

Churches in Melbuk

1. Presbyterian Church: 1985
2. Salvation Army: 1989
3. United Pentecostal Church: 1995

Number of educational institutions

1. Government Melbuk primary school: 1980
2. Government Middle School: 1990
3. Melbuk High School (ADHOC): 1997
4. Lalrampana Memorial English School: 2013
5. Presbyterian English School: 2019

Offices

1. Melbuk Sub Centre: 2000
2. Completion of construction of border township (quarters and helipad): 2001

The formalisation of border trade has in many ways contributed to the growth of bordering villages. Improvement is seen majority in the number of educational

institutions established post border trade. Apart from it, numerous infrastructures development has been initiated and constructed to which Taz Barua (2020) termed the LEP/AEP to follow a physical development model. To facilitate trade, a composite building (trade and commerce center) was constructed equipped with a plant quarantine building, toll gate and a weighbridge that began to operate in 2004. The composite building accommodates various trade related departments and agencies such as immigration office, custom office, veterinary office, bank (State Bank of India) and other offices of importance. Not only in terms of development, it attracts visitors boosting local business.

The AEP has opened up the NER for trade and investment that gave an impetus for placing infrastructure requirements and promoting connectivity to facilitate trade and market linkages. This invariably bestowed bordering villages, located along the trade zone, with infrastructures critical to shed off their remoteness. Injection of infrastructures remain an important instrument for economic development in India and in Southeast Asia, particularly in the construction of roads (Barua, 2020). Road connectivity takes precedence and multiple projects have been initiated and one such ongoing project is the widening and upgradation of 27.5 km road between Champhai and Zokhawthar into two lanes funded by the World Bank. This road has become a lifeline for the people residing along the trade route. It is proposed that once it is completed it will connect Rih and other important towns of Myanmar like Tahan, Tedim and Kale.

For decades long, despite the existence of cross border movement of goods and people it remains underdeveloped with no proper connectivity. Road that linked Champhai town and Zokhawthar village, the last bastion village on the Indian side, was connected by unpaved jeepable road. It was only after widening works carried out on the existing road in 1996 following the implementation of Border Trade Agreement (BTA) that heavy/big vehicles like trucks could enter Zokhawthar. One senior border resident⁴ gave an account on the conditions before border trade and described it in this manner;

There was no regular transport service that ply along the route except few vehicles that ferry goods. The conditions of the road deterred people from venturing into transport service. In the absence of regular transportation, it was more convenient to travel on foot to reach the nearest village or town. From Zokhawthar, it took us almost two days to reach the nearest town Champhai on foot. As of now, there are vehicles services between Zokhawthar to Champhai after every hour. We could easily reach Champhai within an hour.

Apart from road construction, other critical infrastructures were subsequently built up. Weighbridge was constructed over river Tiau to facilitate trade with a load capacity intake of fewer than 15 tons (Chakraborty & Ray, 2015). Composite Land Customs Station (LSC) was constructed on 18.5 bighas of land at Zokhawthar acquired by the Government to accommodate various departments and agencies. Initially, the LCS was situated in Champhai. During the acquirement process, it was mentioned that few households were reluctant but as majority welcomed the idea on the thoughts that it will bring development, the community readily accepted the offers⁵. Border communities are opened to the transformational nature of trade viewing it as a vehicle

to help transform their region from the shackles of underdevelopment, isolation and remoteness. With the commencement of border trade and development works, it has to some extent lessened Mizoram's dependence on Silchar for their day today requirements and lowered the prices of goods considerably. One could comprehend the importance of Zokhawthar- Rih border trade considering the imported goods that arrived in Zokhawthar ranging mostly consumable goods from agriculture products to cattle, and other goods like household articles and electronic goods.

Border Trade and Livelihood Promotion

Prior to the formalisation of border trade, the main occupation of the borderland centered around Jhum cultivation and people adhered to migrate to nearby town Champhai for employment and education.⁶ However, with the formalisation of border trade, there is an occupational shift and cultivation becomes a secondary occupation. It has escalated non-farm income generation and provides income to a large number of the population working mainly as porters, drivers and in other trade related activities. Trade economy has the capacity to absorb a large number of population with less skills and educational level who would otherwise be left without a proper source of income and employment.

Border practices of engaging around trade activities and of crossing borders, and development of border markets exposed border communities to experience forces of globalisation and liberalisation at local level that invariably marked border livelihood vulnerable to changes in policy, contestation and seasonality. Despite the capacity to induct large number of border population to engage in trade, their livelihood remains vulnerable. In any eventuality where the smooth transaction of trade is halted, it renders majority of the people vulnerable to lost their daily wage. This pushes people to seek alternative means of income, and exerted the need to rely on another source of income and porters are worst affected. This reverberates that development of physical infrastructures should be backed by development in other forefront of social, and human capacity vital to sustain livelihood of the border regions.

Occupational health hazard is another area of vulnerability, pronounced among porters and drivers. Coupled with lack of health care services it posed a challenge as growth means human as well as material development. Occupational health hazards and dwindling health conditions on account of the nature of workload continued to form the biggest challenge towards securing a sustained livelihood. Lack of social security in the face of accidents escalate the situation further to which a porter narrated their plight and concern as,

We earn a decent income no doubt, but how long can we go on carrying heavy loads where work accidents are unavoidable. We are ageing earlier than others. It's either health or money but we needed both. Do we have a choice? A slight accident can render us incapacity to work with no security in place except receiving a paltry sum of contribution from fellow workers. Border trade brought a positive impact on the lives of those residing in the border through improved access to physical assets. Improvement in access to physical capitals have invariably created a multiplier effect in terms of paving

access to other capitals like human, social and financial, and in promoting livelihood options. However, the transferability of capitals/assets remain inadequate when emphasis is concentrated singularly unless supported by investment in other arenas. For border communities, labour remains an inextricable asset in terms of both tangible and intangible assets. Existence of reserved labour acts as a household security. It provides elasticity for border households the ability to search for alternative income either by using extra labour to earn wages or rendering help to family members in a non-remunerative way. As Barua (2020) observed there is an ardent need to ready the people of the region to take advantage of the development of connectivity. Alongside physical infrastructures, social development of the region needs equal emphasis.

Border Communities' Response to the Formalisation of Border Trade

The drive for economic integration through border trade has driven border communities to respond in multiple ways. One such response is through the formation of both formal and informal groups centered around trade activities. Secondly, border communities centralised their marginality by locating themselves with the border, and thirdly, through engaging in contestation of resources.

Formation of Border Trade Based Groups

Drawing on the transformational nature of trade, various trade related formal and informal groups have been formed. In and around Champhai district several groups have been associated with border trade. Four (4) local traders' associations have sprung up with members constituted mainly from Champhai town. Three (3) transport associations have been formed of which Champhai Transport Union (CTU) is the oldest and for decades have dominated and controlled all freight services, while the other two are based in Zokhawthar. Regarding porters' associations all the 3 (three) associations are located in Zokhawthar.

Table 1: List of Associations formed After Border Trade

Type of Group	Types of Association	Location
Trader	Pig Traders' Association	Zotlang
	Export and Import of Mizoram(EXIM)	Champhai
	Champhai Export and Import Trade Union (CEITU)	Champhai
	Champhai Bazaar Association	Champhai
Transport	Towntrip	Zokhawthar
	Champhai Transport Union(CTU)	Champhai
	Zokhawthar Transport Union(ZTU)	Zokhawthar
	Centre of Indian Trade Union of Mizoram(CITUM)	
Porter	Porter Society	Zokhawthar
	Multipurpose	Zokhawthar
		Zokhawthar
Community Level	Zokhawthar Welfare Association	Zokhawthar
	Melbuk Development Charitable Society	Melbuk

Source: Field Survey

In addition to them, at community level groups were constituted to channelise the benefits of the trade opportunities to the community. For instance, in Zokhawthar village, Zokhawthar Welfare Association (ZWA) channelises resources and funds from trade for the progress and welfare of the community. Majority of the contribution came from local traders' association of and donation from individual members alike. Under the aegis of ZWA, it sponsors for the running of one high school, and looks into the requirement of additional teachers. Apart from this, it caters towards the welfare of the poor and needy supporting them financially, moreover, numerous developmental initiatives have been initiated for the locality with support from ZWA. These groups played an important role in decentralising benefits and help border communities to partake in the economic drive of border trade. It helps build social institutions that are vital to derive and forge new identity with more bargaining power.

Belonging and Contestation of Resources

In centralising their marginality of locating at the periphery region, bordering communities take advantage by identifying themselves as to what Flynn ascribed it as 'we are the border' (1997:319). Border communities legitimised their claim to control border by identifying themselves with border through their everyday practices of negotiation with border. In constructing their political claim to control mobility through their territory, they challenge the dominant elite groups that once dominated and controlled trade. Located at the extreme border, they take advantage of bridging two economies and political systems by positioning themselves with traders and the state for their economic advantage. For nonlocal traders, they provide their resources and mediate passage for their goods. At the same time, they maintain reciprocal relations with law implementing agencies as both of them require mutual support in managing the borders. It is alongside engaging in community building and building resources for the locality that border communities could rise to make a claim on border and trade across border.

Contestation of resources and conflicts have become a common feature in border regions where the economy is driven by trade (Hansen 1983; Flynn 1997; Mduie-Ra, 2016) and that Zokhawthar-Rih is not an exceptional case. Territory has its own reservation with spatial control becoming more acute when it is centered around economic drive. In 2007, a dispute erupted between Zokhawthar Welfare Association (ZWA) and Champhai Transport Union (CTU). ZWA challenged the monopoly of freight service from Zokhawthar to Champhai by CTU following which Zokhawthar took advantage of its location and prevented entry of Myanmar's goods beyond Zokhawthar. As border trade progressed, with Zokhawthar residents being able to own a considerable number of commercial vehicles, they began to move out from the control of CTU and partake independently in transporting goods. Vehicles transported goods based on seniority (rotation base) and Zokhawthar vehicle owners feel that CTU is partial towards Champhai vehicles. Champhai District Collector, representatives from Young Mizo Association (YMA) and some eminent persons intervened as arbitrators and the dispute was resolved after six rounds of talks between ZWA and

CTU. Demands for inclusion in the management on equal footing was met along with monthly donation of rupees of 10000/- towards construction of school at Zokhawthar (OneIndia, 2007).

However, another dispute erupted again on march 2019. This time CTU calls for indefinite blockage of all vehicles that transported imported goods at the entry point of Champhai town. The bone of contention was in the management of vehicles. Zokhawthar Transport Union (ZTU) which managed vehicles at zero point has set additional fees without engaging in negotiation with CTU (Khonumthung News, 2019). Beneath it all, the move was intended to control transportation of goods by Zokhawthar as border trade falls within their jurisdiction. This has always been the bone of contention. This resulted in goods piling up in zero point and rendered a huge loss to traders in perishable items. The fight to dominate and control border trade often creates friction between different trade related groups. Disputes also arise among various porter's organisations. Whenever there is dispute it is the people who depended on trade for their livelihood that are worst affected. They had to forgo their earning, employment and have to find recourse to sustain themselves during the period of conflict.

Locating at the transaction of two national economies, political systems and cultures, border communities bridge these differences and instead forge a new identity that at times contradict with State's policy and rules or at times with official and non-state officials. This results in contestations and conflicts. In such situations, border residents respond by developing client patronage, involved in border control and negotiations.

Suggestions

According to Kravis (1970) trade alone will not promote growth unless it is supported by other institutional changes. There is a need to focus on development of local capitals along with community development to produce assets. Conflicts, irregular trade, health and spread of disease, and policy change are some factors that placed border livelihood at risk. Lack of enterprising skills, market related knowledge, and lack of capitals act as a wet blanket to seek out the vast potentials trade has opened up. Development ready community is a prerequisite for pursuing economic development in order to have positive change as there can be a plausibility where a community can have growth without development and vice versa (Phillips & Pittman, 2009). As such, in order to direct a positive change across border communities of Zokhawthar and Melbuk, which are at a transitional stage of moving towards from village to towns, requires a holistic community building. Building local capitals remains at the core of development as it is the element that directs growth and development. Conflict resolution, leadership training, development of local entrepreneurship and expanding marketing skills of locals are the keys to sustainable change rather than emphasising singularly on physical infrastructure development (Barua, 2020).

Conclusion

The opening of trade has provided Zokhawthar and Melbuk with road linkage and other services such as banking services, better communication services, and transport services. Offices of importance have come up, roads have been widened and upgraded into two lanes, with road side businesses began to spring and flourish. Given the opportunities, people respond to opportunities in multiple ways, some of which may not necessarily prove to be beneficial. Diverse groups and educational institutions have sprung up catering to the much needed social and human development. However, institutions that will cater to human and social development need strengthening. At a micro level, it can be seen that trade has facilitated the development of villages and promoted livelihoods for people residing enroute trade zone. The multiplicity of responses exposed the complex nature of community building and the dynamics border trade brings into the region signifying the symbolic significance bordering communities bestowed on border and border trade.

REFERENCES

1. Aung, W. S. (2009). *The Role of Informal Cross Border Trade in Myanmar*, Asian Paper. Sweden: Institute for Security and Development Policy.
2. Awang, Abd. H., Sulehan, J., Bakar, N.R.A., Abdullah, Mohd. Y., & Liu, O.P. (2013). Informal Cross-Border Trade Sarawak (Malaysia)– Kalimantan (Indonesia): A Catalyst for Border Community's Development, *Asian Social Science*, 9 (4): 167–73. doi:10.5539/ass.v9n4p167.
3. Barua, T. (2020). The Look East Policy/Act East Policy- Driven Development Model in Northeast India. *Jadavpur Journal of International Relations*, 24(1): 101–120. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0973598420908844>.
4. Baruah, S. (2004). Between South and South-East Asia: North-East India and the Look East Policy. Working Paper No. 4. Centre for North-East India, South and South-East Asian Studies: Guwahati.
5. Bird, K. (2004). A framework to Analyse Linkages Between Trade Policy, Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development. London: ODI
6. Border Trade between Mizoram and Myanmar Restored. (2007, December 17). *Oneindia* Retrieved from <https://www.oneindia.com/2007/12/17/border-trade-between-mizoram-and-myanmar-restored-1197884097.html> on 12 June, 2020.
7. Brühlhart, M., Cadot, O., Himbert, A. (2019). Let there be Light: Trade and the Development of Border Regions. FERDI working paper 251. Development Policies.
8. Chakraborty, G., & Ray, A.K. (2015). Handcarts on Bad Bridge Push Mizoram's Border Trade with Mizoram, NEZINE.Com. Retrieved from <https://www.nezine.com/info/L2pQYTdiNk9LamJld21LSGxMzTlyZz09/handcarts-on-bad-bridge-push-mizoram%E2%80%99s-border-trade-with-myanmar.html>
9. Das, G. (2006). Border Trade in India's North- East Theory and Practice. In David R Syiemlieh, Anuradha Dutta & Srinath Baruah (eds) *Challenges of Development in North East India*. New Delhi: Regency Publication.
10. Das, P. (2014). Status of India's Border Trade: Strategic and Economic Significance, Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses Occasional Paper No 37, New Delhi
11. Das, R.U. (2016). *Enhancing India – Myanmar Border Trade: Policy and Implementation Measures*. Ministry of Commerce and Industry. New Delhi: Government of India.

12. Das, S. (2014). Border Economy and the Production of Collective Subjects in India's East and the North East. *India Quarterly*, 70(4): 299-311. Retrieved from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/45072804>.
13. Flynn, D. K. (1997). We are the Border: Identity, Exchange and the State along the Benin- Nigeria Border, *American Ethnologist*, Vol 24(2): 311-330.
14. Gumbo, B. (2012). Combining Multiple Livelihood Strategies in Cross-border Trade at Kasane, 1980-2000. *Botswana Notes and Records*, 44: 60-69. Retrieved November 16, 2020, from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43855560>
15. Hansen, N. (1983). International Cooperation in Border Regions: An Overview and Research Agenda. *International Regional Science Review*, Vol.8(3): pp 255-270.
16. Hanson. G.H. (1994) Regional Adjustment to Trade Liberalization. NBER Working paper No4713: Cambridge.
17. Haokip, T. (2015). *India's Look East Policy and the Northeast*. New Delhi: Sage Publication.
18. Khonumthung News. (2019). Imports from Rihkhawdar to Mizoram Blocked, March 29, *BNi Multimedia Group*. Retrieved from <https://www.bnionline.net/cn/news/imports-rihkhawdar-mizoram-blocked> on 12 June 2020.
19. Kravis, I. (1970). Trade as Handmaiden of Growth: Similarities between Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries, *The Economic Journal*, 80 (320): 850-872. Doi: 10.2307/2229902.
20. Krugman, P. (1993): On the Relationship between Trade Theory and Location Theory, *Review of International Economics*, Vol. 1(2): 110-122.
21. Kurain, N. (2019). Conversations Beyond Centre: India's Border Regions as Drivers of the Act East Policy. In K Vidya Sagar Reddy & C Joshua Thomas (eds) *Border and Connectivity: North-East India and South East Asia* (pp-3-13). Pentagon Press: New Delhi.
22. LEAD Pakistan. (2019). *Social Impact of Cross- Border Trade on Pakistan- Afghanistan Border Region- An Exploratory*. Occasional Paper: Lead Pakistan.
23. McDuire-Ra, D. (2016). *Borderland City in New India*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press. doi:10.2307/j.ctt1d8hb58.
24. Patgiri, R., & Hazarika, O. (2016). Locating Northeast in India's Neighbourhood Policy: Transnational Solutions to the Problems of a Periphery. *India Quarterly*, 72(3): 235-249. doi:10.2307/48505504
25. Philips, R., & Pittman, R.H. (2009). *An Introduction to Community Development*. New York: Routledge.
26. Riedel, J. (1984). Trade as the Engine of Growth in Developing Countries, Revisited. *The Economic Journal*, 94(373): 56-73. doi:10.2307/2232215
27. Roluahpuia. (2020). Whose Border is it Anyway? Control, Contestation, and Confluence in Indo-Myanmar Borderlands, *Contemporary South Asia*, Vol 28(1):74-85, DOI: 10.1080/09584935.2019.1701631
28. Romalsawma, C. (2000). *Socio-Economic Implications of Border Trade in Mizoram: A Geographical Analysis*. (Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation), North Eastern Hills University: Shillong.
29. Routray, B. P. (2011) India – Myanmar Relations: Triumph of Pragmatism, *Jindal Journal of International Affairs*, Vol 1(1):299-321.
30. Sikder, Md.J.U & Sarkar, B.K. (2005) Livelihoods and informal trade at the Bangladesh border, *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*, 6:3, 432-445, DOI: 10.1080/14649370500170134.
31. Singh. Ng. Dev-Karna. (2011). *Indo- Myanmar Border Trade and Its Impact in the Economy of Manipur*. (Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation), Manipur University: Imphal.
32. Songate, P. (2010). *Indo-Myanmar Border Trade: The Study of Socio-Cultural and Political Dynamics in Mizoram*. (Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation) Mizoram University, Aizawl
33. Thomas, C. J. (2000). Indo- Myanmar Border Trade: An Assessment on the Moreh- Tamu Sector. In Gurudas Das & R.K. Purkayastha (eds), *Border Trade North East India and Neighbouring Countries*. New Delhi: Akansha Publication.

34. Thomas, C.J., Das, G., Singh. N.B. (eds) (2005). *India Myanmar Border Trade: Status, Problems and Potentials*: New Delhi: Akansha Publication.
35. Whiteside, M. (2001). *Neighbours in Development: Livelihood Interactions between Northern Mozambique and Southern Malawi*. DFID.
36. Zokhawthar LCS Report 2018.

(Endnotes)

- 1 <https://mdoner.gov.in/list>. The list includes all the existing border trade points along the NER which are functioning, non-functioning or yet to function as on the time retrieved on November, 2020.
- 2 Interview with Rinduma, whose family was among the first to migrate down to Tiau Vaikai (Zokhawthar).
- 3 Interview with Secretary, Village Council of Melbuk.
- 4 Interview with Mr. Rinduhma who was among the first to migrate and settled down at Zokhawthar.
- 5 Interview with the President of Zokhawthar Village Council.
- 6 Interview with an elder resident of Zokhawthar on 11 October 2017.