



सत्यमेव जयते

GOVERNMENT OF NAGALAND

# NAGALAND

STATE  
HUMAN  
DEVELOPMENT  
REPORT

2004



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Government of Nagaland



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**STATE**

**HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

**2004**







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GOVERNOR OF NAGALAND

RAJ BHAVAN  
KOHIMA

## Message

It is a matter of great joy and pride that the first Human Development Report (HDR) of Nagaland State is being published after more than 40 years of the inception of the State. I take this opportunity to extend my heartiest congratulations to all those, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), a source of inspiration behind this document, for the initiative and pains they have taken to produce this historic document.

The HDR has brought out not only the socio-economic and cultural background of the State of Nagaland but also the immense potentiality of its human and natural resources to emerge out of its economic backwardness. Though the State has a history mired in long periods of conflict and violence, it has not lagged behind in terms of parameters of human development. This innate strength of the State needs to be harnessed and developed by the "will to toil, deliver and govern". The HDR has sought to chart a course for development of the State, focussing attention on the need for further strengthening of the human capital, which in conjunction with rich social capital available in the State in the form of vibrant democratic institutions, can work wonders.

Over the years, the development paradigms have changed along with changing times. The gaps and disparities in the development outcomes across the State and *vis-à-vis* their quality as brought out by the HDR, will help the government in re-assessing and re-orienting its priorities while drawing up policies to tackle the problems of poverty, health, education and rural development.

A major handicap faced during the preparation of the HDR has been the lack of data for which some of the estimates are tentative and outcome in the realm of probability. The HDR has, therefore, felt the imperative need for regular collection and collation of data and the evolution of a well defined system and mechanism in the government for fine-tuning of the development programmes and proper monitoring of their implementation on the ground. I am sure, the policy makers of the State and other stakeholders will make full use of the HDR and draw extensively on its findings and recommendations to chalk out and implement the future plans aimed at improving the quality of life of the people of Nagaland.

(Shyamal Datta)

1/9/2014





**CHIEF MINISTER  
NAGALAND  
KOHIMA**

15th September, 2004

## Message

Nagaland has, since its formation in the year 1963, achieved significant progress in the various parameters that contribute towards the all round development and progress of the State. This has been largely possible, despite the challenges due to insurgency and remoteness, because of the vibrant people-centred traditions and the strong, traditional social base of the Naga populace of the State. It is a matter of great happiness that the State Human Development Report documenting the State's experience with human development and economic progress is being brought out.

This first ever comprehensive attempt to assess the status of human development in the State, Nagaland State Human Development Report is an important document which looks into and examines the achievements and shortfall of largely government based interventions in various sectors affecting human development in the State. The Report also pioneers for Nagaland the estimation of District incomes for the State, thus providing the first ever quantification of the extent of disparity among the different districts of the State. The disparities in the development outcomes across the State, *vis-à-vis* the aspired standards, as brought out by the Report will help the Government in reassessing and reorienting its priorities and formulate policies to tackle the challenges in providing equitable incomes, employment and access to health and education. The underlying theme of the Report is to take stock of the progress in the State since Statehood, and to evolve concrete ways towards becoming a prosperous State by 2020. I am confident that the Report will provide the stakeholders with an effective policy planning instrument not only to allocate resources for human development in the best possible manner, but also to leverage greater resources to these sectors.

I would like to thank the UNDP and the Planning Commission for their support in preparing the Nagaland State Human Development Report. I am sure this partnership will continue in the future endeavours of the State in bringing human development to the centrestage in policy formulation, resource allocation and other initiatives. I also commend the hard work of the State's Planning Department in bringing out this document.

  
15/9  
(NEIPHIU RIO)





Planning Commission



## Message

We congratulate the Government of Nagaland for preparing its first Human Development Report.

This Report enhances the understanding of the dynamics of growth and human development linkages in the State. It also highlights the challenge of promoting human security and development, including effective provision of basic services, in Nagaland.

The Report makes an important contribution to the discussion on governance. It points out that the traditional socio-political structures of family, clan and community interact in a meaningful manner with formal structures of local democracy.

The Report highlights some of the government initiative towards equitable and sustainable human development. It documents the State Government's efforts towards environmental conservation and provides glimpses of Nagaland's experience with Communitisation of essential services such as health, education, power, rural tourism and rural power supply.

We once again felicitate the Government of Nagaland for this exercise, which reflects its commitment towards sustainable human development. We look forward to the follow-up which is important for achieving human development goals.

Rohini Nayyar  
Adviser (RD), Planning Commission  
Government of India

Maxine Olson  
UNDP Resident Representative &  
UN Resident Coordinator



# Foreword

The Nagaland State Human Development Report (NSHDR) aims at drawing attention to issues pertaining to human development by reviewing the progress made in the areas of sustainable income and livelihood, health, education and other correlates, which are critical for quality of life of the people. The Report has attempted to identify strengths as well as gaps and deficiencies, thereby signalling areas that require specific policy interventions. This way, the NSHDR serves simultaneously as a programming tool and a monitoring instrument for the interventions and an advocacy device for raising more resources for the State to invest in its people.

Nagaland has made impressive strides in the last few decades, particularly, in areas such as attainments in literacy, health related indicators, health care services, water and sanitation, power, governance, women in development, and fiscal reforms. The unique initiative of 'Communitisation' of public institutions and services, in the sectors of education, health care and power distribution, has enhanced accountability and involvement of both the community and the Government towards greater effectiveness. Enormous potential exists in the State for eco-tourism. It is time when the strengths, richness and abundance of natural and human resources and the social capital of Nagaland are harnessed. There is an air of hope and expectation among the people of Nagaland. The need is to change the mindset, which generally looks at the various structural handicaps of Nagaland, like its remoteness and backwardness, as blocks or limitations, and begin to view them as challenges and potentials waiting to be channelled and realised.

A major deficiency in the State needing urgent attention is the poor statistical base on Nagaland, both from State and central agencies. This has serious implications for planning and resource allocation. The quantification of the inferences and the analysis in this document, too, has been something of a challenge due to non-availability of reliable data. Therefore, the statistical computations may not be wholly precise.

This Report presents the status in different sectors which have a bearing on human development in the State and a strategy to 'hop, step and jump' so as to realise the vision of emerging as a front-runner among the states of the country in the next 15–20 years. There is absolutely no doubt that proper utilisation and harnessing of the strengths in the society as well as in the State's environment, and the implementation of the strategies enumerated in different chapters of this Report will take the State on a high growth path and help in attaining this goal.

The Report captures the status as on January 2004. There have been significant developments since then in 2004. A special reference may be





made of the creation of three new districts of Kiphire, Longleng and Peren in the underdeveloped areas of the State. This is a major exercise in taking administration closer to the people, particularly the poverty stricken ones. In the year 2004, new economic initiatives have been embarked on through setting up the State Bamboo Mission, a Board to promote organic farming and the State Agriculture Marketing Board. In the social sector, too, important initiatives have been taken in 2004. These include setting up an autonomous Board for the Naga Hospital, which is expected to develop it as an institution of excellence. Communitisation of elementary education has been extended to all the elementary schools in the State. In terms of qualitative improvement, the number of nil result high schools has come down to 5 from the figure of 35 in 2003. All these would indicate that the process of realising the Vision has already begun.

This Report is the first State Human Development Report for Nagaland. It is the result of a tremendous amount of co-operation, collaboration and combined efforts in search of clear perspectives and goals. These efforts went beyond inter-sectoral and inter-departmental cooperation and reached out to various stakeholder groups in Naga society. A special mention has to be made about the painstaking and consistent efforts made by Mrs Aparna Bhatia, IES, in steering this Report through its various stages over a period of 18 months. She has made ceaseless efforts in, not only coordinating with all the stakeholders, but in steering the preparation process through its different stages, from preparation of background papers, supervision of field survey, to actual drafting of the Report and incorporation of the comments and suggestions of a wide spectrum of representatives from the State Government, academia, and civil society. Mr Charles Chasie and Mr V. Shashank Shekhar, IAS, who provided critical inputs in drafting the Report, have ably assisted her in this endeavour. Mr Charles Chasie has also edited the Report. The Report in its present form, which is the result of colossal efforts by many individuals and organisations, presents the achievements and gaps in the development path of the State in the first ever attempt to provide comprehensive quantitative and qualitative insight into the rich diversity and uniqueness of Nagaland. It is hoped that this Report will help to streamline the development process and strategise key interventions so as to fulfil our cherished dream of emerging as a front-runner among the states in the country by harnessing the immense cultural, social and natural resources.

R.S. Pandey, IAS  
Chief Secretary  
Government of Nagaland





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The chapters of the Report are based on background papers and supplementary papers, contributed by policy makers and academicians within and outside the State. Extensive discussions were held with officials and departments of the Government of Nagaland. Mr V. Shashank Shekhar, IAS, and Mr Charles Chasie assisted in conceptualisation of the chapters and tirelessly reviewed the draft chapters to ensure readability and factual correctness. Mr Charles Chasie also provided editorial support. A special mention needs to be made of the guidance and support of Mr Lalhuma, IAS, Mr Alemtemshi Jamir, IAS, and Mrs Banuo Z. Jamir, IAS, who provided valuable inputs and spared time to go through to the numerous drafts of the chapters. Many others assisted in the preparation by providing comments and suggestions: Mr Lalthara, IAS, Mr H.K. Khulu, IAS, Dr S.C. Deorani, IFS, Mr Temjen Toy, IAS, Mrs Thangi Mannen, Mr Keppen Rengma, Mr Meren Aier, Mr Rokus Chasie and Mr Kiremwati. Ms Anu Aggarwal, IAS, went over the draft chapter on Empowering Women and gave valuable suggestions. Mr Rokovor Vihienuo, a young promising entrepreneur, designed the separator for the section on district profiles.

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Aparna Bhatia, IES  
Co-ordinator  
Team NSHDR





# Abbreviations

ANM	Auxiliary nurse midwife
APMC	Agriculture Productions Marketing Committee
ARI	Acute respiratory infection
BPL	Below poverty line
CBR	Crude birth rate
CDR	Credit deposit ratio
CDR	Crude death rate
CHC	Community health centre
CLASS	Computer Literacy and Studies in School
DDI	District domestic income
DDP	District domestic product
DES	Department of Economics and Statistics
DIET	District Institute of Educational Training
DONER	Development of North-East Region
DPDB	District Planning and Development Board
DWCRA	Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas
EBRC	Educational Block Resource Centre
ECS	Eleutheros Christian Society
EDP	Entrepreneurship Development Programme
EQUIP	Educational Quality Improvement Programme
FFLP	Farmers' Functional Literacy Programme
GDI	Gender-related development index
GDP	Gross domestic product
GEM	Gender empowerment measure
GNRC	Guwahati Neurological Research Centre
HDI	Human development index
HDR	Human Development Report
HPI	Human poverty index
HSLC	High school leaving certificate
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
ICMR	Indian Council of Medical Research
IDD	Iodine deficiency disorder
IEC	Information, education, communication
IMP	Indigenous medicine practitioner
IMR	Infant mortality rate
ISM & H	Indigenous system of medicine and homoeopathy
IUD	Intra-uterine device
IVD	Intra-venous drug
MDG	Millenium Development Goals
MMR	Maternal mortality rate
MPW	Multi-purpose worker
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
NACO	National AIDS Control Organisation
NSACS	Nagaland State AIDS Control Society
NASSCOM	National Association for Software and Service Companies
NBCC	Nagaland Baptist Church Council



NBSE	Nagaland Board of School Education
NDO	Nagaland Development Outreach
NEEPCO	North Eastern Electric Power Corporation
NEFA	North-East Frontier Agency
NEHU	North-Eastern Hill University
NEPED	Nagaland Environment Protection and Economic Development
NFHS	National Family Health Survey
NHDR	National Human Development Report
NHTA	Naga Hills-Tuensang Area
NMA	Naga Mothers' Association
NSACS	Nagaland State AIDS Control Society
NSCN	National Socialist Council of Nagaland
NSDCF	Nagaland State Dairy Cooperative Federation Ltd
NSDCF	Nagaland State Dairy Cooperative Federation
NSHDR	Nagaland State Human Development Report
NSSO	National Sample Survey Organisation
PHC	Primary health centre
PHED	Public Health and Engineering Department
PLWHA	People living with HIV/AIDS
RAP	Restricted Area Point
RD	Rural Development
RFLP	Rural Functional Educational Programme
SC	Sub-centre
SCERT	State Council of Educational Research and Training
SDP	State domestic product
SHG	Self-help group
SSA	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan
STD	Sexually transmitted disease
SUDA	State Urban Development Agency
TFR	Total fertility rate
TRC	Terraced rice cultivation
UFS	Urban frame survey
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VDB	Village Development Board
VEC	Village Education Committee
VHC	Village Health Committee
VPC	Village Power Committee
WDC	Women's Development Committee





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In the years before 1990, development was viewed with the uni-dimensional lens of economic development and inter-country comparisons on development rested on comparing the national per capita incomes. The first global Human Development Report (HDR), prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1990 under the leadership of Dr. Mahbub-ul-Haq and Dr. Amartya Sen, argued that income alone does not capture all dimensions of human development and that a composite index of health, education and income is a much more comprehensive measure of development. The first HDR broadened the concept of development, taking into cognisance the multidimensional and multifaceted aspects of human development.

The HDRs state that the process of human development must transmit itself, essentially by means of enlarging the choices of all persons concerned. The most critical of these wide ranging choices are the ability to lead a long and healthy life, to be educated and to have access to resources required for a decent standard of living.

Following the example of the global HDR, several countries began preparing HDRs at the national and even sub-national (state) levels, in order to enable human development analysis at a more disaggregated level, relevant for policy and action on the ground. The state HDRs aim to present and analyse the status of human development at the district level. They highlight existing intra-state disparities and focus the attention of policy makers on issues needing urgent attention.

The Nagaland State Human Development Report (NSHDR) aims to present the status of human development in Nagaland. It analyses the enabling and constraining factors towards sustainable human development within the unique socio-cultural settings of the State. The NSHDR could be a useful tool for future development planning. It advocates allocating greater resources towards human development sectors on a priority basis. Another important aspect of the NSHDR is that it presents district level data for many of the indicators for the first time. It is hoped that the data presented in the NSHDR would be useful to development planners and researchers globally.

## Nagaland

If India is a country that boasts of 'unity in diversity', then the North-East is its most visible embodiment. Among the North-Eastern states, Nagaland stands out as a land of diverse tribes, systems of governance,



The Nagaland State Human Development Report (NSHDR) analyses the enabling and constraining factors towards sustainable human development within the unique socio-cultural settings of the State.



cultures, sheer colour and variety. As its 16 major tribes hold their festivals each calendar month of the year, Nagaland is often referred to as the 'land of festivals'. Nagaland represents sociological and anthropological gold mines because it is still scientifically unexplored.

Nagaland emerged as a State, out of the Naga Hills district of Assam and NEFA province, in 1963. This late start meant that the State lost out on the benefits of the first three Five Year Plans. What is more, the State has had to confront insurgency on a continuous basis, committing much of its scarce resources to administrative and related expenditures. Though Nagaland has been confronted with special constraints and challenges in the areas of politics, economics, geographical terrain, and development, especially of infrastructure, the 'social capital' and resilience of the Naga village communities are not only giving hope but also beginning to help overcome the other difficulties. Indeed, in spite of its many constraints and challenges, Nagaland has continued to chart new developmental paths for itself and has shown a unique model for the country. The Village Councils, the Village Development Boards, and the recently introduced Communitisation of Public Institutions and Services Act, 2002, in areas like education, health, power, etc., which have already been acknowledged as successful, are a case in point.

Income and livelihood, health and education constitute the thrust areas of a Human Development Report. This is because they influence and affect the quality of life of the people the most. The very concept of human development demands an all-round interface between these three elements. Apart from these, this Report looks at the evolution and status of governance system in the State and its impact on development. The status of women in Nagaland is looked at through the lens of education, health and income and livelihood. The Report also discusses the human development indices and the Millennium Development Goals for Nagaland. Finally, an attempt has been made to provide a perspective for a developed Nagaland by 2020, through a conceptual basis, rooted in what is possible and practical on the ground. The NSHDR has in this way tried to identify and prioritise the core strategies and programmes that will help create a developed Nagaland.

## Governance

Naga traditional life revolved around the village. The formation of Nagaland State in 1963 was a critical step in the evolution of Nagaland, which gave the people the opportunity for peace, stability, accelerated investment and economic development. The Naga people have had a very distinct and complex relationship with modern democracy. So far, they have participated in ten general elections, and seen 17 chief ministers.



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In the past four decades there has been remarkable extension of the administrative reach to the far-flung corners of Nagaland. Today, in partnership with the State Government, Village Councils are an important component of modern governance system in Nagaland. While the District Planning and Development Boards provide the needed flexibility to ensure a responsive and holistic approach towards development for the district, linkages to the grassroots through the Village Development Boards have been established for delivering the rural developmental objectives.

The present administrative framework in Nagaland is essentially similar to that in other states of the country. However, within this larger framework, Nagaland has distinct characteristics, imparting uniqueness to the governance experience in the State. Article 371 (A) of the Indian Constitution remains a cornerstone to policy making in the State, and has ensured protection and preservation of the unique traditions and customary laws of the State. On the other hand, it has also contributed to depriving the State of economic benefits of institutional credit, inflow of private investment, etc.

A major strength that contemporary Naga society has inherited is the 'social capital' that has stemmed out of traditional institutions and practices. There is strong social bonding and community spirit, and absence of caste and social discrimination. The State has initiated the unique concept of Communitisation of public institutions and services in order to build partnership between Government and the people through delegation of management responsibilities to the community so that the performance of the public utilities improve. The Nagaland experience of Communitisation is the first in the world. Thus, with the introduction of Village Councils, the Village Development Boards, and Communitisation of essential services in the areas of health, education, power, rural tourism, rural water supply, etc., the Government is gradually reserving for itself the role of facilitator and enabler. With this, the 'trickling down' concept of development has been effectively abandoned and it is hoped that there would be a 'bubbling up' of development from the grassroots, that is equitable and suitable to the unique context of Nagaland.

## **Economic Well-Being**

The developmental experience of Nagaland has been full of challenges. Apart from its late start, geographical remoteness and inaccessibility, hilly terrain, lack of infrastructure, population composition, and scarce resource base, the State also had to face continuous insurgency, spending much of its resources on administration and related costs at the expense of development.

One of the biggest concerns of the State now is the burgeoning numbers of educated unemployed youth which, if not tackled effectively, could



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lead to a vitiating of the whole developmental environment. In recent years, there has also been a noticeable rise in under-employment and disguised unemployment. Two of the measures taken at the political level have been the declaration of 2004 as the Year of Youth Empowerment and the setting up of the Chief Minister's Corpus Fund to generate self-employment for unemployed youth.

The majority of the workforce of the State is either in the rural areas or in the unorganised urban sector. Naga society was and continues to be predominantly agrarian. Agriculture (27.48%), construction (15.43%), transport and communication (18.14%) and public administration (12.73%) comprise three-fourths of the State's NSDP. The near absence of contribution from manufacturing (0.74%) and banking and insurance (1.32%) reflects the lack of industrial activity in Nagaland and the weak supporting environment.

The State is making efforts to exploit its natural resources and tap into other potential areas. As a hilly State, with so many constraints, Nagaland cannot compete with others in conventional areas of development, especially in the primary and secondary sectors. The State has to plan intelligently and strategise its efforts, concentrating on its areas of strength and available resources. Some of these strengths are:

- ◆ Nagaland is richly endowed with mineral resources, including oil and natural gas, limestone, marble, as well as metals like nickel, cobalt and chromium. The ownership of the resources is an issue that has to be resolved by the Government of India and Nagaland, keeping in mind the special provisions under Article 371(A) of the Constitution before optimum commercial exploitation of these hydrocarbon resources can be made.
- ◆ Nagaland has tremendous forest resources. Its forest cover is above 80 percent while forest area is 56 percent, way above the recommended minimum. It is located in the Indo-Burma biodiversity hot spot, part of the South-East Asian environment that contributed the flowering plant to the world. The richness of Nagaland is shown by the fact that, even without any formal scientific study of its resources in general, two of the species from the State are mentioned in the Guinness Book of World Records. For the geographical size of a State like Nagaland, this is not to be taken lightly. Therefore, biotechnology, which also represents one of the sunshine sectors, presents Nagaland with a unique opportunity. There is great urgency, therefore, in this age of globalisation, for the government to immediately institute measures of protection for these riches and also to find adequate funding for research and documentation in order to reap benefits for the people.
- ◆ Blessed with fertile soil and agreeable climate, Nagaland has great potential in the area of organic production/farming. Even without



The richness of Nagaland is shown by the fact that, even without any formal scientific study of its resources in general, two of the species from the State are mentioned in the Guinness Book of World Records.





much effort, the State is already richly endowed with so many natural gifts such as wild fruits, variety of wildlife, herbal medicines and aromatic plants, bamboo, etc. Bamboo, the fastest growing and highest yielding renewable natural resource, growing extensively all over the State, constitutes one of the most important resources of Nagaland. The State is trying exploit these resources. One of the steps it has taken recently is setting up a Bamboo Mission.

- ◆ The other sunshine sector, IT, also has potential for Nagaland. One of the advantages the State has is that its medium of instruction in schools is English. With adequate and appropriate training programmes, the State could take advantage of this sector.
- ◆ With all the natural advantages and beauty of Nagaland, including cultural diversity of the tribes, eco- and community-based tourism present great potential. The creation of Naga Heritage Village, the annual Hornbill Festival, the Tourist Village at Tuophema, and adoption of Khonoma as the first Green Village in the country, with sponsorship from the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, are ways in which the State Government is tapping into this potential. However, for long term success of the venture, and protection of the heritage of the people, research and documentation are urgently needed. In the meantime, the concept of maintaining People's Bio-diversity Registers (PBR) could be put into effect with official support.

Harnessing of the resources and potentials—mineral, forest, agriculture, land, industry—and the opportunities in trade, the new sectors of IT or biotechnology require not only investments but also policy interventions to encourage such investments. Government's role in making the investments cannot be understated but the limited availability of financial resources with the Government necessitates that private investment, both from within and outside the State, are encouraged. By focusing on economic growth, Nagaland can expect to reap benefits through increased levels of income, employment generation and reduction in economic disparities within the different regions of the State and the populace.

## Health

Despite challenges such as insurgency and conflict, the indicators for health in Nagaland are impressive. The life expectancy at birth has been calculated at 73.4 years, way above the national average of 62.3 years, and much closer to the figures in developed countries. Infant mortality rate (IMR) at 42.2 per 1000 is also much better than the national average of 68 per 1000 live births. Similarly, under-five mortality rate, per 1000 live births, is 63.8 as against the national figure of 96. In terms of maternal mortality rate (MMR), the State's figure of less than 1 per 1000 live births, against the national average of 5.4, is much closer to the figures in developed countries at 6–8 range.



Harnessing of the resources and potentials—mineral, forest, agriculture, land, industry—and the opportunities in trade, the new sectors of IT or biotechnology require not only investments but also policy interventions to encourage such investments.



However, the total fertility rate (TFR) of Nagaland, at 3.77, is a cause for concern. The last decadal growth rate (1991–2001) at 64.4 percent, for instance, is the highest in the country, and 10–15 times higher than in developed countries. This poses a great demographic challenge for planners and policy makers in the State.

As of March 31, 2000, over 60 percent of the villages in Nagaland are still to be covered by any kind of basic health care such as dispensaries, etc. Based on population norms, as per 2001 Census, the State requires 25 CHCs, 100 PHCs and 666 sub-centres. Nagaland also requires improvements in secondary and tertiary health care. Specialised services are very limited and available only in Kohima, Mokokchung and Dimapur. The State has eight STD clinics, two TB hospitals, one mental hospital and DTCs for a population of 20 lakh. Most existing facilities are also ill-equipped and without access to modern diagnostic and therapeutic aids. There is only one CT scan machine in the whole state, at a private hospital. High-end investigations and immunology, as well as complicated cases of neurology, cardiology, cancer, etc., are all referred outside the State. This results not only in much inconvenience to the people but also tremendous financial losses to the State.

Strengthening and streamlining the areas of strength of the communities, while at the same time, carrying out awareness and education programmes and building infrastructure are required. Nagaland has a rich tradition of herbal and ethno-medicines with many indigenous medicine practitioners (IMPs). This is further bolstered by the presence of the State's rich biodiversity and availability of herbal plants. Official recognition and incentives could extend health care coverage to all villages.

Traditions and culture, food security, social norms and societal environment, etc., play important roles in the promotion of health in a given society. In Nagaland, the potentials are enormous if the State can work out a plan of action suited to it, taking advantage of its rich traditional knowledge system and the resources that are easily and locally available.

## Acquiring Knowledge

The educational journey of Nagaland, despite seemingly insurmountable problems, is an impressive experience. From a mere 17.91 percent in 1961, out of a population of a few lakh, the state literacy figures have climbed to 67.11 percent, above the national average, when only a few decades earlier, almost the entire Naga population was illiterate! Even female literacy has reached 61.92 percent. Today, Nagaland has the courage and confidence to think about reaching the standards achieved by developed countries.



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Prolonged insurgency/nationalism has left Naga society deeply wounded and hurting. Insurgency also constituted the single biggest hurdle in the path of education. It affected administration, appointment and posting of teachers, infrastructure development, proper monitoring and supervision as movement became restricted, and affected classes as even school buildings were occupied by fighting forces. The social capital and natural resilience of Naga communities have withstood all these, and today, the State is poised to make a unique contribution to education everywhere through the concept of Communitisation.

However, Nagaland still faces many problems and infrastructural needs. Among these are easy access to educational institutions, quality of education in schools, formulation of an adequate education policy for the State, etc. While management and governance issues may be largely tackled through the Communitisation process, at least at lower levels of education, educational policy for higher education must be in tune with the needs of society and the available resources and strengths of the communities. In other words, educational policy and higher planning and long-term development strategy of the State must go hand in hand. It is a sad commentary on the state of affairs that till date Nagaland has not been able to formulate an adequate education policy for the State.

Education is vital to the process of sustainable development in Nagaland. The Communitisation initiative has created the policy framework for bringing about substantial improvement in the quality of education. The focus of Nagaland's endeavours should centre on providing education to all children in the State. It must also ensure, through innovative ideas and experiments, that the educational experience not only remains a tool of learning but also contributes to growth and development of the students as individuals and prepares them to contribute towards prosperity of the State and society.

## Empowering Women

Nagaland is a State that does not conform to the general perception of women's status in India. Apart from traditional practices that have generally cared for women and the girl child, the State has successful achievements in the fields of literacy, increasing sex ratio, health and entrepreneur development. The literacy rate of women and the enrolment rates for girls in Nagaland are higher than the national average. In the area of health, the positive achievements are improving sex ratios, absence of female foeticides and low maternal mortality rate. There are almost no cases of malnourishment among women and children. However, the very high fertility rate is a cause of concern.

The vast majority of Naga women are engaged in agriculture and allied sectors, such as minor forest produce and cultivating cereals,



The Communitisation initiative has created the policy framework for bringing about substantial improvement in the quality of education.



vegetables, etc. Women's participation in the manufacturing sector is as low as 6 percent. Participation in the services sector is only 14 percent, out of which only around 7 percent are professionals. In recent times, in the wake of education and exposure, women have started entering other sectors, such as trading, cottage industries, floriculture, restaurants, etc.

There are also areas where interventions are required like employment generation, higher education for women, financial support for women's development, social problems, including violence against women, health problems, including HIV/AIDS and substance abuse. Naga women's exclusion from land rights, and from formal decision-bodies are areas of concern. The absence of women legislators in all the 10 State Legislative Assemblies since statehood in 1963 is significant.

The State policy for empowerment of women has been formulated and a new department of women has been established. The reservation of seats and earmarking of 25 percent of funds for women in the Village Development Boards have been the first steps in the State for empowerment of women and their participation in the governance and development of their communities. With the participation of women in local bodies, and even greater numbers in the self-help groups, the scenario could change as more women become familiar with governance.

Empowerment of women will be vital as Nagaland marches towards its vision of a peaceful, developed and secure society. New opportunities are coming the way of Naga women through education, policy interventions in governance, economic development and greater interaction within and outside the State. The focus must now shift to development of the human being in its totality, and enabling each one to realise his/her highest potentials.

## **Nagaland's Human Development Indicators**

The conventional measure of gross domestic product or per capita income is insufficient to capture the wider aspects of welfare and the contingent process of development. In line with the country's National Human Development Report, 2001 the following three indices have been constructed for Nagaland: human development index (HDI); gender-related development index (GDI); and human poverty index (HPI).

The HDI (2001) of Nagaland was 0.62, as compared to 0.472 (2001) for India, reflecting the State's good performance in terms of the constituents of the indices and the factors that influence them, including literacy, health status and income levels. The per capita income of Nagaland during 2000–2001 was almost equal to the national average.



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GDI for Nagaland is 0.45 against HDI of 0.54. Gender disparity index is a useful summary measure to compare human development between sexes. Nagaland has consistently maintained a GDI of 0.7 and above in comparison to the national average of 0.6. This is mainly because of the Naga culture of equal care for the girl child. Naga tribal values and practices have provided a unique framework of gender relations and access to health and nutrition. The contributing factors to the notable GDI in Nagaland are education and the improving opportunity for livelihood.

The HPI for the State is 35.58 percent. The index has come down from 42.07 percent in 1991 and 49.37 percent in 1981, as estimated for the State in the National Human Development Report, 2001.

## **Nagaland 2020: A Vision**

The four decades since statehood have been very eventful for Nagaland. Although, in comparison to other developed parts of the country, there are many areas in which the State is deficient, there are also extraordinary changes, especially in governance and development outreaches, which have taken place with remarkable rapidity. These human experiences, in the span of a mere 40 years of statehood, have meant a tremendous leap from the traditional to the modern in the race to attain development. Given Nagaland's overall background, it is nothing less than astonishing that in certain areas of human development indicators, Nagaland has surpassed the Indian national average. Furthermore, such achievements have taken place in an atmosphere surcharged with prolonged and relentless insurgency. They indicate the inner reservoir of resilience of the people and ability to adapt, their zest for life, and their fierce determination to survive and succeed in the midst of adversity.

Nagaland is ranked 11th among the states as per the human development index (1991). The State can legitimately aspire to emerge as a frontrunner among the states by 2020, if its natural wealth—land, water, forests, environments, oil, minerals—are sustainably exploited and marketed; the social capital invested into resuscitating and energising the public utility systems such as schools, health institutions, power utilities, tourism assets, water supply system, rural roads, ICDS network; if connectivity within the State, with the rest of the country and with the outside world in terms of road, rail, waterways, air, telecommunication is improved; and if the State's human capital is enriched in terms of technical skills.

By 2020, it is possible to see a developed Nagaland—with the population under control; the economy growing at accelerated pace; infrastructure such as transport, communication and power improved to modern levels;



By 2020, it is possible to see a developed Nagaland—with the population under control; the economy growing at accelerated pace; infrastructure such as transport, communication and power improved to modern levels; and qualitative health care being provided to the people.



and qualitative health care being provided to the people. It would indeed be a Nagaland moving into the future full of hope and expectations, and reaching the aspired position among the fore-ranking states in the country, in terms of prosperity, development and happiness.

Lalhuma, IAS  
Additional Chief Secretary &  
Development Commissioner







Chapter 1

# **Nagaland – A Profile**



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*"I have great pleasure in inaugurating the new State of Nagaland. It takes an honoured place today as the sixteenth State of the Indian Union. Indian society has always been a multi-lingual, multi-racial and multi-religious one, having a variety of racial and ethnic groups. Though diverse in origin, all these different communities were united by a common purpose. In accord with the traditional outlook of our country, ever since the achievement of Independence, attempts have been made, to see a separate Naga State within the Indian Union. These attempts to secure to you the fullest freedom to manage your own affairs have culminated in the creation of Nagaland State.*

*The Constitution (Thirteenth Amendment) Act, 1962, setting up the new State of Nagaland, provides that the Act of Parliament in respect of:*

- ◆ *Religious or social practices of Nagas*
  - ◆ *Naga customary law and procedure*
  - ◆ *Administration of civil and criminal justice involving decisions according to Naga customary law, and*
  - ◆ *Ownership and transfer of land and its resources,*
- shall not apply to the new State unless the Legislative Assembly of Nagaland by a resolution so decides. This way, the Constitution respects your distinctive identity.*

*You have not only the qualities of loyalty, valour and discipline but also the habits of industry, an innate sense of beauty and artistic skill. Your women occupy prominent position in the Tribal Councils.*

*The resources of Nagaland, limited as they are, will have to be developed to the fullest extent and yet there may be need for Central assistance for purposes of development and administration. I am sure this assistance will be available for the Naga people in full measure. Considerable progress has already been made in agriculture, education, health services, communications, etc., but the pace of development will have to be speeded up.*

*I do hope that all the Naga people will take the fullest advantage of the fresh opportunities afforded to them and share in the building up of prosperity and progress in the country.*

*May I also express the hope that, now that the wishes of the Nagas have been fully met, normal conditions will rapidly return to the State, and those who are still unreconciled will come forward to participate in the development of Nagaland. The highest position in the country is open to every Naga; in the Parliament, in the Central Cabinet and in the various services, military and civil.*

*Understanding and friendship help to build a society while hatred and violence tend to disrupt it. Let us avoid the latter and adopt the former! On this auspicious day I make an appeal to all the Naga people; let all past rancour and misunderstanding be forgotten and let a new chapter of progress, prosperity and goodwill be written on the page which opens today. I once again say that a bright future awaits the brave people of Nagaland."*



This chapter gives an overview of the State of Nagaland, its demographic, cultural, economic and social profile. It also highlights Nagaland's primary resource base, as well as industrial and infrastructural base.

**N**agaland, part of Assam and North East Frontier Agency (NEFA) in 1947, became the 16th State of India in 1963. Statehood came as a result of a political agreement. In this respect Nagaland's case is unique and special constitutional protection was also provided under Article 371(A) of the Indian Constitution to safeguard the culture, traditions and way of life of the Nagas. One of the smaller hill states of India, Nagaland is known for its myriad tribes with their rich culture and traditions. The State has a distinct character both in terms of its social composition as well as in its developmental history.

## Location

Nagaland is one of the 'seven sisters' of the North-East. The State is bounded by Assam in the west, Myanmar on the East, Manipur in the south and Arunachal Pradesh and part of Assam on the north. It lies between 25°6' and 27°4' northern latitudes and between 93°20' and 95°15' eastern longitudes. The State has an area of 16,579 sq. km (which constitutes 0.5% of the country's geographical area) with a population of 19,88,636 (0.2% of the country's population) as per 2001 Census. The number of households in the State was 1.49 lakh in 1981, which increased to 2.17 lakh in 1991. The State is predominantly rural, with 82.26 percent of the population living in villages, generally situated on high hilltops or slopes overlooking verdant valleys.

Till January 2004, Nagaland consisted of eight administrative districts, with 52 blocks, nine census towns and 1286 inhabited villages. Each district generally has predominant concentration of one of the major/minor tribes of the State, making the districts distinct in their socio-political, traditional, cultural and linguistic characteristics. Of the eight districts, Tuensang is the largest, occupying 25.5 percent of the total area of the State, followed by Kohima with 18.79 percent.

*In January 2004, three new districts were inaugurated by the State Government, viz., Longleng, Kiphire and Peren. At the time of preparing this Report, Longleng and Kiphire were sub-divisions of Tuensang district and Peren was a sub-division of Kohima district. Therefore, the analysis for Tuensang includes information/statistics for Kiphire and Longleng and that of Kohima includes the data of Peren.*

## I. Demography

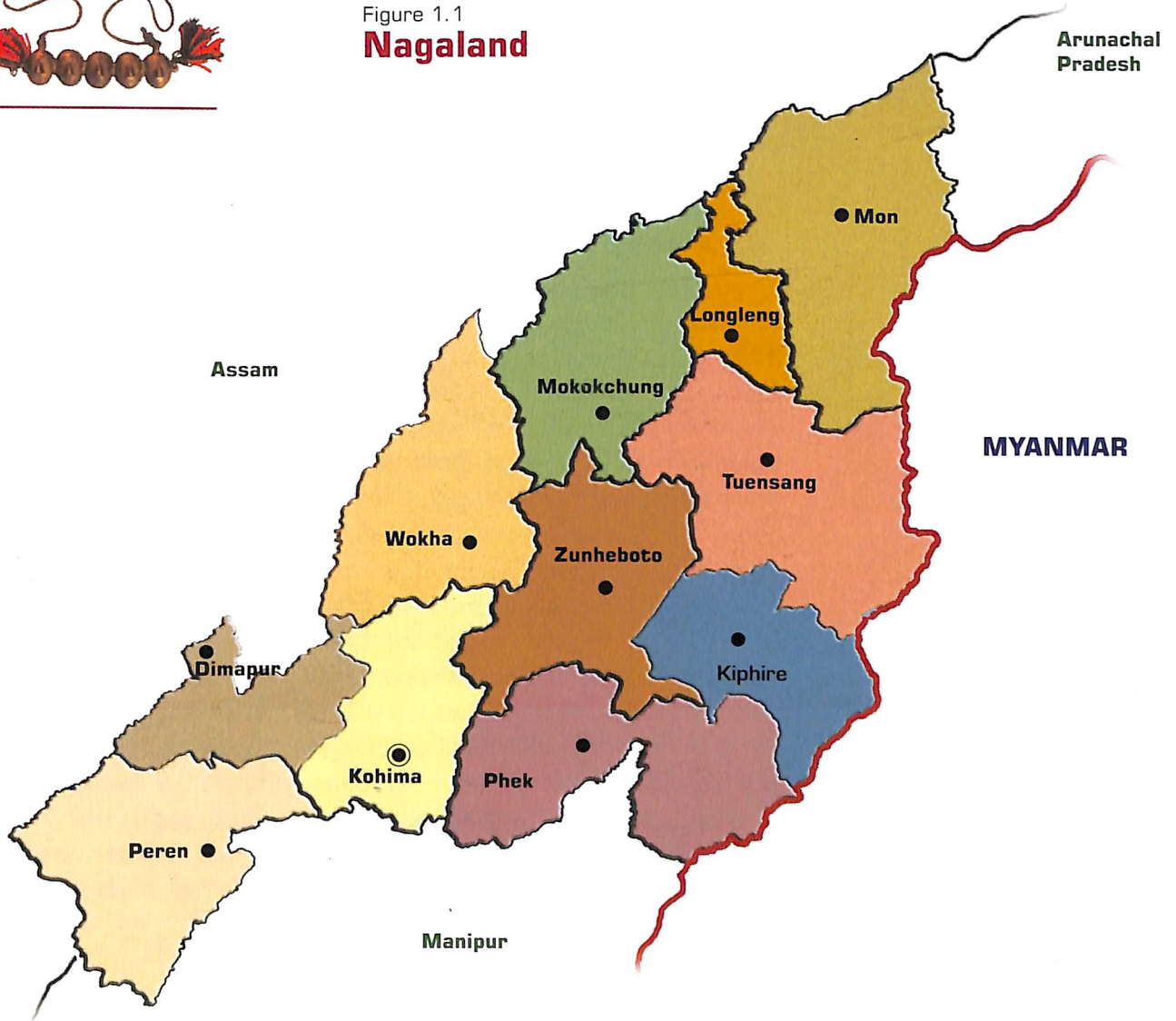
The total population of Nagaland as per 2001 Census is 19.88 lakh, of which males form 10.42 lakh and females 9.47 lakh. Among the various districts, Tuensang has the largest population (4.14 lakh), followed by Kohima (3.14 lakh). The least populated district is Phek (1.48 lakh). Nagaland witnessed the highest growth rate in population over the last decade. This unprecedented growth rate of population is a cause of







Figure 1.1  
**Nagaland**



Source: Nagaland GIS and RS Development Team

serious concern to the demographers and policy planners in the State. A total fertility rate (TFR) of 2.1 is considered to be the replacement level of fertility, which needs to be achieved in all states for population stabilisation. As per the National Family Health Survey, Nagaland had a TFR of 3.77 during 1998, amongst the highest in the country. There is thus a need for policy intervention to tackle this spiralling population growth, which can seriously hamper the planning process and development aspirations of the State. The density of population is another factor of concern in Nagaland because of the alarming increase in the population. The density, which was 47 per sq. km in 1981, increased to 73 in 1991 and 120 per sq. km in 2001. This will have serious implications on the ability of the State to meet the infrastructure requirements of its people, especially in the fledgling urban areas.

At the time of preparing this Report, Longleng, Kiphire and Peren were sub-divisions.



## Nagaland at a Glance

<b>Total Area</b>	16,579 sq.km		
<b>State Capital</b>	Kohima (1,444.12 m. above sea level)		
<b>State Boundaries</b>	East – Myanmar North – Assam & Arunachal Pradesh	West – Assam South – Manipur	
<b>Population</b>	19,88,636 (2001 census)		
Rural Population	16,35,815 (82.26%) (2001 census)		
Urban Population	3,52,821 (17.74%) (2001 census)		
Density of Population	120 per sq.km. (2001 census)		
<b>Sex Ratio</b>	909:1000 Female : Male (2001 census)		
<b>Literacy Rate</b>	Persons: 67.11%		
Male :	71.77%		
Female :	61.92%		
<b>Districts with HQs</b>	(1) Kohima, (4) Mon (7) Phek	(2) Mokokchung (5) Wokha (8) Dimapur	(3) Tuensang (6) Zunheboto
<b>Newly created districts</b>	(1) Longleng	(2) Kiphire	(3) Peren
<b>Number of Villages</b>	1286 (2001 census)		
<b>Number of Census towns</b>	9 (2001 census)		
<b>Biggest Village</b>	Kohima village (3965 households; 13,705 persons)		
<b>Official Language</b>	English		
<b>Average Rainfall</b>	2500 mm		
<b>Highest Peak</b>	Mount Saramati, 3840 metres (Tuensang district)		
<b>Other Important Peaks</b>	Mount Japfu, 3015 metres (Kohima district) Mount Zanubou, 2750 metres (Phek District) Mount Kupamedzu, 2650 metres (Phek district)		
<b>Forest Cover</b>	13,345 sq. km (80.49% of State's Geographical Area)		
<b>Main Rivers</b>	Dhansiri Doyang Dikhu Tizu Melak		
<b>Railway Head</b>	Dimapur		
<b>Airport</b>	Dimapur		
<b>Commercial Centre</b>	Dimapur		

## Decadal Growth

Nagaland has recorded progressively high decadal growth in population, increasing from 39.9 percent in 1979 to 64.4 percent in 2001. This decadal growth has been one of the highest in the country. The population grew by 5.0 percent per annum during 1971–81, which increased to 5.6 percent per annum during 1981–91, which again increased to 6.4 percent per annum during 1991–2001. During the decade 1991–2001 Wokha



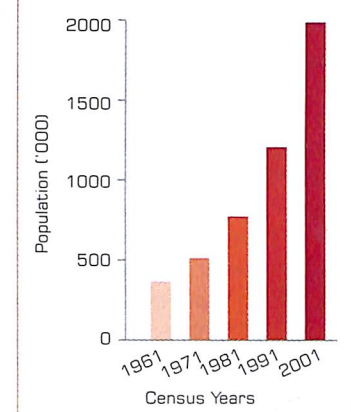


district registered a maximum growth rate of 95 percent, followed by Tuensang (78 percent). The district of Mokokchung registered the lowest growth rate of 43 percent during the period. The high growth rates over the decades have impacted the percentage of young people who form part of Naga society. Close to 40 percent of the population are below the age of 18. As a result, the dependency ratio has also increased.

### Urban-Rural Distribution

People living in rural areas constituted 82.3 percent of Nagaland's population in 2001, as against 90 percent in 1971. This is an indication of the migration that is taking place in the State from rural to urban areas. Though growth of urbanisation and economic growth are generally accepted as having a positive correlation, the high rate of migration into urban areas also implies a need for policy focus on the creation of employment opportunities as well as urban infrastructure to meet the requirements of the growing urban population. During the decade 1991–2001, there was a decrease in the percentage of urban population in the towns of Mon, Mokokchung and Tuensang. This is indicative of migration of urban population from these towns to other towns, possibly for access to better urban amenities and entrepreneurial opportunities. An urban management strategy, specific to local needs is required for Dimapur and Kohima, which play host to majority (36% and 21.6% respectively) of the urban population of the State. Besides, there is the usual presence of a floating urban population, which the two regions attract because one is the main commercial centre while the other is

Figure 1.2  
Population of Nagaland



Source: Census of India

### Demographic Profile of Nagaland

Table 1.1

Sl. No.	Particulars	1961	1971	1981	1991	2001
1	Total Population ('000)	369	516	775	1210	1989
2	Decennial Growth of Population (%)	--	39.88	50.05	56.08	64.41
3	Density of Population (per sq. km)	22	31	47	73	120
4	Percentage of Rural Population	94.80	90.00	84.48	82.79	82.26
5	Level of Urbanization (%)	5.20	10.0	15.52	17.21	17.74
6	Growth of Urbanization (%)	16.6	10.4	8.9	5.6	5.4
7	Literacy Rate (%)	20.40	27.40	42.57	61.65	67.11
8	Literacy Rate : Male (%)	27.2	35.02	50.1	67.52	71.8
9	Literacy Rate : Female (%)	13.0	18.65	33.9	61.65	61.9
10	Sex Ratio (females per 1000 males)	933	871	863	886	909
11	Percentage of Workers	NA	NA	48.23	42.68	42.74

Source: Census of India; National Family Health Survey, 1998-99



## Census in Nagaland

The first official census in Naga Hills was taken in 1891, that is, two decades after the first official census of India was taken in 1871. The first census covering the entire area of Naga Hills district was conducted in 1961, two years before it became the 16th State of India. Census of Nagaland State commenced from 1971 and, thereafter, successive censuses have been held in 1981, 1991 and 2001.



It is necessary to explore ways to develop the smaller towns as growth centres for uniform development in the State.

the State capital. It is, at the same time, necessary to explore ways to develop the smaller towns as growth centres for uniform development in the State.

## Literacy

The literacy rate, which was 20.4 percent in 1961, increased to 42.57 percent in 1981, and further increased to 67.11 percent in 2001. A positive element here is the increase in the female literacy level, which was 13 percent in 1961 but steadily increased to 39.9 percent in 1981 and to 61.92 percent in 2001. Among the various districts, Mokokchung and Wokha had the highest literacy rates of 84.27 percent and 81.28 percent respectively. These districts also achieved female literacy levels of more than 75 percent during 2001. Mon and Tuensang ranked the least with literacy rates of 42.25 percent and 51.30 percent respectively.

## The Gender Dimension: Reversing the Sex Ratio

The sex ratio in Nagaland, which had steadily declined from 933 in 1961 to 863 in 1981, showed a positive, reverse trend during the last two decades. From 863 in 1981, it rose to 886 in 1991 and finally, to 909 in 2001. This is a welcome feature as far as the demographic pattern is concerned. Among the various districts, Zunheboto and Kohima had the highest sex ratio of 945 and 944 respectively. The State's socio-cultural practices, which value the girl child, have contributed to the success of reversing the sex ratio, besides governmental and civil society interventions.

## Workforce

The workforce constitutes 42.74 percent of the population in Nagaland. Though in absolute numbers, the total number of workers has increased from 5.16 lakh in 1991 to 8.49 lakh in 2001, the percentage of workers to the population has remained at 42.7 percent. However, among the workers, the share of main workers has fallen from 42.29 percent to 35.62 percent, while the share of marginal workers has increased from 0.39 percent in 1991 to 7.12 percent in 2001. The near stagnant proportion of workers and increasing share of marginal workers is indicative of increased prevalence of unemployment and disguised unemployment in the State. In Mon, Tuensang, Zunheboto, Wokha and Dimapur, there was a fall in the percentage of workers in the districts over the period 1991–2001. Among the workers, 68.03 percent were engaged in agricultural activities while only 2.12 percent were engaged in household industry and 29.18 percent constituted other workers during 2001.





## II. Traditions and Historical Evolution

### Cultural and Linguistic Traditions

Nagaland is inhabited by 16 major tribes along with a number of sub-tribes. Ao, Angami, Chang, Konyak, Lotha, Sumi, Chakhesang, Khamniungam, Kachari, Phom, Rengma, Sangtam, Yimchungrü, Kuki, Zeliang and Pochury are the major tribes. Each tribe is distinct and unique in character from the others in terms of customs, language and attire. The colourful and intricately designed costumes and ornaments, that were traditionally worn, can easily distinguish each of the tribes and sub-tribes.

The multiplicity of tribes, within such a limited space, could be due to the fact that the Naga ancestors migrated to the present location in different groups and they remained confined to their ridges and mountainous terrain. This, subsequently, resulted in their unique characteristic of appearing to be both one people and many tribes, displaying both unity and diversity in their customs, traditions, attire and political systems.



**Tribes and Festivals of Nagaland**

Table 1.2

Tribe	Subdivision / District	Main Festival	Celebrated during
Angami	Kohima	Sekrenyi	February
Ao	Mokokchung	Moatsu, Tsungremong	May, August
Chakhesang	Phek	Tsukhenyie, Sukrenyi	April/May, January
Chang	Tuensang	Kundanglem, Nuknyu Lem	April, July
Kachari	Dimapur	Bushu Jiba, Baisagn	January, April
Khamniungam	Noklak in Tuensang	Miu Festival, Tsokum	May, October
Konyak	Mon	Aoleang Monyu	April
Kuki	Dimapur; Peren	Mimkut	January
Lotha	Wokha	Tokhu Emong	November
Phom	Longleng	Monyu, Moha, Bongvum	April, May, October
Pochury	Meluri in Phek	Yemshe	October
Rengma	Tseminyu in Kohima	Ngadah	September
Sangtam	Kiphire; Tuensang	Amongmong	September
Sumi	Zunheboto	Ahuna, Tuluni	November, July
Yimchungru	Shamator in Tuensang and Kiphire	Metumniu, Tsungkamniu	August, January
Zeliang	Peren	Hega, Langsimyi/Changa Gadi, and Mileinyi	February, October, March

The State is replete with festivities throughout the year, as all tribes celebrate their own festivals with a pageantry of colour, music and dance. A common feature is that the festivals revolve around agriculture, the mainstay of Naga economy. These festivals hark back to times prior to the advent of Christianity. The predominant theme of the festivals is offering prayers to the Supreme Being, known by different names in different Naga tribal languages.

Nagaland has a rich linguistic tradition with as many languages as there are tribes, each exclusive to itself. What is even more remarkable is that even within the language of a particular tribe, there are dialects mutually unintelligible. For instance, in some tribes like the Angami, every village has a slightly different variation even within the same dialect—this variance progressively increasing with the geographical distance. This makes inter-tribe and intra-tribe communication very difficult. In the circumstances, English has come to serve as the State language while Nagamese, a kind of pidgin Assamese, has become the common lingua. Each of the languages continues to be spoken and used. The music, ballads, knowledge systems, art and colour combinations of the beautiful Naga shawls, etc., represent times of leisure and the fact that at least some of the tribes may have belonged to an ancient civilisation.



## History

The early history of the Nagas is sketchy. Ancient Sanskrit scriptures mention *Kiratas*, golden skinned people of the sub-Himalayan region, with distinct culture, who migrated from their original home to the Himalayan slopes and mountains of the East. Another view is that the Nagas belong to the Mongoloid race, and they migrated and settled in the north-eastern part of present India and established their respective sovereign village-states although when they came and how they came to their present habitations are still unsettled questions. The only things that are clear is that all the tribes say their ancestors came from the east and that they were settled in the area before the arrival of the Ahoms in 1228 A.D. Even the origin of the word 'Naga' is yet to be settled finally. Many scholars have made an attempt to define the word 'Naga'. A popularly accepted view is that it originated from the Burmese word 'Naka', meaning people with earrings. It is believed that as the British came to this part of the country through Burma and asked questions about the people living therein, the reply of 'Naka' from their Burmese guides was recorded as 'Naga', and thus used subsequently.

The word 'Naga' originated from the Burmese word 'Naka' meaning people with earrings

In the years before Indian independence, the Nagas of North-East India came to exemplify an exotic society. People of the hills, radically different in culture and beliefs, were renowned for their fierce resistance to British rule and their past practice of head taking. Their frequent raids into the plains of Assam prompted the British to penetrate into the





dense forests of Naga Hills in the nineteenth century to establish their control over the region.

The first Europeans to enter the hills were Captains Jenkins and Pemberton, who marched across the land in 1832. The early British relations with the tribes were one of perpetual conflict. Between 1839 and 1850, 10 military expeditions were led to the hills, to explore the region, punish the Nagas for their raids and to establish British control. The policy of military expeditions and involvement in Naga affairs was changed after the bloody battle at Kikrūma in 1852 and the British adopted a policy of non-interference with the hill men. However, this policy did not bear fruit. During 1851 to 1865 there were persistent raids by the Nagas on British subjects in the plains.

Therefore, the British India Government, reviewing its earlier policy, in 1866, decided to form a new district, with its headquarters at Samaguting, present Chümukedima. Establishment of the British post at Samaguting was a landmark in the history of British-Naga relations. It signified the Government's determination to control the Nagas effectively. Captain Butler, who was appointed to this charge in 1869, did much to consolidate the British presence in the hills. These advances were resisted by the tribesmen. In 1878, the headquarters of the district was transferred to Kohima with the objective of effectively controlling and influencing the Naga Hills.

During 1879, Political Officer Damant was determined to control the powerful village of Khonoma. He marched on to Khonoma with his troops, where he was shot dead with 35 of his escorts. The whole countryside then rose and proceeded to besiege the stockade at Kohima, and the garrison was under severe attack before it was relieved. The subsequent defeat of Khonoma marked the end of serious trouble and hostility in the Naga Hills. Between 1880 and 1922, the British consolidated their position over a large area of the Naga Hills. Those Nagas who still remained outside British administration were referred to as 'Free Nagas' in the 'Unadministered Areas'. These 'Free Nagas' included the tribes now living in Mon and Tuensang districts of present day Nagaland.

When India won independence, the Naga Hills was a district in the State of Assam. The Naga People's Convention in 1957 proposed the formation of a separate administrative unit by merging the Tuensang Frontier Division of the North East Frontier Agency (NEFA—present Arunachal Pradesh) with the Naga Hills district of Assam. The Government of India accepted this proposal and on December 1, 1957, the Union Government took over the administration of Naga Hills district of Assam and Tuensang division of NEFA to form a separate administrative unit called 'Naga Hills–Tuensang Area (NHTA)'.



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In July 1960 the Sixteen Point Agreement between the then Prime Minister of India and representatives of Naga People's Convention resulted in the creation of Nagaland as a constituent State of the Indian Union. With the enactment of the Constitution (Thirteenth Amendment) Act, 1962, the State of Nagaland came into existence on 1st December 1963 as the sixteenth state in the country. It comprised the Naga Hills–Tuensang Area, which was formed in 1957. A distinctive feature of the new State was the special protection guaranteed under Article 371(A) of the Indian Constitution to safeguard the tribal law, traditional institutions and practices of the Nagas.

### Political Process

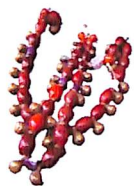
Nagaland has had a troubled political history for many decades, with insurgency pre-dating statehood. What had begun as a non-violent struggle for self-determination later took the form of a violent and armed conflict in the 1950s.

Concerned over the continued violence, the Nagaland Baptist Church Council initiated peace efforts. This took concrete and positive shape during its Convention in early 1964 and the historic Peace Mission was launched the same year. The relentless endeavour of the Peace Mission actively supported by the Church resulted in an agreement for cessation of fire, on May 23, 1964, which came into effect on September 6. Several rounds of talks followed, including at the Prime Ministerial level, but the talks finally deadlocked, and the ceasefire was effectively over by 1972. The Church, however, continued with its peace efforts and formed the Nagaland Peace Council in 1972. Three years of efforts resulted in the Shillong Accord of November 11, 1975. Subsequently, the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) was formed in 1980. Active fighting resumed in the eighties.

On 25th July 1997, the Government of India announced a cease-fire with the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Isaac-Muivah) with effect from 1st August 1997—the NSCN had split into two groups in the latter part of the 1980s. Subsequently, in April 2001, the Government of India also extended the cease-fire agreement to the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang). These cease-fire agreements have led to the generation of optimism, hope and creation of a supportive macro environment. Government and the civil society are engaged in a purposeful conversation aimed at societal development. People of the State are desirous of permanent peace. They are willing and eager to contribute to the process of change.

### III. Overall Economy and Sectoral Contributions

Nagaland started the planned process of development much later than the rest of the country. It missed out on the benefits of the first



“Of all the states in India, Nagaland has a unique history. We are sensitive to this historical fact.”

“...The Central Government has an equally strong desire for permanent peace in Nagaland, based on a lasting solution, with honour and dignity for its people... The time has come to leave the sad chapter of conflict and violence behind us.”

– Sh A.B. Vajpayee,  
Prime Minister of India,  
October 2003, Kohima.





three Five Year Plans. The State has also been inhibited in its growth because of insurgency and much of its scarce resources had to be spent on establishment costs. Given these constraints, the State's rapid strides in planned socio-economic development, especially in the fields of infrastructure and development indicators, are commendable. Table 1.3 gives an indication of the progress made.

Despite the progress made in a span of 40 years, Nagaland's economy still confronts many developmental challenges. Foremost among them are relative isolation, the difficult terrain, inaccessibility to the rest of the world and continued insurgency. These handicap the State's endeavours towards industrial and entrepreneurial development, private sector partnership in spearheading development initiatives and all-round regional planning. Remoteness and inaccessibility are also the predominant cause for regional disparities in the State. An Index for Social and Economic Infrastructure by the Eleventh Finance Commission, during 1999, ranked Nagaland, with an index of 76.14, as the seventh most remote State in the country. (Arunachal Pradesh, with an index of 69.71, was adjudged the most inaccessible while Goa, with an index of 200.57, was given the highest index).

### Progress Made During 40 Years of Statehood

Table 1.3

Sl. No.	Item	Unit	1962-63	2002-03
1.	Total Length of Roads	Km	837	9860
2.	Villages Connected with Roads	Number	NA	1092 (79.4 %)
3.	Water Supply Provided	No. of Villages/ Habitations	Nil	1304 (94.77 %)
4.	Generation of Electric Power	MW	0.20	29.00 (98.2 %)
5.	Villages Electrified	Number	6	1216
6.	Literacy	Percent	17.91	67.11
7.	Life Expectancy	Years	NA	73.4
8.	Primary Schools	Number	592	1311
9.	Middle Schools/High Schools	Number	22	121
10.	Government Hospitals	Number	8	13
11.	Dispensaries/Sub-centres	Number	3	422
12.	Hospital Beds	Number	613	2065
13.	Area under Irrigation	'000 Ha	1.51	65.63
14.	Foodgrain Production	'000 tonnes	61.82	386.30

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Nagaland



## Battle of Kohima

'The Battle of Kohima will probably go down as one of the greatest battles in history.'  
 –Lord Mountbatten, *Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in the Asian Theatre of World War II.*

Echoing Lord Mountbatten's words, Field Marshall Wavell stated, 'When the history of the War comes to be written, the fight here will be put down as the turning point of the War, when the Japanese were routed and their downfall really began.'

As a turning point of World War II, the Battle of Kohima has often been compared with Stalingrad in Europe and El Alamein in the desert because it was in Kohima that the Japanese advance was finally halted. The battle of nearly three months was bitter and the Nagas played a decisive role in turning the tide of the battle by gathering intelligence, providing guides, carrying loads, capturing the enemy and even sacrificing their homes by burning to deny them to the Japanese forces.

On March 6th 1944, the Japanese had launched their U-Go offensive from northern Burma. U-Go had two objectives: to prevent the Allies from retaking Burma and to break into India. The Japanese were confident of victory, but were soon to be taught a terrible lesson. The immediate gateway to India, at the time, lay through Imphal but Kohima, 130 miles (210 km) to the north, with its railhead at Dimapur, could prove even more strategically important to reach the mainland.

The British were aware of the Japanese thrust. But even they were surprised by its initial speed. By April 4, the Japanese had not only entered Kohima, through the east, but also cut off the only link road to Imphal. It seemed that Kohima, on its saddle ridge, was the last barrier for the Japanese forces before they reached the plains.

Unfortunately for the Japanese forces, due to differences of perception of strategic importance of Imphal and Kohima, between General Sato and General Mutaguchi, his immediate superior, General Sato was forced to order withdrawal of his forces from Kohima on May 31. Decimated by fighting, disease and hunger, Japanese soldiers still fought a valiant withdrawal. *Only 20,000 of the 85,000 Japanese who had come to invade India were left standing. The cost to the Allies had been 17,857 British and Indian troops killed, wounded and missing.* Before leaving Kohima, the British erected a moving memorial in memory of their fallen comrades: **'When you go home, tell them of us, and say: 'For your tomorrow, we gave our today.'**

Nagaland's remoteness is one of the factors that has adversely impacted the spread of banking infrastructure, availability of credit, and consequently, industrial development in the State. During 2001, credit deposit ratio (CDR) for Nagaland was only 13.6, the lowest in the country. The low CDR has hampered the ability of the State to break the vicious cycle of remoteness and inability and attract capital flows due to overall resource-deficiency, which is made worse by the presence of continuous insurgency. Thus, Nagaland has been unable to effect key investments (government and private) to develop infrastructure and accelerate the growth of the economy.





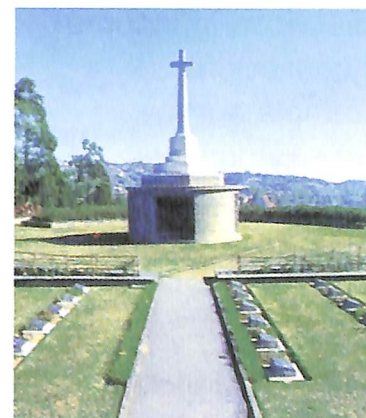
Neither the Japanese nor the British could forget the Battle of Kohima. Long after the battle, a Japanese General still could not bring himself to talk about it. 'Not that great, bitter battle' was his response. The British veterans and contemporary soldiers of the 2nd Division, on the other hand, always participated in the annual reunions to remember their fallen comrades but did not allow others to attend the functions. These were moments too private to include others.

During the 40th anniversary of the Battle of Kohima, in 1984, Captain Richard de Channer, who won the Military Cross in the Battle of Kohima–Imphal, made crosses out of seasoned bamboo from Kohima and presented them to the surviving battalion and regimental commanders of the Battle of Kohima. Earlier in 1973, Captain Channer, along with Col Brandford Hartland of the 10th Gurkhas, who was seconded as Adjutant to Assam Regiment Battalion in Kohima in the 1930s, and helped to build the now famous Tennis Court, in the centre of the Cemetery, had paid a special pilgrimage to the Kohima War Cemetery to remember fallen comrades. Before coming, they wrote and asked if the Japanese veterans would like them to lay a wreath at the Kohima War Cemetery in memory of the Japanese dead. General Ichiji Sugita, Chief of Staff of the Japanese Defence Forces in 1962 and leading member of the All Burma Veterans Association of Japan, arranged for a wreath to be ready in Kohima. This wreath Col Hartland and Captain Channer laid in memory of the Japanese dead at the Cherry Tree, on the edge of the Tennis Court, from where a Japanese sniper fought. The Cherry Tree marks the limit of the Japanese advance in Kohima. Later, Captain Channer and some of his veteran-friends went to Japan on a journey of reconciliation. The reconciliation effort was sustained and, finally, British and Japanese veterans came back to Kohima, the scene of battle in 1944, and effected a reconciliation ceremony according to Naga custom at the Kohima Cathedral. (The war veterans had contributed towards the building of the Cathedral).



Kohima Cathedral.

Most veterans of the Battle of Kohima are now dead or getting very old. The re-union of the British veterans of this great battle will be held in July 2004. But they are still not ready to part with the memory of Kohima or forget the debt of gratitude to the Nagas they carry in their hearts. They wished that the friendship and help given to them by the Nagas should never be forgotten. And that a people-to-people link between Kohima and York—many soldiers of the British 2nd Division, which fought in Kohima, were from York and its vicinity—should be maintained. Therefore, in 2003, the surviving veterans instituted the Kohima Educational Trust 'to help Nagas with the education of their children in any ways appropriate and possible within the Trust's means and to establish links between the schools, colleges and the University of York and their counterparts in Kohima'. To the veterans, this 'is a debt of honour' .



World War II Cemetery, Kohima.

Sources: 'Peace in Nagaland' ; 'Kohima' ; 'The Naga Imbroglion' ; 'The Kohima Educational Trust', UK

## Regional Disparities

On the whole, the level of socio-economic development in the western regions of Nagaland is higher than in the eastern side. This is because contiguity to Assam provides better connectivity while on the Myanmar side accessibility still presents formidable problems.

It must, however, be mentioned that dynamics of poverty in Nagaland are quite different from other parts of the country. Due to strong community spirit and social capital, the poor are looked after, and cared for, by kith



and kin and the community. As a result, there is no case of starvation deaths and no one is shelterless.

The State has identified Mon and Tuensang districts as well as Meluri subdivision in Phek, Bhandari in Wokha, Peren in Kohima and Pughoboto in Zunheboto as its backward areas. These areas were 'traditionally' remote and inaccessible. Present Mon and Tuensang districts were also part of the 'un-administered areas' during the British period.

In order to expedite the process of development in the less developed and remote areas, the State Government has created a new department for underdeveloped areas. It has also decided to create three new districts, viz. Longleng, Kiphire (erstwhile sub-divisions of Tuensang district) and Peren (under Kohima district). The Government hopes the new status for these regions would result in focused attention so as to bring them to the level of the more developed areas.



In order to quantify the achievements of the different districts in income generation, sample survey was conducted to determine the district domestic products.

### State Domestic Product

The net state domestic product (NSDP) of Nagaland has shown an increase from Rs. 10,547 lakh in 1980–81 to Rs. 57,898 lakh in 1990–91 (at constant 1980–81 prices) and to Rs. 223,042 lakh during 2000–01 (at constant 1993–94 prices). The per capita income in the State increased from Rs. 1361 during 1980–81 to Rs. 5520 during 1990–91. During 2000–01, per capita income was Rs. 11,473 (at constant 1993–94 prices) as against Rs. 10,306 for the country as a whole.

An estimation of district incomes (district domestic product) has not been carried out by the State Government or other agencies of the Government of India. In order to quantify the achievements of the different districts in income generation, sample survey was conducted to determine the district domestic products. The results of the survey quantify that the per capita income of the State is Rs. 11,119, with Dimapur having the highest per capita income among the districts (Rs. 16,837) and Mon having the least (Rs. 4,500).

A look at the share of the various sectors in the NSDP during the last two decades shows that the share of the primary sector declined from 32.5 percent in 1980–81 to 31.01 percent in 2000–01. Among the primary sectors, agriculture formed the major component and its share declined from 28.65 percent to 27.48 percent during the above period. During the same period, the share of secondary sector rose from 14.13 percent to 15.18 percent. These figures show that Nagaland's economy has not witnessed many structural changes in the past two decades.

The share of the tertiary sector has shown some fluctuations—it increased from 53.4 percent in 1980–81 to 58.14 percent in 1995–1996, and





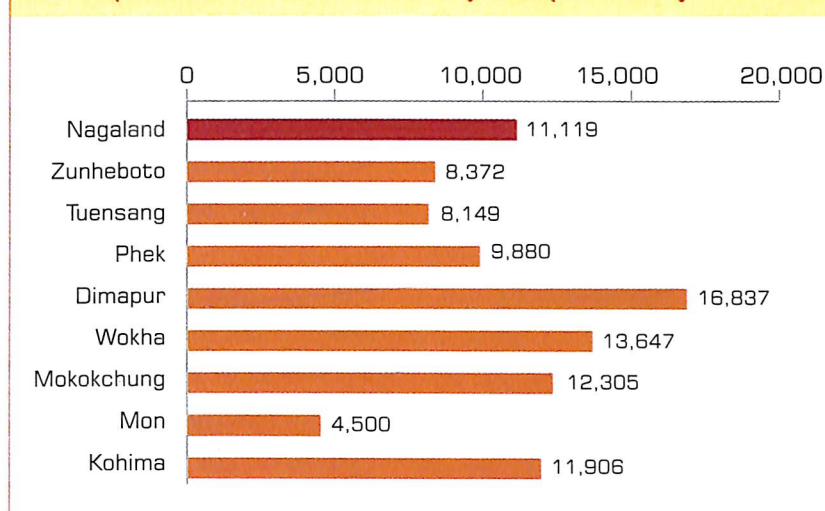
declined to 53.81 percent in 2000–01. Within the tertiary sector, transport, storage and communication formed a major share. Their share in the NSDP, which was 1.68 percent in 1980–81, increased to 18.14 percent in 1999–2000. Public administration and finance and real estate are the other important components in the tertiary sector.

## Agriculture Development

Agriculture has traditionally been and continues to be the mainstay of Naga life—the numerous festivals are centred around agriculture and have their roots in cultivation practices. Seventy-three percent of the people in Nagaland are engaged in agriculture. Rice is the staple food. It occupies about 70 percent of the total cultivated area and constitutes about 75 percent of the total food grain production in the State. Other crops include maize, linseed, potato, pulses, soya bean, sugarcane, jute, gram, cotton, castor, etc. However, like most of the world's tribal population, the production system in Nagaland has been close to proto-agriculture, which has enabled close links between nature and people from generation to generation. These linkages and traditional practices have been formalised through experiences and empirical observations, and interwoven with social, religious and traditional values. The impact of modern scientific practices has not been appreciable as most high external input technologies are not suitable for high altitudes and rain-fed conditions.

Major land use pattern in Nagaland continues to be shifting cultivation, known as Jhum. Though often considered primitive and unproductive, Jhum is a complex agricultural system that is well adapted under certain conditions, which require exhaustive comprehension

Figure 1.3  
Per Capita Incomes Estimated by Sample Survey



Source: Estimated by Prof Manoj Pant, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

## Land Use Pattern

Table 1.4

i.	Total Area	Sq. km	16,579
ii.	Forest Cover	Sq. km (%)	13,345 (80.49%)
iii.	Forest Area	Sq. km (%)	8,629 (52.04%)
iv.	Area under Agriculture	Ha	3,89,120
	a. Gross Sown Area	Ha	2,60,000
	b. Net Sown Area	Ha	2,48,354
	c. Area Sown More than Once	Ha	9,000
v.	Area under Irrigation		
	a. Irrigated Area	Ha	66,000
	b. Net Irrigated Area	Ha	62,000
vi.	Area under Shifting Cultivation	Sq km	190
vii.	No. of Cultivators	in lakh	5.444
viii.	No. of Agricultural Labourers	in lakh	0.338
ix.	No. of Families Practising Shifting Cultivation		1,16,046

Source: Basic Statistics of NER, 2002; Forest Survey of India 2001



of the environment to succeed. The major challenge continuing to face Nagaland is how to adapt its land use pattern and production systems to the increased population and changing lifestyles, making them biologically and economically sustainable. Shifting cultivation covers over 73 percent of the total arable area of the State. It is mostly concentrated in the districts of Mokokchung, Tuensang, Wokha, Zunheboto and Mon. In other areas, terraced rice cultivation (TRC) or combined Jhum and TRC are practised.

During the last four decades, the food grain production in Nagaland has shown an upward trend from 62,000 metric tonnes in 1964–65 to 386,390 tonnes in 2001–02. The productivity increased from 700 kg per hectare to 1300 kg per hectare over the period. However, the State is not self-sufficient in production of food grains. Non-traditional crops such as wheat, barley, spices, rubber and sugarcane are also gaining popularity in recent years, promising to convert agriculture from subsistence farming to commercially viable activity. The land is extremely fertile and can produce the best quality of agro-based, horticulture and floriculture products through organic farming. The potential of Nagaland becoming an 'organic state', and for exports and foreign exchange, is real. Strategic initiatives in the fields of animal husbandry, fishery and sericulture could result in generation of resources and overall development of the rural economy.

### **Forest Cover**

As shown in Table 1.4, forest cover is 80.49 percent of the total area of Nagaland. As such, forests represent the richest natural resource of the State. Nagaland is also very rich in biodiversity with abundance of animal, insect and plant species. The State has a wealth of herbal, medicinal and aromatic plants with tremendous economic potentials. The rich forest cover holds tremendous potential for bio-technological manipulations and also indicates strength for a sustainable timber industry, especially through tree cultivation.

### **Industrial Development**

The industrial base of Nagaland is narrow. The majority of the industrial units/village industries are based on local forest products, agro-products and traditional handloom and cottage industries. The State has established six growth centres for industrial development. However, they have not been able to satisfactorily meet the objectives for which they were envisioned. Nagaland had only 73 industrial units including small-scale industries, government emporiums, district industrial centres and specialised farms in 1980. This increased to 1160 in 1999–2000. This includes 1064 small-scale units. The paper mill established at Tuli in Mokokchung district and sugar mill in Dimapur faced serious difficulties. The sugar mill has since been closed down. New initiatives are necessary after careful survey of the developmental potentials of different regions.





## Mineral Wealth

Coal, limestone, nickel, cobalt, chromium, magnetite, copper, zinc, and recently discovered platinum, petroleum and natural gas are the major minerals available in Nagaland. The State has huge caches of unutilised and unexploited limestone, marble, granite, petroleum and natural gas. Coal is found in Nazira, Borjan and Teru valley of Mon district. Limestone of grey to whitish grey colour is found at Wazeho and Satuza in Phek district and at Nimi belt in Tuensang district. Ores of nickeliferous chromite-magnetite occur in the Ultra Basic Belt at Pokhpur in Tuensang district. Nagaland is yet to fully explore its huge estimated reserves of natural oil.

The hydrocarbons are found in the western portion of Nagaland, where connectivity is available in the foothills. The metallic and non-metallic minerals are located in the remote and backward eastern parts bordering Myanmar, ideal for export to the South East Asian region. If the discovered minerals are economically exploited, these would turn out to be a rich resource base and the mineral-related trade can make a huge contribution to the State economy. Unfortunately, though the potential exists, not much has been achieved so far due to funding and planning process constraints. In this connection, the proposed 'X Road' of the Government could provide good connectivity for exploiting the mineral wealth of the State and for trade and commerce both in the State and the country and with South East and East Asian countries.

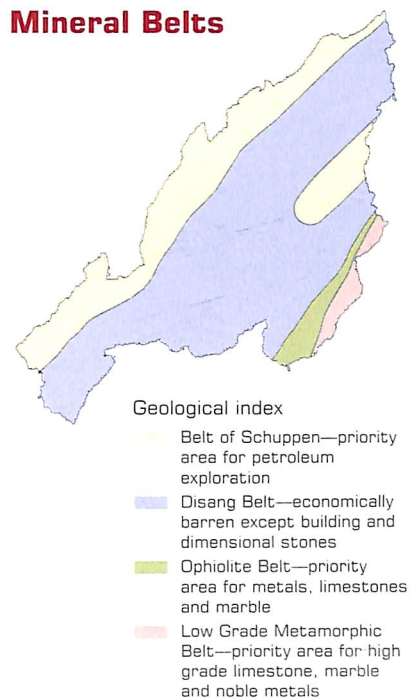
## Infrastructure Development

The strategy and approach of the State Government have been to provide the basic infrastructure requirements of the people such as roads, water supply, power supply, schools, hospitals, etc. The State has been largely successful in this and a large part of the infrastructure is now in place. The achievements of the State in providing infrastructure showed that 13.96 percent of the villages had pucca roads as on 31 March 1986, which increased to 29.24 percent as on 31 March 2000. Similarly, the percentage of villages having primary schools increased from 92.0 percent to 96.6 percent during the above period. There was an increase in the percentage of villages with primary health centre from 18.0 percent to 26.3 percent. The percentage of villages having facilities for potable drinking water increased from 67.6 percent to 75.2 percent during the same period. However, the State has been grappling with challenges to maintain the assets created in this hilly, geologically fragile, high-rainfall State.

Though significant progress has been made, Nagaland still remains under-developed and inaccessible. The High Level Commission on Transforming the North-East constituted under Sh R.P. Shukla, Member of Union Planning Commission, during 1996 estimated that the infrastructure

Figure 1.4

## Mineral Belts



The strategy and approach of the State Government have been to provide the basic infrastructure requirements of the people such as roads, water supply, power supply, schools, hospitals.

gap for North-East India was Rs. 97,000 crore. For Nagaland, the estimate was Rs. 11,000 crore. These figures reflect the extent of further investments required to come at par with other states of India. Such requirement of funds cannot be met from plan funding or assistance from Central Government alone. The State will also have to evolve a model of development, which will require people's participation and willingness to be partners with the Government in the process of development, change and prosperity.

### **Transportation**

The rail network in Nagaland is nominal (13 km). The only airport in the State is at Dimapur. Surface transport is the main method of communication in this land-locked hilly State. This has resulted in the development of an impressive network of public and private sector road transport system. The road length of national highways is 365.38 km and of state roads is 1094 km. During 1996–97, the road density was 1107 per thousand sq. km as against the all India road density of 749 per thousand sq. km.

However, road transport has been handicapped by inadequate development and poor maintenance of roads. All-weather roads linking the scattered villages are a prerequisite for development of potential areas. This holds true for agriculture, social, industrial, entrepreneurial and mineral development. As many villages are still not covered by all-weather roads, the villagers have been deprived of proper socio-economic development in education, primary health care, and ready access of farmers' products to the market.

### **Power**

Nagaland is not self-sufficient in power, generating only 29 MW (2001). The State purchases power from neighbouring states to meet its requirement. The annual energy consumption of 225 MU (2001) provides a very low per capita consumption of about 130 units per year only compared to an Indian average of 370 units. The current peak demand is estimated at about 75 MW but it is restricted to only 50 MW. The quality too is low, with frequent curtailment and interruption, transformer failures and low voltage.

The bulk of the power in Nagaland is purchased from the North-Eastern Grid, which is expected to be power surplus, with large hydel projects coming on-stream in other states. The total existing installed State generation capacity is 29 MW, all based on hydropower. Current mean availability from this is about 90MU (2002 onwards). Under the central sector there is an operational 75 MW hydel plant, from which the State receives a share of 12 percent of the generated power. The 24 MW Likimro Hydro Electric Project has been commissioned and a few mini-hydro projects are under construction, which will add about 3 MW to



The bulk of the power in Nagaland is purchased from the North-Eastern Grid, which is expected to be power surplus, with large hydel projects coming on-stream in other states.





the existing generation. A thermal power plant is planned to be set up at Dimapur within the next two years.

Power generation, transmission and distribution are managed by the Nagaland Department of Power (DoP). The DoP's current financial situation is dire with a revenue collection of Rs. 19 crore against a power purchase bill of Rs. 36 crore (2001). The State suffers from high transmission and distribution (T&D) losses, estimated at 58 percent. Due to old and overloaded T&D infrastructure, technical losses form a significant fraction. In this regard, it may be mentioned that the State Power Department does not have the facility to undertake an audit of power transmission or distribution. Consequently, no detailed projection or analysis of segment-wise demand is available in the State. However, an investment projection of Rs. 4,500 crore (US\$ 900 million) has been made to raise the generating capacity of the State to 450 MW, based on a notional per capita consumption target of 1,000 units.

### **Water Supply**

Most of the Naga villages are located on hilltops, which make supply of drinking water a challenging task. Therefore, water has to be normally supplied, through gravity, from a source located at a higher altitude than the village. The number of villages having protected water supply sources in 1963 was only 59. Now, 1304 (fully covered–261, partially covered–1043) of the 1376 villages/habitations (approximately 95%) have been provided with drinking water supply. Under the ongoing water supply schemes, the remaining 72 villages/habitations will also be covered during 2004. Efforts are also being made to augment the water supply/distribution in the State, both in the rural and urban areas, to keep pace with the increasing requirement of water as the population grows. The objective is to achieve the recommended norm of 40 lpcd (litres per capita per day). Attempts are being made to involve the community in implementation and maintenance of the water supply schemes.



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## **Sustaining Development: Health and Education**

### **Health**

In spite of the high decadal growth rate in population, the health profile of Nagaland has shown tremendous success, particularly in the expansion of primary health care system, the progressive increase in the number of trained health providers and the low infant mortality rate. Nagaland's crude birth rate is higher than the all India figures but the State's infant mortality rate is much lower. The vital statistics of every married woman producing four children during her productive phase has resulted in a total fertility rate of 3.77. The couple protection rate, i.e.



use of contraceptives, is 30.3 percent. This shows there is need for improvement in the health profile indicators in the State.

The programmes carried out during the last 40 years have resulted in fairly good infrastructure facilities for health for the people of Nagaland. During 1980, the State had 204 health centres, including urban hospitals, rural hospitals, primary health centres and sub-centres with a total of 1367 beds and 156 doctors. By 1999–2000, the number of health centres increased to 425, with 1633 beds and 394 doctors. The coverage was roughly 20 doctors and 30 hospitals/health centres per lakh population. The health professional to total population ratio was 1: 4000, against the recommended ratio of 1: 3500. This showed inadequacy of health facilities to meet the requirements of the State. Specialised services were even more limited. The State has, so far, not taken full advantage of its vast potential of indigenous medicines, readily available, to take health to all its citizens. Ethno-medicinal practitioners too enjoy the confidence of the people, who often go to them first before approaching modern health providers.



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During 1999–2000, 37.1 percent of rural households approached government hospitals for health care whereas 34 percent went to private clinics. The corresponding figures for urban areas were 34.8 percent and 57 percent. This showed that people, especially in urban areas, were willing to pay for good health facilities.

Communitisation of health services has been initiated since July 2002 to delegate powers for management of the health centres to the community. The initiative has resulted in a marked improvement in the quality of health care facilities available in the villages.

### **Education**

There has been a phenomenal increase in the levels of literacy, which was 67.11 percent in 2001 as compared to 21 percent in 1963. However, against a national increase of 21.39 percent in the literacy rate during the period 1991 to 2001, the State witnessed an increase of only 8.86 percent in the same period. Consequently, there was lead of a mere 3.73 percent above the national average in the State's literacy during 1991–2001 as compared to a lead of 9.24 percent during 1971–81.

In spite of the laudable achievements made by Nagaland in terms of the educational infrastructure and the improvements in literacy percentage, the quality of education being made available is a matter of concern. Improvement of existing educational infrastructure, extensive human resource development and support for teachers' training will be vital. The pass percentage in the matriculation examination is only 48.6 percent, whereas in higher secondary it is 76.5 percent. The dropout rates





at class 10 and 12 levels are considerable. Unfortunately, vocational training and entrepreneurial skills building still remain weak.

There is need for at least one college each for medicine and engineering. At the moment, the Government of Nagaland nominates and sends students on stipend, annually, to various institutions in the country as per allotment of seats made by the Union Government. Other sectors like IT, biotechnology and environmental studies need to be built up, considering the inherent strengths of the State in these areas. The existing two government polytechnics (a third polytechnic is in the offing) need to be revitalised by inculcating the spirit and attitude towards work, introducing relevant trades, and by providing adequate support for physical facilities and equipment.

With a view to revitalising education, the Government passed an Act in 2002, communitising elementary school education in the State. Under this initiative, the management and development of elementary schools have been transferred to the community. It is anticipated that community involvement and participation would not only ensure universalisation of education but also yield quality results.

#### **IV. The Way Ahead**

Development in Nagaland started under very challenging circumstances. Besides near absolute lack of any infrastructure, its remoteness and inaccessibility, the State was also engulfed in protracted and violent insurgency, which disrupted development efforts at every stage.

Nevertheless, in 40 years of statehood, Nagaland has made significant progress. The administrative reach has extended to the far corners of the State, which is one way of addressing the problem of 'remoteness'. Important infrastructure has been laid and connectivity within the State has improved. Nagaland has also made tremendous progress in all major sectors of human development. Its literacy rate has reached 67.11 percent from a mere 20.40 percent in 1961. Its sex ratio, CBR, CDR, IMR and MMR rates are better than the national average. Life expectancy is 73.4 years. The per capita income has also climbed above the national average as per 2001 figures. However, the major challenges which confronted the State in the beginning still remain. Because of this, in most cases, the figures and statistics, even though impressive, do not reveal the complete picture. For instance, while the literacy rate is encouraging, the quality of education has suffered and the unemployment rates, especially of educated youth, are a real cause for concern. Problems related to infrastructure remain. There is also the question of mobilisation of internal resources, especially through exploitation of the State's natural resources. Strategic planning and intelligent investments will be as important as finding sources of funding.



Improvement of existing educational infrastructure, extensive human resource development and support for teachers' training are vital for educational development.





### **Intrinsic Strengths**

Social Capital—clan, village, tribal bonds

- Social Capital—village governance systems and network
- Absence of beggary, dowry, caste system, female infanticide
- High literacy rate of 67.11%
- Abundant fertile land
- High land: man ratio
- Resilient and hospitable people

The State is at a crucial stage in its trajectory of growth. The rich social capital of Naga communities, the general resilience of the society, the varied and rich environmental capital and the mineral wealth are the inherent strengths to build upon for a faster and sustainable progress. Through various innovative policy interventions, the State Government is making efforts to tap into this rich social capital and to bring the people back into the centre of decision-making. One of them is the Nagaland Communitisation of Public Institutions and Services Act, 2002, where management of Government assets is being turned over to the village communities. The people have responded favourably although the initiative is still in its infancy.

As Nagaland looks forward, the following areas have to be addressed:

- ◆ Conditions to overcome the immediate impacts of violence.
- ◆ Development initiatives to improve infrastructure, living and working conditions.
- ◆ Special attention for the youth of Nagaland in the fields of technical education, recreation and gainful employment.
- ◆ New strategies for a 'Developed Nagaland'.
- ◆ A purposeful model of interaction between the people, administrators and political leadership has to achieve this vision of a 'Developed Nagaland'.

The last few years of ceasefire have given the people renewed hope. Naga society is now poised at a critical juncture. The time to build is now.

