**Chapter-1**

**GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 INTRODUCTION**

Geography being a science of spatial studies requires verification of facts. Field studies and observation are essential for discovering geographical facts and process affecting them. By analyzing the physical features as well as human activities of a particular area by survey/field study, one is able to understand the unique characteristics of that area.

The study of economic and social settings cannot be neglected where geographical studies include social aspect to understand the spatial variations of human cultural traits. Rawpuichhip village has been chosen as the study area, which is located on the extreme north-western part of the state Mizoram

**1.2 OBJECTIVES**

* To study physical attributes of Rawpuichhip.
* To study economic conditions of Rawpuichhip.
* To examine demographic profile of Rawpuichhip.

**1.3 STUDY AREA**

Rawpuichhip is one of the villages in Mamit District. Rawpuichhip is a medium size village located in the north-western part of Mamit District in Reiek Block, Mizoram with total 316 families residing. The Rawpuichhip village has population of 1507 of which 746 are males while 761 are females as per Population Census 2011.  It is located 44 KM towards South from District headquarters Mamit and 40KM from State capital Aizawl

**1.3 SOURCES OF DATA AND METHODOLOGY**

The study is based on both primary and secondary data. A house to house survey was held in randomly selected households. The questionnaire covers different aspects such as household schedule, demographic attributes and details about their occupation. Some information are obtained from the members of the Village Council and Elders in the villages.

Secondary data have also collected from both published and unpublished sources like books, magazines, journals etc.

**1.4 REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

Mizoram, being one of the least known states of India, literature and information of any sorts is still scanty and vague. And in fact there is hardly any source giving information about the selected village, Rawpuichhip till present.

Most authentic information on the geography of Mizoram as a whole can be obtained from a book entitled "Mizoram: A study in comprehensive geography", authored by Rintluanga Pachuau. He studied the physical set up of Mizoram which is of predominantly of mountainous terrain of tertiary rocks. He defined the geology of Mizoram as represented in general by repetitive succession of arenaceous and argillaceous sediments which were later thrown into approximately NNW-SSE trending longitudinal plunging and synclines. Rivers drained the region either north to south direction. The drainage patterns are trellis, dendritic as well as parallel drainage patterns. Soils in Mizoram are dominated by loose sedimentary formations and generally young, immature and sandy and red with loamy texture. The acidity present in the i is high, low in potash and phosphorous. They are mainly the product of sandstones, stones and shale.

Agriculture remains an important sector in the rural economy. However there is an increase of non-agricultural income in the financial resources of the population (less than 112 of incomes directly from agriculture. Consequently, rural areas diversify their economy with new sectors, a process of economic. Rural areas had relatively large agricultural sector compared to the urban areas. (Patarnachova, 2012).

Most of the households (92.4 percent) in Mizoram have electricity connection, 76.2 per cent of household has access to source of drinking, with 22 percent of them having access to tap water for drinking into dwelling/yard/plot, 49 percent of households have provision for flush toilet, 36.5 percent of households used LPG for cooking, 63.4 per cent live in Semi-pucca houses and 45 percent have at least 3 rooms. In Mizoram 38,5 per cent of households have B.P.L (Below Poverty Line) cards and it varies from 14.8 percent in Aizawl to 54.6 per cent in Lawngtlai (2007-08 Mizoram District Level Household and Facility Survey).

Seeking the present situation, demands and need cannot reach a satisfactory level. As the study areas are still in remote areas, where sustainable and administration of their villages and the people can't compete with development. The villages have not been surveyed and studied, in case geographical knowledge is out of reach.

**1.4 CHAPTERIZATION:**

The entire work has been divided into 4 chapters. The first chapter is about the introductory section which gives a glimpse of the study purpose, its aim and objective, study area, methodology, review of literature and chapterization.

The second chapter deals with the human aspects of the study village such as social structure concerning the size of family.

The third chapter described about the population characteristics and its attributes such as sex ratio, age group, literacy rate and migration.

Chapter 5 concludes the entire work.

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**Plate No-1 Rawpuichhip village**

**Chapter-2**

**PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STUDY AREA**

**2.1. INTRODUCTION:**

The Study area is one of the blocks in Mizoram. It is located in the north western part of Mamit District Mizoram situated in Reiek RD Block in Mamit district of Mizoram. It is bounded by Reiek R.D Block.The northern part of the district is bordered by [Hailakandi](https://www.indianetzone.com/57/hailakandi_district.htm" \o "Hailakandi District)[district](https://www.indianetzone.com/57/hailakandi_district.htm" \o "Hailakandi District) of [Assam](https://www.indianetzone.com/3/assam.htm), its western part by [North Tripura district](https://www.indianetzone.com/47/north_tripura_district.htm) of [Tripura](https://www.indianetzone.com/3/tripura.htm) state and Bangladesh, its southern part by [Lunglei](https://www.indianetzone.com/4/lunglei.htm" \o "Lunglei) district and eastern part by the districts of Aizawl and [Kolasib](https://www.indianetzone.com/47/kolasib_district.htm" \o "Kolasib District). Mamit town serves as the district headquarters.

**2.2. PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

**Physiography:**

The physical setup of Mizoram is predominantly of mountainous terrain of tertiary rocks. The mountain ranges are inclined north to south direction in a parallel series. The ranges are separated from one another by narrow deep river valleys. The terrain of Mizoram is young and immature. It shows prominent relief features with steep slopes and is still undergoing denudation in response to various exogenesis processes.

The major rivers of the study area are Teirei, Tut, Tlawng, Khawthlangtuipui, Langkaih, all of which flow from south to north direction. The mountains in the district also stretch in the same direction. Dense forest covers the hills and forest products like [Bamboo](https://www.indianetzone.com/25/bamboo.htm), Timber, Broomstick etc are found in ample amount. The temperature of the district is moderate and varies from 9 degree to 24 degree centigrade in winters and during summers it varies from 24 degree to 36 degree centigrade. The district receives abundant rainfall. A number of natural calamities including landslide, cyclonic storm and hailstorm have also affected the district in past years.

The study area comprises of laterite soil followed by patches of sandy and alluvial soil (NICRA, ICAR 2013). Rawpuichhip chiefly has a warm and temperate climate with wet summers and experiences heavy rainfall between May and September. Winters are cold, but generally without snow. Rawpuichhip climate is warm and temperate as per Köppen-Geiger (Cwa) climate classification (Mamit Climate, n.d.). The highest temperatures reach about 31°C in summers in June, July, August, whereas the minimum temperatures in January may go down to 10°C. The study area typically receives an average total annual rainfall of 2,502 mm.

The types of found in the study area included sandstones, mudstone, siltstone, sandy shales and shales.The sedimentary rocks exposed in the study area were represented by Bhuban formation belonging to the Surma group of tertiary age. The presence of thick sandstones beds is observed in some places. Generally, sandstones are found to be thinly bedded, compact, and hard with fine to very fine-grained and mostly bluish-grey in colour. These sandstones are extensively used for building and road constructions.

**Chapter-3**

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION**

**3.1 SOCIAL STRUCTURE**

Social structure is the pattern of social arrangement in society that are both emergent from and determinant of the actions of the individuals. On the macro scale, social structure is the system of socio-economic stratification (e.g., the class structure), social institutions, or other pattern relation between large social groups. On the meso scale, it is the structure of social ties between individual or organizations. On the micro scale, it can be the way norms shape the behavior of actors within the social system.

Social structure is the distinctive, stable arrangement of institutions where human being in a society interacts and lives together. It is often treated together with the concept of social change, which deals with the social forces that changes the social structure or organizations of the society.

The study village is intermingled by different ethnic groups having different cultures, languages and traditions. The class system which ruled in the Hindu society is strongly absent. There are no Economic classes between the rich and the poor, they shares food, property and their feelings. The people of the village are close-knit society with no class distinction and discrimination on the grounds of sex. The village exists like a big family. Birth of a child, marriage in the village and death of a person in the village or a community feast arranged by the member of the village are an important occasions in which the whole village is involved. The Mizo code of ethics or Dharma move round "Tlawmngaihna" untranslatable term meaning on the part of everyone to be hospitable, kind and unselfish and helpful to others. The entire social life and thought process have been altogether transformed and guided by Christian Church organization. A peaceful and social harmony, good cooperation among the people is creditable.

**3.2 SIZE OF THE FAMILY**

Size of the family refers to the number of individuals living in a particular household. Unlike the household in rural area, other parts of the country were extended family system.

The average size of the household is 5 people per family. It indicates that the size of the family in this village is on a positive stage. The size of the family is affected by the requirement of worker, because more persons are required for earning income for the families.

The family size of the village is divided into small family and large family as we can see in the table

**Table1. Size of family**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Size of family | No. of Household | Percentage |
| Small Family (Below 5) | 15 | 35.7 |
| Large Family ( Above 5) | 27 | 64.2 |

*Source: Field Survey, 2023*

The above table shows that the family in Rawpuichhip village get larger family. As we see from the data we collected 64.2% of the family were large family while 35.7% were small family.

**3.3 RELIGIOUS COMPOSITION**

Unlike most of the constitution of India, the state is marked by a monopoly of a single religion which is Christianity. It was brought to the region by British Missionaries in 1894. It became the major religion of the region and it is claimed that all the villagers belong to Christianity.

There are many denominations Presbyterian, followed by Baptist Church of Mizoram, Roman Catholic, United Pentecostal Church of Mizoram, and Seventh Day Adventist. The social system has been largely controlled by Christianity.

**3.4 EDUCATION**

Education is a complex topic for survey measurement and the individuals' educational attainment is only a narrow snapshot of possible measures relating to an individual's educational experience. It is defined as the highest level of education and individual has successfully completed.

The structure of education in the village is based on the national level pattern with 12 years of schooling (10+2+3), consisting of eight years of elementary education, that is, five years of Primary and three years of middle school education for the age groups 6-11 and 11-14 years followed by secondary and higher education of two years each besides two years of pre-primary education. The entry age in Class 1 is 5+. Pre-primary classes from age group 3 to 4.

**3.5 HOUSEHOLD AMENITIES**

Household amenities mean the number of items each household owns within the study area. These can include number of gas connection, electric connection, washing machine, refrigerator, television, two wheeler, four wheeler, water pump etc.

**Table2. Household Amenities**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Household Amenities** | **Total** | **Percentage** |
| Gas Connection | 42 | 100 |
| Electric Connection | 42 | 100 |
| Washing Machine | 36 | 85.7 |
| Refrigerator | 39 | 92.8 |
| Television | 40 | 95.2 |
| Two Wheeler | 28 | 66.6 |
| Four Wheeler | 23 | 54.7 |
| Water Pump | 14 | 33.3 |

*Source: Field Survey, 2023*

The above table shows that 100% of the villagers have gas connection for domestic uses. Availability of electric connection is satisfactory and all the villagers can avail power supply for their multipurpose uses. Refrigerator occupies 39 (92.8%), and washing machine 36(85.7%). The villagers who can possess two wheelers, four wheelers and water pump are 28(66.6%), 23(54.7%) and 14(33.3%).

Regarding the assets of the villagers as shown in the above table, the basic needs of every household i.e. gas & electric connection are almost possessed by almost all, which are 92.4percent and 92.4percent respectively. This shows that no one is discriminated from having his basics needs if he can afford to bear necessary expenditure. As regard to other assets of the villagers, we can clearly identify that the assets which they can obtain largely depend on the level of their income.

**Figure1. Household Amenities**

**3.6 VILLAGE AMENITIES**

Rawpuichhip village has amenities like Village council, educational institution, market, public playground, health sub-centre, etc. those are important aspect for the village administration.

**3.7 OCCUPATION:**

Occupation of the villagers is divided into four types, so it can be seen from table 3.2

**Table3. Occupation**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Occupation** | **Household** | **Percentage** |
| Farmers | 18 | 42.8 |
| Petty Traders | 7 | 16.6 |
| Govt. Servant | 15 | 35.7 |
| Others | 4 | 9.5 |

*Source: Field Survey, 2023*

**Figure2. Occupation of the Study Area**

**3.8 INCOME**

The main occupations of the people are manual labour, agriculture, government services, business etc. The family income per year in the study area is presented in the figure.

**Table4. Annual income of the family**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Income in Rupee** | **No. of Family** |
| 60000-100000 | 15 |
| 100000-200000 | 10 |
| 200000-300000 | 10 |
| 300000-800000 | 7 |

*Source: Field Survey, 2023*

During the field survey it has been observed that the family annual income ranges from 60000-800000. Due to the variation in their occupation the modes of income varied widely. The higher income groups are mostly those who engage on tertiary activities. While the lower income groups are generally involve in primary occupation.

**Figure3. Annual Family Income**

**3.9 SOURCE OF ENERGY**

Source of energy are the fuel each household are using for cooking purposes.

**Table5. Source of Energy**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Source of Energy** | **No. of household** | **Percentage** |
| Fuel wood | 9 | 21.4 |
| Kerosene | 0 | 0 |
| LPG | 40 | 95.2 |

*Source: Field Survey, 2023*

From the above table, it is clear that about 95.2% of the households are using LPG for cooking because the gas supply is regular in this village. The number of household using fuel wood account for about 21.4%, another reason is due to the easy and adequate availability of firewood from the nearby forest.

**3.10 SOURCE OF WATER**

The main source of water in this village is PHE water supply. The PHE water tank had been launch in the highest point of the village from where the workers distributed systematically to their respective point. Due to the low elevation and adequate rainfall, and the availability of springs and stream draining the village; the people did not have to worry about water scarcity**.**

**Table6. Source of Water**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Source Of Water** | **No. of Household** | **Percentage** |
| P.H.E | 25 | 59.5 |
| Rainwater | 15 | 35.7 |
| Tap Connection | 14 | 33.3 |

*Source: Field Survey, 2023*

The main source of water in the village is Public Health Engineering Department (PHE) which supply regularly. About 59.5% of the family are using PHE water supply as their main source, rainwater 35.7% and tab connection 33.3%. The supply of water is regular and most of the people are satisfied with their main source.

**Figure4. Source of Water**

**3.11 HOUSE TYPE**

Mostly three types houses are found in the study area namely RCC, Assam Type and Thatched house. RCC stand for Reinforced Cement Concrete and it is a combination of concrete and steel to build a structure instead of using only concrete. RCC pattern refers to building with concrete walls, floor and roof.

Assam type houses are made largely using wood-based materials. The materials like timber are easily available from the nearby forest also available in the market that makes it easy for constructing a house. The performance of Assam type Houses has been extremely good in several past earthquake safety of the house include good configuration, light-weight materials used for walls and roofs, flexible connections between various wooden elements at different levels etc. however, the houses are vulnerable to fire because of use of untreated wood-based materials. When built on hill slopes, unequal length of the vertical posts leads to unsymmetrical shaking that damage the house.

Thatched house is a type of house or cottage that has a roof that is thatched with straw, reed etc. The goods are collected from the nearby forest which provides a suitable material like straw and reeds where the people can go and easily get those materials. Bamboo is the most common material they are split and open for use as House wall. Plank or bamboos are also used for doors and windows. Thatched house are simple and easy to build and are mostly confined to the economically low income families.

**Figure5. House Type**

**Chapter-4**

**DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE**

**4.1 POPULATION COMPOSITION**

Population composition is the description of population according to characteristics such as age and sex. In other words, it is the structure of the population defined by characteristics such as age and sex. A change in the composition of the population will generally change demand even if there is no change in the size of population.

Among various elements of population composition, sex composition and age composition hold a prime place for population studies. The separate data for males and females are important for various types of planning and the analysis for other demographic characteristics. The most basic elements of population are sex structure and age structure.

The study village has a total population of 1507 in 2011 Census with 326 households. The female population is 50.5 per cent i.e., 761 and the village literacy rate is 83.7 per cent. The Schedule Tribe population accounts for 98.9% per cent i.e., 1491 persons. The working population accounting 58.8% per cent. From the field survey it was observed that the village current population is about 2000. The child population (0-6) in 20011 censuses is 218 and girl child population (0-6) is 49.5 per cent i.e. 108.

**Table7. Population According to 2011 Census**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Census Parameter** | **Census Data** |
| Total Population | 1507 |
| Total No. of Household | 316 |
| Female Population % | 50.5 % (761) |
| Total Literacy Rate % | 83.7% (1261) |
| Female Literacy Rate % | 42.5% (640) |
| Schedule Tribe Population % | 98..9% (1491) |
| Working Population% | 56.80% |
| Child (0-6) Population | 218 |
| Girl child (0-6) Population | 49.5% (108) |

*Source: Field Survey, 2023*

**4.2 SEX RATIO**

The numerical measurement of a population is often expressed in terms of sex ratio. The ratio is calculated differently in different countries. In India, however, the sex ratio is calculated in terms of number of females per thousand males. It is calculated by using the given formula:

P4Pm × 1000

From the field survey it was observed that the village has a high sex ratio which is 1054.5 females per 1000 males, higher than the State's Sex ratio that is 976.

**4.3 LITERACY RATE**

The concept of literacy that varies from country to country generally refers to the minimum level of literacy skills. This minimum level of skills varies from ability to communicate orally, to make a check of a variety of difficult arithmetical consumptions. The Population Commission of United Nations consider the ability to both read and write a simple message with an understanding in any language is a sufficient basis for classifying a person as literate.

As per Census, a person aged seven (7) and above who can both read and write with understanding in any language, is treated as a literate. A person, who can only read but cannot write, is not literate. In the Census prior to 1991, children below five years of age were treated as illiterates. It was decided at 1991 Census that all children in the age group 0-6, would be treated as illiterate by definition and the population aged from seven (7) years and above only would be classified as literate or illiterate. The same criterion has been retained in the census of 2001 and2011. Further, a person needs to receive any formal education or acquire any minimum qualification to be treated as literate

At present the village has a literacy rate of 83.7 per cent of the total population which is lower than the State's literacy rate (91.33 per cent, 2011 census). Male literacy rate 57 per cent which is higher than female with 42.5 per cent. Illiteracy rate is still high in the study area.

**Chapter-5**

**CONCLUSION**

This field study gives knowledge about the socio economic conditions of the study village. It includes social structure, size of the family, religious composition, educational structure, house types and village amenities. The people in this village form a close-knit society with no class distinction and discrimination on the ground of sex. The average size of the family is 5. Christian dominated the area. The structure of education is based on national level pattern with 12 years of schooling. The main occupations of the people are manual labour, government services, business etc. The total family annual income ranges from 60000-800000.

Three types of houses are found in the study village dominated by Assam type with 57%. RCC 33% and thatched house 13%. The main source of energy for cooking is LPG 95.2% and fuel wood 21.4%. And the main source of water is PHED (Public Heath Engineering Department) water supply and water is adequately available due to its location.

It has been concluded that Rawpuichhip village is rich in various natural forest resources. It has abundant natural bamboo resources which covers the geographical area of the village. Some of the bamboo species are Mautak, Rawthing, Rawnal, Rawthla and Phulrua. Bamboo shoots are edible and one of the most favourable delicious curry of the people. The bamboo has many uses they are split and open call Dap which is use as a house wall, roof, doors and windows etc. and are commercially valuable.

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