



**GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM**  
**COOPERATION DEPARTMENT**

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**MINISTER**

Agriculture,  
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Cooperation



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**MESSAGE**

I extend my warmest greetings on the occasion of publication of e-book 2020 of Cooperative Department, Government of Mizoram.

On this momentous occasion of the first publication of e-book by Cooperative Department, Government of Mizoram, some of the stories of Cooperative in various sector for example functioning, contribution to the State and to the community as a whole by Primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies, Farming Cooperative Societies, Consumer, Service and Multipurpose Cooperative Societies, Livestock Cooperative Societies etc. are being highlighted to its shortest.

Many Cooperatives have made a mark of their own in their areas of work and achieved exemplary results. It is a matter of pride and privilege that it has been highlighted in sector-wise that Cooperative Societies have shown excellence strewn all over the State. I hope this will inspire Cooperative Societies to achieve excellence in their field of activities and all those who are staunch believers in the Ideology, Values and Principles of Cooperatives.

Lastly, Cooperatives are a reminder to the community and the State as a whole that it is possible to pursue both economic viability and social responsibility as value based enterprises routed in the communities having a unique and invaluable presence in today's world to reduce poverty, generate employment and economic savings.



( C. LALRINSANGA )

## PROFILE

Mizoram was one of the Administrative Districts of Assam before attaining its Centrally administered Union Territory in 1972. The first Sub-Divisional Office of the Cooperative Department was opened in 1951, at Aizawl under the Deputy Cooperative Officer (SICS) and the office was attached to the office of Aizawl D.C and later to the office of District Agriculture Officer. This was later upgraded to a District Office on 03.01.1956, by this time there were 13 Nos. of Cooperative Societies in Mizoram.

The first Cooperative Society was formed by the named “ *The Aizawl Trading Cooperative Society Ltd.*” in the year 1949 and later in the same year two (2) other Trading Cooperative Societies were also formed, this is the first activities of Cooperative Movement in Mizoram.

Cooperation Department is one of the oldest Department under Government of Mizoram, since then it played a silent but important role towards economic development in their own capacity in the State. It may also be mentioned that their capacity is quite limited since Cooperative Societies are generally formed by lower income group (weaker sections) and some by middle income group, which sometimes is hard to compete with the high income group in the field of business. Hence, Cooperative Societies are generally successful in the rural areas and the communities have benefitted greatly. But in a State where it is categorized as least-developed State, great steps cannot be taken and the picture of Cooperative Societies is understandable/uncertain.

Cooperative Societies are registered as per the Mizoram Cooperative Societies Act & Rules (*which is amended from time to time*). Cooperation Department consist of 7 (seven) District Offices which were governed by the District Officer i.e. Assistant Registrar of Cooperative Societies (ARCS). The 7 (seven) District Offices and its jurisdiction are as follows :-

- 1. ARCS (AW) District Office :** The following MLA constituency namely :- Aizawl W-I, Aizawl W-II, Aizawl W-III, Aizawl S-I, Aizawl S-II and Aizawl S-III.
- 2. ARCS (AE) District Office :** The following MLA constituency namely :- Tuivawl, Chalfilh, Tawi, Aizawl N-I, Aizawl N-II, Aizawl N-III, Aizawl E-I and Aizawl E-II.
- 3. ARCS (Lunglei) District Office :** The following MLA constituency namely :- South Tuipui, Lunglei N, Lunglei E, Lunglei W, Lunglei S, Thorang and West Tuipui.
- 4. ARCS (Champhai) District Office :** The following MLA constituency namely :- Lengteng, Tuichang, Champhai N, Champhai S and East Tuipui.
- 5. ARCS (Kolasib) District Office :** The following MLA constituency namely :- Tuirial, Kolasib and Serlui.
- 6. ARCS (Serchhip) District Office :** The following MLA constituency namely :- Serchhip, Tuikum and Hrangturzo.
- 7. ARCS (Mamit) District Office :** The following MLA constituency namely :- Mamit, Hachhek and Dampa.

The **International Cooperative Alliance (ICA)** in its Statement on the Cooperative Identity, in 1995, defines a cooperative as “an autonomous association of

persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.” It is a business voluntarily owned and controlled by its member patrons and operated for them and by them on a nonprofit or cost basis. It is a business enterprise that aims at complete identity of the component factors of ownership, control and use of service. Since its creation, the ICA through its membership of the UN it has been accepted by cooperators throughout the world as the final authority for defining cooperatives and for determining the underlying principles, which give motivation to cooperative enterprise.

**Definition of Cooperative :** A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically controlled enterprise. Cooperatives in India have mostly played the role of an agent of the Government. Cooperatives are seen to be the institutions that carry the State programmes to people, and in turn get State support. Therefore, Cooperative is not based on individual instead it deals with group of families.

**Basic Cooperative Values :** Cooperatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, cooperative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

**The Principles of Cooperation :** The Principles of Cooperation are guidelines by which cooperatives put their values into practice, it is formulated by International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) and is adopted internationally :-

- First Principle : Voluntary and Open Membership**
- Second Principle : Democratic Member Control**
- Third Principle : Member Economic Participation**
- Fourth Principle : Autonomy and Independence**
- Fifth Principle : Education, Training and Information**
- Sixth Principle : Cooperation among Cooperatives**
- Seventh Principle : Concern for the Community**

## ACHIEVEMENT

Cooperative Societies thrived for Socio-economic development in which self-sustainable is at its priority. In the first Indian International Cooperative Trade Fair (IICTF) held in Delhi some of the entrepreneurs of Cooperative Societies participated, which was lauded with appreciation from visitors from Nationally and Internationally and one Cooperative Societies received '**Excellency Award**' and two '**Business Agreement**' was signed with Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. Cooperative Societies are nothing but group of people/entrepreneurs which comes together that have common interest or goal and in a Cooperative Societies members are from different families (*one member*



from one family/household). Cooperative Societies deals with wide range of activities but they never received the recognition they deserved as Cooperative businesses offer resiliency to local communities as most of the money they generate returns to the community, they stood firm in order to have price control and this resulted to having economic saving to the community. Cooperative Societies does not received much support financially or in other formed in spite of all this some of their silent achievement can be highlighted in few out of many in type-wise as below :-

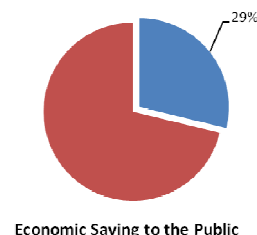
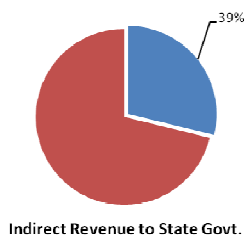
### 1. Consumer/ Service & Multipurpose Cooperative Societies :

There are altogether 270 nos. of Cooperative Societies in this sector. The Schemes put into this sector is mainly to control the market price on whatever business taken up by them. Out of all the type-wise Cooperative Societies, the Best Socio-economic development are implemented in the State prevail in this sector and their silent contribution is said to be quite high to the economic development.



Whether it be in the corner-most part of Mizoram i.e. border with Myanmar, Bangladesh, Tripura, Assam and Manipur, Cooperative Societies from this sector were able to control the market price which enable them to attract people from this neighbouring countries and state especially from Myanmar and Manipur.

Cooperative Societies in the State enable some villages to replaced their roof (*thatch roof*) and walls (*Bamboo sheet wall*) by GI Sheet (*tin*) roof and by tiles respectively and the villagers claim that this was possible only due to Cooperative Societies. Whereas there are lots of scope for development, there are areas where further steps for improvement needs to be made i.e. better infrastructure like godown, shop etc., upgradation of skill/skill development and much steps still needs to be taken on Cooperative Education.



## 2. PACS (including LAMPS, Farming etc.) :

Primary Agricultural Credit Cooperative Societies (PACS), LAMPS, Farming etc. is being much benefitted by the Cooperative Societies in the State. There are altogether

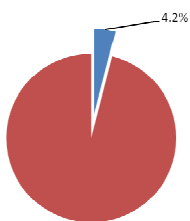
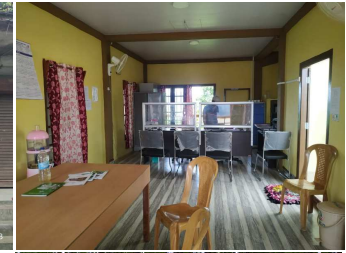
305 nos. (agriculture and non-agriculture) which have taken up this activities and many of them have been successful. PACS (agriculture) function under the guidance or supervision of SCB (State Cooperative Bank

i.e. Mizoram Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd. {MCAB}) and NABARD. Whereas PACS (non-agriculture) sector does not take up much activities, since they also indulge in other activities they can be term as a useful

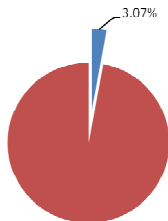
institution to the public. This sector contribution is mainly to the public and cannot be measured in amounts or nos. but their

contribution is very beneficial to the public as loan can easily be accessible to them moreover it impart the importance of having saving right from the children.

There are lots of scope for development in this sector and further steps for improvement needs to be emphasized on infrastructure like cold storage, warehouse, shop etc., upgradation of skill/skill development and much steps still needs to be taken on Cooperative Education.



Indirect Revenue to State Govt.



Economic saving to the public

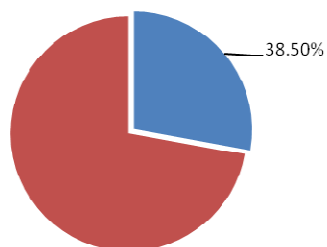


### 3. Handloom & Weaving :

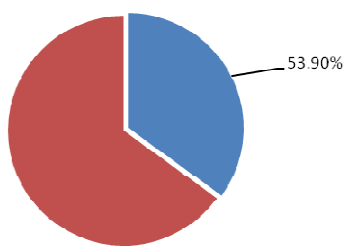
There are altogether 191 nos. of Cooperative Societies in this sector in the State. Cooperative Societies under

this sector contribute much to the State economy. The main objective of this sector is to bring out fine and quality Handloom and its products especially in Mizo traditional

dress and also to lessen huge import from other State i.e. Manipur. They impart knowledge or technical skill and generate employment and they were able to fulfil their objective to a large extent. As far as the present context is concern their contribution towards its production is around 65% in the State. Hence their objective is met as they not only lessen the import but they also export in large number to other States and in lesser number in some other countries like Australia, USA, some European countries etc., in this sector also many employment have been generated. There are lots of scope for future development, there are areas where further steps for improvement needs to be made i.e. better infrastructure like work-shed, shop etc., technical up-gradation of skills and much



Indirect Revenue to State Govt.



Economic saving to the public

steps still needs to be taken on Cooperative Education. They also needs to modernised their machine in which they will be able to make curtain, sofa cover, sofa bed cover and finer material for making shirts, skirts etc.

**4. Livestocks :** There are 365 nos. of Cooperative Societies in this sector in the State. Promotion of Livestocks i.e. Animal Husbandry and Veterinary activities is essential because of great potential for generating income and employment especially in rural sector. Other important benefits which will accrue from such promotional activities will be as below :-



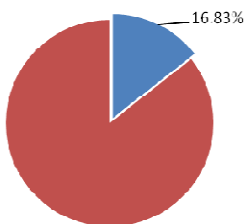


a). The Livestock production and Agriculture are intrinsically linked, each one being dependent on the other and both are crucial for the overall food supply of the people.

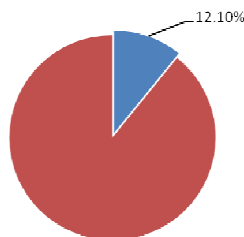
b). Livestock provides large share of draught power, the dung produced from dairy farming which is an important organic manure.

c). The dairy sector contributes one of the largest share in Agriculture GDP. Mixed crop – livestock farming are commonly practices in the state.

Since the high consumption of this sector by the people of Mizoram and the State is far away from being self-sufficient, so Cooperative Societies began to steps with a meager amount (*for one primary Cooperative Societies*) from their own contribution. Even though they are still lacking in many areas like systematic farming with modern technique, Bio-security etc., the steps taken by beneficiaries is very appreciative.



Indirect Revenue to State Govt.



Economic saving to the public

**5. Sericulture :** There are 31 nos. of Cooperative Societies in this sector in the State. The ideal temperature for rearing silkworm ranges between 24 to 32°C, with a humidity level between 80 and 85 per cent, this is what makes Mizoram ideal for this activities.

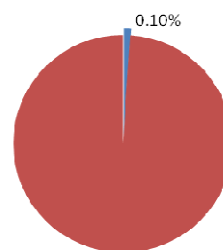
The topography and climate of the State are congenial for the production of Bivoltine silk and also sustain seed production activity to cater to the needs of the neighboring States. However, adherence to age-old traditional practices and use of primitive reeling and spinning devices in most of the areas are the



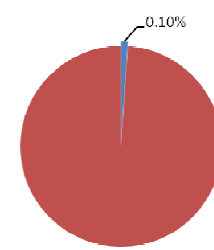


limiting factors for slow growth of silk production and utilization. Besides, non-adoption of improved technologies, absence of market infrastructure and supporting linkages are the other major constraints for the development of the silk industry by Cooperative Societies in the State. Major quantity of cocoons is flowing out of the State due to lack of adequate marketing and reeling facilities and traditional practices of value addition. The non-conversion of huge quantity of mulberry cocoon into silk is depriving the State from employment and sustenance of the industry. Thus Cooperative Societies plans to take up steps on where there is urgent need to organize the above sector to augment the production of yarn/fabric for additional income generation and employment.

In spite of all the constraints faced by Cooperative Societies, they were able to take a step forward in their own limited capacity. With the high potential in this sector much more steps are needed to be taken as members of Cooperative Societies are very enthusiastic and hard working in order to achieve much more development.



Indirect Revenue to State Govt.



Economic saving to the public

**6. Fishery :** There are 51 nos. of Cooperative Societies in this sector in the State. Fish being a major food item in our diet, besides being a rich source of protein, its demand is always on the high, which is also the case in Mizoram. In Mizoram both the price of freshly caught fish and fish related products are increasing day by day, State own production of fishes are capture of fish caught from the wild or raising fish through fish farming or aquaculture but majority are imported from outside the

State.

Fisheries Cooperative Society gained much from commercial fish farming business due to lots of its advantageous but much more steps were unable to be taken up due to financial constraint. If Fund is available their main advantages of fish farming business would be as follows :



- (i). Catching fish from the wild can't always fulfill the growing consumer's demand. In such cases commercial fish farming can meet up much of the demand.
- (ii). Commercial fish farming helps in preserving natural ecosystems by allowing the fish to be raised in tanks/ponds till they are ready to be marketed.

- (iii). Due to the constant care that goes into fish farming, fishes can be raised with more Nutritious by feeding a wide variety of protein and nutrient enriched foods.

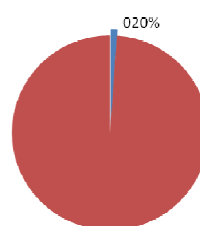
Fisheries Cooperative Societies have taken much steps to make the State to be self-sufficient but still many constraints have been noted in the past as below :-

- i). The main problem is lack of fund.
- ii). Since fish culture/Aquaculture is a highly technical subject which needs comprehensive policy framing for development of inland waters as well as for conservation measures of riverine and reservoir water resources. Members of Coop. Societies need much to upgrade their skill.

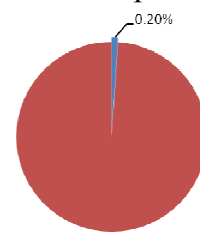
iii). The improvised way of fish culture still need more expansion as such Cooperative

Societies still needs to give main emphasis on infrastructure for capacity building of farmers for transfusion of latest technology of fish culture.

In spite of all the difficulties faced by Cooperative Societies, they were able to take much step on development. Members of Cooperative Societies are very enthusiastic and hard working in order to achieve much more development. Through their hard work they were able to achieved something which they were not able to achieved and impart motivation from some of their achievement.



Indirect Revenue to State Govt.



Economic saving to the public

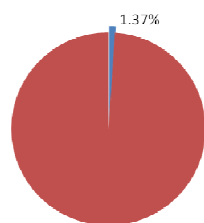
## 7. Other types of Cooperative Societies :

There are altogether 82 nos. of in this sector which includes Industrial, Canteen, Housing, Marketing,

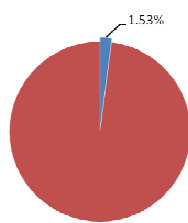


Labour and Meat Processing/Butcher Cooperative Societies. This sectors also have

great potential to help in improving socio-economic development and at present their contribution is meager due to lack of fund and if adequate fund is available they can contribute much more in all aspects in the field in which they were to contribute and some of the Industrial Coop. Societies products were exported out of the State.



Indirect Revenue to State Govt.



Economic saving to the public





**8. State Level Federation/Union :** There are a total of 11 (eleven) State Level Cooperative Federation/Union and they contributed much in the State economy, they also generate employment. The State Level Cooperative Federation/Societies have taken much steps in their own capacity to improve themselves which they have benefitted from it and some were able to expand their activities, they are always ready to be a tools for implementation of any Government Policy and for any other purpose which may arise for rendering their service to the public. Their each and every activities or a short notes may have to go in lengthy as such only their name and some pictures are included (*picture can also highlight their activities*).

**1. MIZOFED Ltd.**



**2. MCAB Ltd.**



**3. MSCU Ltd.**



**4. MULCO Ltd.**



**5. MAHFED Ltd.**



**6. PIGFED Ltd.**



**7. ZOFISFED Ltd.**



#### 8. MAHCO Ltd.



#### 9. SERIFED Ltd.

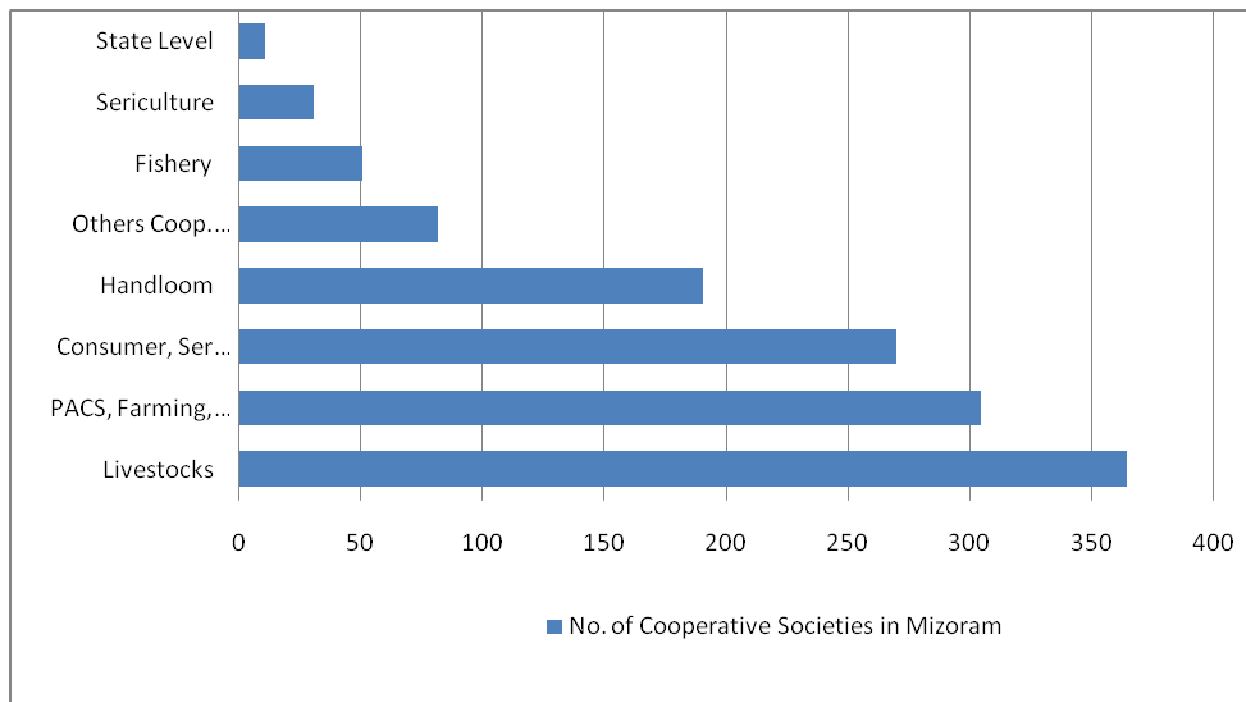


#### 10. POULTRYFED Ltd.

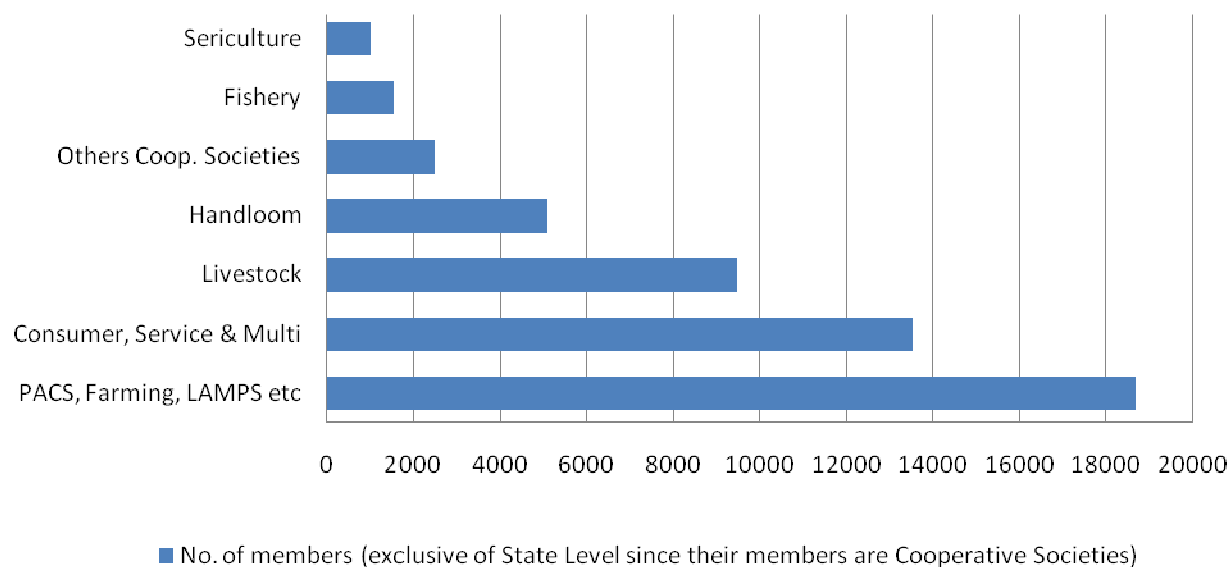


There are a total of 11 State Level Cooperative Federation/Societies/Union in the State namely :-

1. Mizoram State Consumer Cooperative Federation Ltd. (MIZOFED)
2. Mizoram Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd. (M.C.A.B)
3. Mizoram Apex Handloom & Handicraft Cooperative Society Ltd. (MAHCO)
4. Mizoram Multi-Commodity Producer's Cooperative Union Ltd. (MULCO)
5. Mizoram Pig Producer's Cooperative Federation Ltd. (PIGFED)
6. Mizoram State Cooperative Union (MSCU)
7. Mizoram State Agriculture / Horticulture & Marketing Cooperative Fed. Ltd. (MAHFED)
8. Mizoram Cooperative Fish Farming, Marketing & Processing Fed. Ltd. (ZOFISHFED)
9. Mizoram Sericulture Cooperative Federation Ltd. (SERIFED)
10. Mizoram Poultry Cooperative Federation Ltd. (POULTRYFED)
11. Mizoram Women Cooperative Federation Ltd. (WOMENFED)







## IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHEMES/PROJECTS

The Department have just concluded the implementation of Integrated Cooperative Development Project (ICDP) Phase-II (2014-15 to 2018-19) under Central Sector Scheme.

Recently MoU is being signed with Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) a National level Cooperative Federation for the implementation of Van Dhan Scheme in Mizoram and it also include Van Dhan Vikas Karyakram which is a primarily component under the Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) & Development of Value Chain of Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA).

The Department does not received much fund for elaborating on outstanding implementation of State funded schemes from State flagship programme.

