A Glimpse of Art & Culture Department

The Government of India's scheme of Promotion of art and culture was extended to the Union Territory of Mizoram when it attained the U.T. status in 1972. The scheme has been continued since then and the Directorate of Art & Culture was carved out from the Education and Human Resources Department in February, 1989. The various isolated programmes relating to promotion of art and culture in Mizoram were then brought together under one umbrella. Thus the Department of Art & Culture headed by the Secretary in the Govt. and the Director in the Directorate began to function since February 1989 and makes its own Five Year Plans commencing from the 8the Five Year Plan onwards.

During the last 22 years of its existence as a Department, the Art & Culture Department has created permanent assets and has established well. In spite of its meager budget allocations and inadequate administrative infrastructures it has achieved commendable progress. The programmes initiated by the Department since its inception are very well responded by the public, especially, the youth community. This raised The Department to a high level of importance and recognition. What does the Art & Culture Department do to justify its existence? Before going into details, a summary of the Multi-pronged function and activities of the Department may be presented as

** On Promotion of performing arts....

- i) Established an Institute of Music & Fine Arts Imparts 3 months Certificate Course in Elementary Music and Traditional Dance. Takes up Theatre (Drama) activities.
- ii) Impart trainings in Traditional Dances to Schools and NGO's inside and outside the State.
- iii) Organizes Cultural Meets/Festival at various places in the

rural areas every year. Conducts Chief Minister's Running Trophy in Cultural Dance Competition for YMA in alternate years.

- iv) Cultural /entertainment programmes in honour of visiting dignitaries, official functions etc. arranged.
- v) Cultural troupes to other States in India and elsewhere are arranged and participates at National and International Cultural events.
- *** Letters and Literary Activities: Organizes Seminars on culture and history, language, vanishing art form etc. Writers are assisted through Publication Board to get their works published.
- *** Visual Arts Organizes/sponsors Art Camp, Art Exhibition and Workshops in and outside Mizoram.
- *** Archaeological surveys and mappings Historical remains, monoliths and landmarks are being investigated, verified and preservation taken up. Documentation are also taken up.
- *** Material culture & anthropology of the people are preserved and exhibited in the Museum.
- *** The history and available records about the land and its people are preserved in the Archives.
- *** Heritage Conservation Identification of heritage sites/buildings are being taken up. Tangible and intangible heritages are being preserved.
- *** Public Libraries In order to impart and disseminate knowledge, value of reading and to provide reading materials public libraries are maintained at State and District Levels. NGO Libraries are assisted through RRRLF.

*** To study and record the Socio-Culture, Socio- Economic and history of the tribal people in Mizoram. The Tribal Research Institute is taking up research works.

The various establishments under the Department may be presented as follows -

1) The Directorate : The Directorate of Art & Culture Department functions in its own building since 1997. It is headed by the Director. There is one Joint Director and two Deputy Director to assist the Director. Direction, Administration and supervision of the Directorate establishment and subordinate offices under it are vested with the Director. The Directorate directly handles the functions and programmes of the Institute of Music & Fine Arts (IMFA) which is put under the charge of one Deputy Director. It imparted three months certificate course on cultural dances and modern music to young boys and girls every year. Since the Department building is small and congested, seat is so limited and only 26 seats in Cultural dance and 26 seats in modern music can be accommodated. Session is from June - August each year.

Mode of Application : An application form can be had from office free of cost and submitted to Director, Art & Culture. The applicant has to face the Selection Board. Stipend is given.

Amount of Stipend : The selected student is given a stipend of Rs. 500/- (Rupees five hundred only) per month.

Stopping or withholding of stipend : The sanctioning authority may stop or withhold the stipend of

- a) the student abandon the training during mid term.
- b) the student do not appear in the final examination.

Mobile training outside the institution is also conducted on the request of the YMA, School and other NGO at their locality. This mobile training is only for cultural dances on request.

The Department has a good number of cultural dresses and other items which can be made use by NGO or person or group of persons on payment of hiring charges in accordance with the value of the items.

An application in plain paper can be submitted to Director or Officer in-charge for borrowing cultural items and dresses. Detail of fees can be seen at office during office hour Additional fee will be charged on the condition that -

- a) an item is lost by borrowing person/group.
- b) an item is broken/damage.



Directorate of Art & Culture building

The rate fixed for borrowing items are on daily basis.

The Department of Art & Culture organizes programmes inside and outside the State in collaboration with North Eastern Zone Cultural Centre, Dimapur.

The management and control of Vanapa Hall is also directly done from the Directorate through the Officer-In-Charge. The programme on archaeology is also taken up directly under the control of the Director. Programmes on promotion of art & culture, grant-in-aid, other cultural events/ programmes are directly handled in the Directorate. The Mizoram Publication Board (MPB) is also functioning under the control of Director and other officers in the Directorate. Due to fund constraint a separate Board cannot yet be established; one typist-cum-computer operator and a group 'D' is temporarily engaged. The Govt. constitutes the Board headed by the Director of Art & Culture as the chairman and Joint Director is made the Secretary of the Board. The Board forms panel of experts who screen the books for publication by the Board.

The Government constitutes the Board for a term of 3 (three) years. The President and Secretary are Ex-Officio viz. The Director and Joint Director of Art & Culture Department. The members are appointed from the Mizo Academy of Letters, Writers Association, Mizoram College Teachers Association, Prominent Writers and Language Board. The Board members in its sitting constitutes a screening committee headed by the secretary of the Board as convener. The screening committee screens all the manuscripts received from the writers (author) seeking Board's assistance for the publication of their works. Thereafter, the Board considers in its full sitting. After the Board's approval it is the writer (author) who pursues rest of the formal processes till final publication of the 1000 copies printed at the initial stage. The Board granted financial support of 75% of printing cost with a maximum of Rs. 50,000/-.

Grant-In-Aid : Grant-In-Aid is given in kind only to registered NGO's like YMA, MUP, MHIP, MCO. The Grant-In-Aid is given on 75% sub-

sidized rate. The selected items are - Darbu Set, P.A. set, Guitar, Darkhuang, Puanchei, Kawrchei, Vakiria, Pawndum, Ngotekherh, Hmaram, Thangchhuah Kawr & Mara Suit. The Grant-In-Aid can be applied in the prescribed form which can be obtained with a fee of Rs. 5/- from office during office hours.

2. Tribal Research Institute : The Tribal Research Institute was established in 1974 initially with a District Research Officer. Soon the post of Senior Research Officer was created and the establishment function in a rented house. The Institute headed by Senior Research Officer with supporting officer of one District Research Officer, one Research Officer and four Research Investigator and four clerical staff are functioning. The District Gazetteer unit is also attached to the Institute which has one Special Officer and four clerical staff. The Institute since its inception has taken up socio-cultural and socio-economic survey of tribal people in Mizoram. They have conducted village surveys under the scheme know your own land. The survey reports and findings were published in book forms. The Institute has also taken up reprinting of some books relating to Mizo tribe and the events which were authored by English and other writers in the earlier days. These books are out of print for a long time and are not available in market. The reprinting done by the Institute has greatly helped the students and scholars, the administrators as well in gathering knowledge of the history and culture of Mizo and the kindred tribe who settled in the present land and beyond. The Institute shifted to its own building (Directorate building) since 1997.

3. Mizoram State Museum : The Mizoram State Museum was established in April, 1977. The Museum is headed by the Museum Curator assisted by Technical Assistant, Taxidermist, Photographer, Museum Assistant, Counter Attendant and Gallery Attendants. There are four clerical staff as well.

The State Museum started functions in a rented house. It was on July 1990 that a Museum Building was inaugurated and occupied. The Museum galleries are modernized and improved with the assistance of Indian Museum, Kolkata. The entire galleries have been improved and

modernised by 2008.

The State Museum located at Bawlhmun, Macdonald Hill, Zarkawt is opened to visitors on week days during 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in summer. The winter timing is 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.. Sunday is closed and on Saturday it is opened upto 2:00 p.m. while on Monday the visiting hours is 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. It is also closed on public holidays - The entry fees are Rs. 5/- and Rs. 2/- for adult and children respectively.



MIzoram State Museum



Art Gallery

4. **State Library :** The Mizoram State Library was established in the year 1974. It was housed in a private rented building till recently. With the administrative system of public libraries on the anvil all the public libraries in the State were streamlined and brought under the administrative control of the State Library. Hence re-named as State Central Library. A building for State Central Library was started with the grants from Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation at the New Secretariat Complex. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram inaugurated the State Central Library building in March 2011 and has now been occupied and is functioning in its own building.

The State Central Library is manned by the State Librarian, Asst Librarian, one Library Assistant, one Counter Attendant, Clerical staffs with four Grade VI staff.



5. District Libraries :

i) Aizawl : Originally it was a Sub-Divisional Library established in Aizawl in 1969. It is housed in a private rented building. The Librarian with Counter Attendant are the only professional persons. One clerical staff, a peon and a chowkidar looks after the Library. The Library has a good collection of book and is having good number of users. We look forward to having Library building in future.

ii) Kolasib : the Library was established in January, 1980 as a Sub-Divisional Library. It is located in Kolasib and run in the private rented house for a number of years. With the building grant of the Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, the land has been acquired and Library building constructed in 2008. The new building was commissioned in October, 2008. The Librarian, Counter Attendant, one clerk with a peon are looking after the Library. Man power requirement is badly felt.

iii) Champhai : The Library was established in 1983 as a Sub-Divisional Library. It is housed in a private rented building in the Champhai Town. A plot of land has been acquired in 2008 at Old D.C. Complex and Construction of building was also started with the grant received from Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata. The work is in progress. The Library is manned by the librarian, one Counter Attendant with one LDC and a peon. We are short of man power.

iv) Lunglei : The District Library, Lunglei was established in May 1975. It was housed in a private rented building for a number of years. With the completion of Saikuti Hall, accommodation provided for the District Library was also taken over by the Department. The District Library is now functioning in one part of the Saikuti Hall. The space is small and there is no further scope to increase the accommodation, hence growth of the Library checked.

As for the man-power, there is a Librarian supported by a Counter Attendant, one clerk and a peon.

v) Saiha : The District Library at Saiha was opened in May 1975 near the D.C. Complex. The Assam type building inherited from the Education Department is wearing away and a new building is expected to be constructed with the grant from Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata

The District Library has been given to the Mara Autonomous District Council (MADC) way back in 1993 by the Govt. of Mizoram under the enhancement of powers to autonomous District Councils. The Library is run by the Librarian with a Counter Attendant, one clerk, peon and one chowkidar.

Mode of Utility : Any person/persons can visit any public Library and read any book/journal magazine inside the reading room during office hour without taking it or taking out home.

Any person can be a Library member in any public Library/ or in all the Libraries by applying in the prescribed form duly attested by a Gazetted Officer of the State Government with 2 copies of recent photograph

A full (life) member can borrow any book for a specific period without charge, one book at one time. A non-member is not allowed to borrow books.

6. Mizoram State Archives : The Mizoram State Archives took birth from the Mizoram state Museum in the year 1985, October. It was shifted to a private rented building and functioned on its own. The Govt. purchased a ready build house for the Archives in 1996 at Babutlang, Aizawl. After necessary renovation and alternations for the record room the building was occupied in 1998, May. The archival repository is beneficially used by students and research scholars.

The State Archives is manned by the Archivist, one Superintendent of Archives, one Chemist - II and one Asst. Superintendent of Archives, one each binder, Record Lifter and Clerical staff with four Group 'D' staffs. For conservation and preservation of records and documents fumigation chamber has been installed in the Archives which is very essential.



Stack room

7. **District Office :** The Art & Culture Department has made efforts for the establishment of District Offices in the State. But due to fund constraints it has not been possible. This was coupled with the ban for post creation. However, it was considered really essential to have a district office at least at Lunglei so as to effectively cover our plans and programmes in the southern part of Mizoram.

In the year 1998, a District Research Officer with one Research Investigator from Tribal Research Institute were deputed on temporary posting to Lunglei. The officers took rented house for office and pulled the district library staff to carry out their works. So, together with the District Library personals a District office was run and plans and programmes on promotion of art & culture were taken up.

Now, The District Office, Lunglei is manned by the Senior Research Officer (Upgraded post of Archaeologist), one Research Investigator from Tribal Research Institute and one UDC from Mizoram State Library have been pulled and posted in addition to the staff of District Library, Lunglei. One peon has also been posted. The office functions in a rented house.

The District Office, Lunglei in addition to the normal works is looking after the Art & Culture Auditorium and multi-purpose Cultural complex at Sazaikawn. A Museum gallery in part of Saikuti Hall has also been developed.

Multi-Purpose Cultural Complex (MPCC) : The Department in close coordination with the Mizoram Art & Cultural Society (Regd. No. RSR - 108/95/8 of 14.8.1995) have pursued setting up of Multi-Purpose Cultural Complex. This is a Rs. 2.00 crore projects under Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India. The Central State Share is 90:10. And started from 1996.

This is a Central Scheme in the Ministry of Culture. However, it has since been discontinued since two years back.

The Govt. of Mizoram availed the scheme for two Districts. One at Berawtlang, Aizawl and another at Sazaikawn, Lunglei.

The scheme is a Rs. 2.00 crore project with Central State Share of 90:10. The scheme is meant for NGO's only. As such the fund was given to the Mizoram Art & Cultural Society, registered under Registration of Societies Act 1860. The State Govt. provides land and give its share of financial grant to the Society. The society takes up the construction of the complex. It submits the progress report and statement of account and utilization certificates to the Govt. both Central and State.

The Multi-Purpose Cultural Complex at Berawtlang started in 1996 - 1997. It has been completed and functioning. The main building having four floors, each floor about 100 x 36 feet is used for public purposes on rent at the rate of Rs. 600/- per day. It serves a camping centre for different organization particularly, The Churches. There is auditorium of 270 seating capacity which is also available for public use. The rent is Rs. 1,500/- per hour with ceiling of Rs. 5,000/- a day. The Director of Art & Culture who is also Secretary of the Society is the nodal officer for the complex. The Second Multi-Purpose Cultural Complex at Sazaikawn, Lunglei was started in 2008. The Care-Taker-Cum-Chowkidar Quarters has been completed and occupied. The workshop-cum-exhibition building has also been completed. The Multi-Purpose Hall is in progress and expected to be completed soon. However, the fund received has been utilized and the final installment is expected from the Ministry.



Cultural Centre (Zokhua) : The Department has set up a Cultural Centre (Zokhua) at Falkawn near Aizawl. The centre is a mini live-museum where Zawlbuk, Chief's House, Pum (Blacksmiths) and other Mizo typical house are erected. There are freedom fighter memorial stone and Taitesena memorial.

A part-time chowkidar is engaged and the centre is frequently receiving public visitors. Entry fees @ Rs. 5/- and Rs. 2/- for adult and children are realized.



Zonal Cultural Centre : India is divided into 7 (seven) Cultural Zones. Mizoram is a member State in the North East Zone Cultural Centre (NEZCC) whose headquarter is located in Dimapur, Nagaland. The policy was the brain works of late Shri Rajiv Gandhi while he was the Prime Minister of India. The policy was implemented in 1986 and is now celebrating the Silver Jubilee Anniversary.

From the Zonal Centres programmes are chalked out and monitored. Each member- State sends their proposals each year to the Centre. The Programme Committee of the Centre considers and the executive Board approves them. The State Government through the concern Department executes a good number of programmes in their states. Acts & Rules : The following Acts and rules have been prepared by the Department :

- i) The Mizoram Grants-In-Aid to non-official voluntary organizations Rules, 1990
- ii) The Mizoram Publication Board Act 1993
- iii) The Mizoram Publication Board Rules, 1999
- iv) The Mizoram (Award of stipend to Trainees under Art & Culture Department) Rules, 2006
- v) The Mizoram Public Libraries Act, 1993
- vi) The Mizoram Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 2001
- vii) The Mizoram Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules, 2005

Enquiry : Contact officials and phone numbers for the following matters are :

1)	Policy & Programme, Cultural	:Director,
	Centres /Borrowing Dress and	Art & Culture Department
	Equipments	(2341038/24340929)
2)	Vanapa Hall booking/Enquiry	:Officer-In-Charge (2322081)
3)	Museum timing & rates of	:Museum Curator
	Admission	(2340936)
4)	Archives records/enquiry	:Archivist (2322039)
5)	Library Building grants/purchas	e:State Librarian (2335695)
	Of books	
6)	Publication / Books on Mizoram	:Senior Research Officer,
	and Mizo history etc.	Tribal Research Institute
	·	(2340930)

Annexure - I

POSTS UNDER DIRECTORATE

SI.	Name of Post	No of Posts				
No		Α	В	С	D	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	Director	1				
2	Joint Director	1				
3	Deputy Director	2				
4	Superitendent	1				
5	Assistant		4			
6	Inspector of Statistics		1			
7	Steno - II		1			
8	Junior Engineer		1			
9	Driver Sr.		1			
10	U.D.C.		4			
11	Steno - III		1			
12	Driver (Senior)		2			
13	L.D.C.			2		
14	Driver			1		
15	Duftry			1		
16	IV Grade				7	
	Total	5	15	4	7	

Annexure - I (Contd.) **INSTITUTE OF MUSIC & FINE ARTS** No of Posts SI. Name of Post No B С D A 1 2 3 4 5 6 Sr. Instructor 1 1 2 Drama Instructor 2 3 Dance Instructor 6 Music Instructor + (Vocal) 5 4 IV Grade 5 1 Total 1 13 1 _ ARCHAEOLOGY Research Investigator 1 1 L.D.C. 2 2 3 Peon 1 Total 1 2 1 VANAPA HALL 1 Programme Co-Ordinator 1 2 Assistant-Cum-Caretaker 1 3 Technician 1 4 IV Grade 5 Total 3 5 _

Annexure - II

LIST OF POSTS UNDER TRIBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE & DISTRICT GAZETTEER

SI.	Name of Post		No of posts				
No		Α	B	С	D		
1	2	3	4	5	6		
1	Senior Research Officer	1					
2	Research Officer		1				
3	District Research Officer		2				
4	Research Investigator		4				
5	Assistant		1				
6	Translator		1				
7	L.D.C.			2			
8	IV Grade				6		
	Total	1	9	2	6		
DIS	TRICT						
1	Special Officer		1				
2	U.D.C.		1				
3	L.D.C.			1			
4	IV Grade				1		
	Total		2	1	1		

Annexure - III

POST UNDER MIZORAM STATE MUSEUM

Sl.	Nouse of Doot	No of posts			
No	Name of Post	А	В	С	D
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Museum Curator	1			
2	Technical Assistant		1		
3	Driver Sr.		1		
4	U.D.C.		1		
5	Museum Guide		1		
6	Photographer		1		
7	Taxidermist		1		
8	L.D.C.			2	
9	Museum Assistant			1	
10	Reception-Cum- Counter Attendant			1	
11	Gallery Attendant				2
12	Night Guard				1
13	Checker				1
14	IV Grade				3
	Total	1	6	4	7

SI.	Name of Post			posis	
No	Indific of 1 Ost	А	В	С	D
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Archivist	1			
2	Superintendent of Archives		1		
3	Chemist II		1		
4	Asst. Supdt. Of Archives		1		
5	U.D.C.		1		
6	Store Keeper			1	
7	L.D.C.			2	
8	Binder			1	
9	Record Attendant			1	
10	IV Grade				3
	Total	1	4	5	3

LIST OF POSTS UNDER STATE CENTRAL LIBRARY & DISTRICT LIBRARIES

S1.	NameofPost			No of	posts	
No	Nameor Post		А	В	С	D
1	State Librarian		1			
2	Asst. Librarian			1		
3	U.D.C.			3		
4	Library Assistant				1	
5	Counter Attendant				1	
6	Driver				1	
7	IV Grade					3
	Total		1	4	3	3
STA	STAFF OF FOUR DISTRICT L			RIES		
		Aizawl	Kolasib	Champhai	Lunglei	Saiha
1	District Librarian	-	-	-	1	1
2	Sub-Div. Librarian	1	1	1	-	-
3	L.D.C.	1	1	1	1	1
4	Counter Attendant	1	1	1	1	1
5	IV Grade	2	2	2	2	2
	Total	5	5	5	4	4

Annexure - VI

POSTS UNDER DISTRICT ART & CULTURE, LUNGLEI

Sl.	Nameof Post	No of posts			
No	Nameor Post	А	В	С	D
1	Senior Research Officer	1			
2	Research Investigator		1		
3	U.D.C.		1		
4	L.D.C.			1	
	Total	1	2	1	0

NAME AND DESIGNATION OF OFFICERS DEALING WITH DIFFERENT SUBJECT

Sl.	Name of Officers	Designation	Subject Dealt
No		Designation	Sucjeer Deak
1	2	3	4
1	Shri Ngurbiaka	Director/ Joint Director	Direction, Supervision & Administration
2	Shri R. Hmingthanzuala	Deputy Director	General & Account
3	Smt. Carol VLMS Dawngkimi	Deputy Director	Programme/Library
4	Shri J.C. Dengmawia	Superintendent	Supervision
5	Shri Zaliana	Senior Research Officer	Tribal Research Institute
6	Shri Gen Khan Do	Senior Research Officer	District Adminsitration, Lunglei District
7	Shri Lalchuailova	Museum Curator	Museum
8	Shri Zofakawma	District Research Officer	Tribal Research Institute
9	Shri C. Laltlankima	District Research Officer	O/C Vanapa Hall
10	Smt. K. Laldinpuii	Special Officer	District Gazetteers
11	Shri R. Lalzawmliana	Programme Co-Ordinator	Prog. Coordination
12	Shri F. Lalthanmawia	Supdt. Of Archives	Matter relating to Archives
13	Shri Lalramliana	Asst. Librarian	Matter relating to public Library

