

Understanding the social sector of development in Mokokchung and Tuensang districts of Nagaland.

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Abstract: Development is a dynamic term and its meaning has evolved from mere economic growth to the inclusion of non-economic factors. Today, development has broadened to the inclusion of all other aspects of human life which give a desirable life and this desirable life means a quality life. It is the social sector factors such as education, health, water supply and sanitation, household status, etc. that contribute in giving this quality life and to the overall development of human being. There exist disparity in the social sector components between different countries and places and the developed Mokokchung district and lesser developed Tuensang district of Nagaland is no exception to this. Therefore, it is important to examine the various factors responsible for the differences in social sector in these two districts.

Keywords: Development, social sector of development.

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I. OBJECTIVE

To examine the various social sector factors that are responsible for the differences in development in Mokokchung and Tuensang districts of Nagaland.

II. METHODOLOGY

The methodology used for the study includes both primary and secondary sources. Primary data is collected through structured interview schedule of the people and unstructured interview with village council members from the two districts. Secondary data is gathered through government data and books.

Development is a dynamic term and the idea of development is relative. It can be understood in comparison with other countries or places and its meaning has evolved over the period of time. The earlier concept of development was based merely on economic growth but today development has broadened to the inclusion of all other aspects of human life and human being becomes the Centre of development. Therefore, to develop means involving the entire social system as emphasizes by thinkers like Gunnar Myrdal (2012), who defines development, as the upward movement of the entire social system Development has thus evolved to the inclusion of non-economic aspect besides the economic aspect and considers the importance of quality life of human being Thus, there is a need for discussion on the various factors that contribute to giving quality life to human being and social sector factors such as health, education, water supply and sanitation, and household status, etc. are considered vital for the overall development of human being. This paper will look into the nature of social sector in a developed district of Mokokchung and a lesser developed district of Tuensang in Nagaland. These two districts have been in existence since statehood (1963) along with the state capital Kohima but today Mokokchung has become the most developed district whereas Tuensang district lag not just behind Mokokchung but even behind many other districts. Therefore, it is necessary to examine the nature of development in these two districts.

According to the 2011 census, the Mokokchung district occupies the 6th place (1,615 sq.km) in terms of area in the state. The total population is 1, 93,171 with rural population of 1, 38,897 persons and the urban population of 55,725 persons. The district is bordered by Wokha district in the west, the state of Assam in the north, Zunheboto district in the south and Tuensang district in the east. The district is inhabited by the Ao naga tribe, to whom the district belongs.

The district of Tuensang is bordered by Mon district in the North and East. In the West, it is bordered by Mokokchung along with Zunheboto district, and it borders the Phek district of Nagaland in the South. It covers an area of 2,536 sq.km and rank first in terms of area in the state (census of India, 2011). According to the census of 2011, the total population is 1, 96,801. The density of population is 78 density per sq.km. The urban population is 36,774 and rural 1, 59,822. It has 16 district Administrative Headquarters and the distance of the district from the state capital is 269 kilometers via Mokokchung. The district is inhabited by several Naga

tribes such as Sangtam, Khiamniungam, Yimchunger, Chang, etc. Tuensang town is located at 1372 meters above sea level. The literacy rate is 73.08%.

Mokokchung district is smaller in terms of area than Tuensang district and lesser total population but at present, Mokokchung district is the most developed district in the state whereas Tuensang district lag behind although both has been in existence since Nagaland statehood (1963). Therefore, it is important to discuss the various factors that are responsible for the differences in the two districts and the social sector factors are examined in this paper.

The social sector of development is considered as important for the overall improvement of quality of life of human being. The social indicators of development include education, health, water supply and sanitation, and household status, etc. Education is an important component to transform social and economic condition of life as an educated person can get employment which ultimately will bring economic well-being and which in turn will give access to good medical facilities, housing, etc. Educations give awareness to people about their social and economic condition and accordingly make efforts for developing further. Mokokchung district is well ahead in this component as education begins in this district as early as 1872 (Government of Nagaland, 1970), whereas it was around 1951 that the need to develop education, health, etc. was felt in Tuensang district. The educational status of the two districts in 2015-2016 in Mokokchung district stood at an impressive position as the enrolment ratio in primary was 100.21%, upper primary as 81.97% (Government of Nagaland, 2017). Moreover, in higher education, the numbers of colleges was 6 and out of which 2 are government colleges. The student/teacher ratio in government schools was 5. This was for Tuensang in the same year, the enrolment in primary was 82.32%, in upper primary it was 53.71%, and the number of colleges was 2 with 1 Government College and 1 private college. The student/teacher ratio was 11.

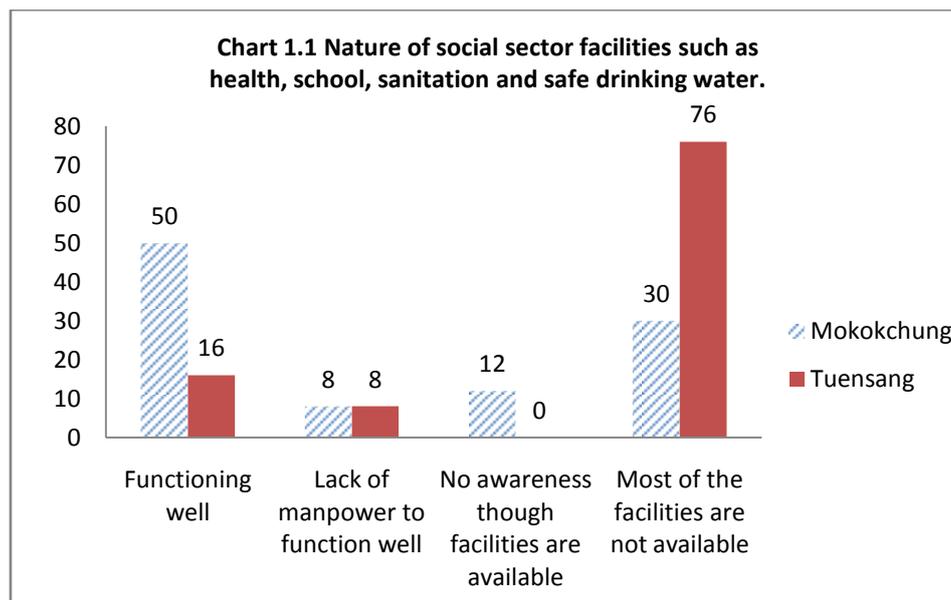
Another important component of life is good medical facilities as these will give easy access for the people and also reduce the chance of spending from one's own pocket. In Mokokchung, a dispensary was first opened in 1890 while in Tuensang the importance of developing in this field was felt in 1951 (V. Elwin, 1961) In terms of health status, the district of Mokokchung in 2013-14 assessment has 49 doctors with designation and there were a total of 72 health centres according to 2015-16 record while in health sector in 2013-14, the number of doctors with designation in Tuensang was 37 and in 2015-16 record, the total number of health centres was 69 (Government of Nagaland, 2014).

Access to safe drinking water will save a lot of time for other work and also there will be less health problems arising out of water related diseases that may affect people. In 2003, number of villages not covered with drinking water at 3, partially covered at 83 and fully covered was 30. The percentage of partially and fully covered was 97.41% whereas in Tuensang the number of villages not covered was 12, partially covered 213 and fully covered was 34 and % on partially covered and fully covered villages was 95.37. Sanitation is an important social component that is related to proper disposal of excreta, being hygiene and clean which will reduce people falling ill and taking care of the sick. There was 100% access to toilet facilities in 2003 in Mokokchung district While in Tuensang the percentage of household that have access to toilet facilities was 73.22 %. (Government of Nagaland, 2004). The viilage council usually impose fine if the villagers fail to turn up for social work being called by the council(Interview with Village Council member).

In household status, there were 18.63% pucca houses, semi-pucca was 58.33% and kutcha household was 23.04% in Mokokchung district whereas for the same social sector components in Tuensang district, there is a difference of the availability of the component as the household with pucca houses was 5.74%, semi pucca houses was 44.26 % and the rest 45.08% (Government of Nagaland, 2004).

There is a relaxation of qualification for the backward areas in government recruitment advertisement in different departments such as in school education where the eligible qualification for backward tribes specially the eastern nagas,* is different like for a lower divisional assistance post the qualification is 10+2 but for other general tribes, the qualification requirement is bachelor degree (Government of Nagaland, school education, 2019). Moreover, according to a village council member the employees are from other districts who are appointed in their villages when the same should be given to their villagers.

The opinion of the people in the two districts were also gathered and presented on the nature of social sector facilities, in the chart 1.1



As per the column chart 1.1, in Mokokchung district, half of the responses on social sector was that it is available and functioning well whereas only 16% of the respondents had mentioned that in Tuensang district. There were 8% in both the districts that mentioned that there is lack of manpower to function well. There were 12% respondents who mentioned that there is no awareness among the people though facilities are available in Mokokchung district and it was nil in Tuensang . There were 76% of the respondents in Tuensang who mentioned that the facilities are not available and for Mokokchung district, it was only 30% respondents. Thus, the discussion on the social sector components in the two districts is carried out through different sources which indicates that various factors are responsible for the differences in the two districts it brings to the following findings.

- 1) It was found that Mokokchung district was an early starter in most of the social sector components like education which has help it to further developed in other fields early. The gap of starting the development process in this field was huge between the two districts.
- 2) It was seen that there were less manpower to function such as in the field of health in Tuensang district.
- 3) It is revealed that most of the components that contribute to quality life were not available in Tuensang district and therefore the priority is not to think of the quality but to get the facilities first.
- 4) It is found that one of the factor that has caused the difference is the appointment of people from other areas although the post was meant for Tuensang district.
- 5) The government recruitment nature is another factor that is causing the Tuensang district to remain stagnant in development as it was found that for the same post, the recruitment qualification is different therefore this will give lower quality of work in Tuensang district.. So, people of Tuensang are not able to catch up with others in development.
- 6) It is found that access to sanitation facilities was less in Tuensang and at the same time in Mokokchung district the village authority are strong on cleanliness and sanitation drive of the village.
- 7) It is found that Tuensang people will be more prone to infectious and lifestyle diseases as they have less pucca houses as housing characteristics affect health condition of the people.

The discussion on development shows that it include both economic as well as non-economic components and the contribution of social sector components to the overall development is important. It is found that the two districts differ in development in these components due to various factors which are both internal and external factors. Thus, the people of the districts themselves as well as the government are responsible for the differences. It is therefore important that the government must give equal qualification for appointment and not compromise for backward tribes to let them produce quality in their work. The facilities should be provided wherever it is lacking and if needed special facilities must be given to Tuensang district to help them further their development. It is also necessary that the community of Tuensang must be active in initiating and participating in the development process.

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