Chapter 6
ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION

To get livelihood, people have to involve into certain activities and tasks falling under the domain of production, distribution and consumption of goods, services and labour. Such activities are labelled as economic activities of which one cannot escape in order to survive. Economic activity which is essential for physical sustenance of a society plays an important role in the formation of its polity, culture and social structure. A set of interrelated economic activities of a society makes its economic organization. Every society whether simple, peasant or industrial has an economic organization. The Lois of Manipur also have a well-defined economic organization in their villages. Historically, the Loi villages, each, were imposed with a particular occupation to meet the needs of the king and the state. After Independence of India and merger of Manipur, a new era of democracy and development ushered in. This led to many changes in traditional economic organization in the Loi village & yet, there persisted certain traditions of their socio-economic life. The economic organization of the Lois in Koutruk and Leimaram villages is being discussed here in terms of occupation, income, size of landholding, types of land ownership, types of crops grown, production and its value, types of inputs they use and types of farm and industrial implements they have. The analysis will bring out the patterns of continuity and change in the traditional economic organization of the two villages. Occpational change or continuity happens to be the most conspicious in their collective life. Therefore, at the very outset of discussion, the occupational structure is taken up.

Occupational Structure

In the two villages one comes across the ongoing occupational differentiation wherein the people are taking up new occupations along with the traditional ones. Even the traditional occupations are being re-shaped under the process of their modernization. The villagers' occupations may be broadly divided into two types; viz., traditional occupations and new occupations. Their traditional occupations are (i) agriculture, (ii) silk rearing, (iii) weaving, (iv) liquor manufacturing and (v) pottery. Service jobs, paid labour and entrepreneurial enterprises are the newly emerging occupations among the villagers. However, the two types of occupations are not totally delinked from each other. Rather, the emerging occupational structure is found

linked with the traditional one on many counts. Now, these two occupational structures are discussed here.

Traditional Occupational Structure

Agriculture is the main economic activity of the people which is carried out by family. As the Loi family is a unit of, both production and consumption, family members act as a corporate group during cultivation. Those who possess land cultivate on their own land and those who don't possess any cultivable land generally lease in land on the rent paid to the landowner as a portion of the production from the land. Rearing of silkworm has a long history going back to the ancient period of Manipur. Since the time immemorial, rearing of silkworms has been concentrated in the Loi villages such as Phayeng, Khurkhul, Leimaram and Koutruk.

Weaving is a popular cottage industry of Manipuri women. It is also important because the cloths are produced for daily use garments of all the people in Manipur. The Loi women are generally specialised in weaving ordinary cloths but weaving silk cloth is the expertise of a few only. Among them, weaving is not considered as a main source of family income; rather they regarded it as a part of their socialization; as their hobby and part time occupation for earning additional income.

Liquor manufacturing, another traditional occupation, is an important source of income in the Loi villages. It is the occupation of the womenfolk, most of whom are housewives and who can combine this occupation with household chores. They manufactured it for sale as well as for offering to the household deity, Sanamahi, during the celebration of religious ceremonies.

Emerging Occupational Structure

With emerging opportunities of getting jobs in government and private sectors in urban and rural areas, the Loi villagers have also adopted some new occupations along with agriculture and liquor manufacturing, to a large extent. It is a set of the traditional as well as new occupations. The following table exhibits the emerging occupational structure in the two villages:

Table 6.1
Distribution of the Villagers into the Occupations in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Occupation	Koutruk				Total (%)	Leimaram				Total (%)	Grand Total (%)
	Male (%)		Female (%)			Male (%)		Female (%)			
	Main	Secondary	Main	Secondary		Main	Secondary	Main	Secondary		
Primary Sector (Agriculture, Kitchen gardening & Cattle rearing)	52 (49.06)	29 (100)	24 (42.86)	60 (85.71)	165 (63.22)	270 (53.36)	328 (100)	19 (6.25)	433 (97.74)	1050 (66.41)	1215 (65.96)
Secondary Sector (Manufacturing)	—	—	12 (21.43)	10 (14.29)	22 (8.43)	—	—	229 (75.3)	10 (2.26)	239 (15.12)	260 (14.12)
Service Sector (Govt. & Private)	54 (50.94)	—	20 (35.71)	—	74 (28.35)	236 (46.64)	—	56 (18.42)	—	292 (18.47)	367 (19.92)
Total (%)	106 (100)	29 (100)	56 (100)	70 (100)	261 (100)	506 (100)	328 (100)	304 (100)	443 (100)	1581 (100)	1842 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January - March 2010

The table shows that of the villagers, about two thirds (65.96%) are engaged in agriculture and allied activities such as kitchen gardening, cattle rearing and piggery, one fifth are employed in service sector and over one tenth (14.12%) are engaged in manufacturing.

In Koutruk, over three fifths (63.22%) of the villagers are engaged in primary sector, over one fourth (28.35%) in service sector and a slightly less than one tenth (8.43%) are engaged in secondary occupations (manufacturing). Similarly, in the Leimaram, two thirds (66.41%) are engaged in primary sector (agriculture and allied activities), near about one fifth (18.47%) in service sector and over one tenth (15.21%) in secondary sector of manufacturing.

Thus, agriculture is the main occupation of the people in both the villages. It is generally done by male members. Those who are not interested in agriculture or does not have any cultivable land, have engaged in other jobs such as blacksmithry, carpentry, masonry and private transport operation for livelihood. Female members in both the villages do not remain simply as housewives. They also help male members in agricultural activities, but they are mainly engaged in liquor manufacturing and pig rearing. Sometimes, they are also occupied with weaving, embroidery, teaching in private schools and working in private hospitals to supplement their family incomes. The occupations are spread over the three sectors of economy. These are being discussed here in detail.

Primary Occupations

Primary occupations in the two villages consist of the occupation of agriculture and the allied activities such as kitchen gardening, cattle rearing and pig farming. These primary occupational activities are being discussed here.

Agriculture

Agriculture is the main stay of the people in the two villages and therefore is practised even by those families which have one member or more engaged in government jobs. However, the nature of agricultural occupation is closely related to landholding size, the nature of inputs and the technology used which determine its differentiation and growth and therefore it becomes imperative to discuss the nature of these factors in order to analyse the agricultural occupation. Let the landholding distribution of the villages be discussed here.

Landholding

By their landholding size, the families in the two villages are divided into four categories; namely, the landless, the marginal landholders who hold land below one hectare, the small landholders whose landholding size is 1- 2 hectares, the semi-medium landholders who are possessing land of the size ranging from 2-4 hectares and the medium landholders whose land size is ranging from 4-10 hectares. None of the families is found in the category of large landholding size (above 10 hectares) in the villages. These categories of landholding size have been formulated by the Government of Manipur for determining land revenue. The distribution of the families of the two villages into these categories is shown in the following table:

Table 6.2
Distribution of the Families by Landholding Size in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Landholding Size (in hectares)	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
Landless	21 (23.9)	78 (18.98)	99 (19.8)
Marginal (below 1)	54 (61.4)	286 (69.42)	340 (68)
Small (1 – 2)	7 (7.95)	42 (10.19)	49 (9.8)
Semi-medium (2 – 4)	5 (5.7)	5 (1.21)	10 (2)
Medium (4 – 10)	1 (1.13)	1 (0.24)	2 (0.4)
Total (%)	88 (100)	412 (100)	500 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January – March 2010

The table indicates that out of the 500 families in both the villages, over two thirds (68%) are the marginal landholders, one fifth are the landless, one tenth (9.8%) are the small landholders, a small fraction, each, comprises the semi-medium (2%) and the medium landholders (0.4%).

In Koutruk, over three fifths (61.4%) of the families are the marginal landholders, about one fourth (23.9%) are the landless, 7.95% are the small landholders, 5.7% are the semi-medium landholders and a very few (1.13%) are the medium landholders. On the other hand, in Leimaram, over two thirds of the families are marginal landholders, nearly two fifths (18.98%) are landless, one tenths are small landholders, 1.21% are the semi-medium and a very few (0.24%) are medium landholders.

Thus, over two thirds (68%) of the families in the villages are the marginal landholders and a very few (0.24%) are the medium landholders. Also, about one fifth (19.8%) of the families do not have any cultivable land. As land is fixed and

population is incereasing day by day, there becomes the scarcity of land for cultivation in the two villages. And the uneven distribution of landholding generates significant dynamics of land possession when the landholdings are leased in and out along with the land owned. Therefore, it needs to bring out the patterns of land possession in the two villages.

Patterns of Land Possession

Broadly, there are two patterns of land possession; viz., the owned land and the land given or taken on lease. The land on lease is further divided into two categories; viz., the leased in and the leased out land. Apart from their independent existence, these landholdings are also combined by the villagers and thereby there emerge five categories of the land possession; namely, the owned land, the leased in land, the leased-out land, the leased-in as well as owned land and the leased-out as well as owned land. These categories of land possession are shown in the following table:

Table 6.3
Distribution of the Families into the Patterns of Land Possession in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Pattern of Land Possession	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
Own land	14 (21.86)	118 (37.34)	132 (34.74)
Leased-in land	39 (60.94)	149 (47.15)	188 (49.47)
Leased-out land	3 (4.69)	20 (6.93)	23 (6.05)
Leased-in as well as own land	8 (12.5)	20 (6.93)	28 (7.37)
Leased-out as well as cultivated own land	—	9 (2.85)	9 (2.37)
Total (%)	64 (100)	316 (100)	380 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from Villages during January – March 2010

The table exhibits that nearly half (49.47%) of the families in the two villages cultivated the leased-in land, one third (34%) cultivated their own land, 7.37% cultivated their own as well as leased-in land, 6.05% leased out their land to other cultivators and the remaining (2.37%) cultivated their own land as well as leased-out a portion of their land to other cultivators. Thus, in all, two thirds of the families leased in and leased out the land for cultivation. This phenomenon adds to the dynamics of land for agriculture in the villages.

In Koutruk, three fifths (60.94%) of the families have the leased-in land for cultivation, over one fifth (21.86%) cultivated their own land, over one tenth (12.5%) cultivated their own as well as leased-in land and a very few (4.69%) families have leased out their land to others. In Leimaram, slightly less than half (47.15%) of the families cultivated the leased-in land, 37.34% cultivated their own land, 6.93% have each leased out their land to other people and cultivated their own as well as the leased-in land, and a few (2.85%) families cultivated their own land and leased-out a portion of their land to other people.

As compared, near about half of the families (47.15%) in Leimaram and over three fifths of those in Koutruk (60.94%) have the leased-in land. Thus, Leimaram has more landholding families (37.34%) than Koutruk (21.86%). In both the villages, the cultivable land is leasedin and leasedout on a fixed rate of rent. In brief, the lease holding is the dominant pattern of land possession in the two villages. This is generated by the predominating pattern of marginal landholding in the villages. Thus, as a result of over population and developmental activities, the cultivable lands became the residental areas, and went under schools and offices, leading to scarcity for agricultural land.

Land Rent

Land rent is the payment for temporary use of the land held by someone other than the owner. The villagers, who do not have any cultivable land, lease-in the land from others by paying a portion of its production as rent. In the villages, there are prevalent two rates of land rent; viz., (i) 16 bags of the product per hectare and (ii) 20 bags of product per hectare. One bag is equal to 40 kg. The following table shows the rate of the rent paid for the land leased in and leased out in the two villages:

Table 6.4
Distribution of the Families into the Land Rent Rates in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Rent Paid in Per Hectare (in bags per hectare)	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
16	24 (48)	174 (87.88)	198 (79.84)
20	26 (52)	24 (12.12)	50 (20.16)
Total (%)	50 (100)	198 (100)	248 (100)

1bag=40kg

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villagers during January – March 2010

The data show that in the two villages, four fifths of the families have paid 16 bags of grains to the landowners as rent of the land leased-in while one fifth have paid 20 bags of grains as rent to the landowners.

In Koutruk, nearly half (48%) of the families have paid 16 bags of grains for the land leased-in and the remaining, over a half (52%), have given 20 bags of paddy grains as rent to the landowners. In Leimaram, most (87.88%) of the families have paid 16 bags as rent for the leased in land while one tenth of the families have paid 20 bags of the grains.

Thus, more families in Koutruk paid the rent at the rate of 20 bags than in Leimaram. This differentiation of rates owes to the mutual relationship between the landowners and the tenants as relatives or friends rather than the quality of the land The possession and rent further determine the types of the crops grown on the land. Therefore, the crops raised by the villages are being discussed here.

Crops

The villagers grow three types of crops; namely, (i) food grains, (ii) oilseeds and (iii) vegetables. Food grains and oilseeds are rice and mustard respectively. Vegetables are grown such as potato, tomato, cabbage, chilly, peas and spinach. The following table presents the types of the crops grown in the two villages:

Table 6.5
Distribution of the Families into the Types of the Crops Grown in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of the Crop	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
Food grains	62 (96.87)	255 (80.70)	317 (83.42)
Food grains and oil seeds	2 (3.13)	6 (1.90)	8 (2.11)
Food grains and vegetables	—	7 (2.22)	7 (1.84)
Food grains, oil seeds and vegetables	—	48 (15.18)	48 (12.63)
Total (%)	64 (100)	316 (100)	380 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from villagers during January – March 2010

The data show that over four fifths (83.42%) of the families in the two villages grow food grain crops only, 12.63% grow food grains, oilseeds and vegetables, 2.11% grow food grains and oilseeds and a few (1.84%) grow food grains and vegetables.

In Koutruk, most (96.87%) of the families grow food grains and a very few (3.13%) grow both food grains and oilseeds. In Leimaram, four fifths of the families grow food grains, 15.18% grow food grains, oilseeds and vegetables, 2.22% grow food grains and vegetables and a small fraction (1.90%) grow food grains and oilseeds.

Thus, in Koutruk, the villagers mainly grow food grains and only a few grow oilseeds. On the other hand, though the villagers of Leimaram mainly grow food grains, substantial section of its families grow vegetable and oilseeds as well. It indicates that there is more crop differentiation in Leimaram than in Koutruk. The people of Leimaram are earning extra income from selling vegetables.

Purpose of Growing the Crops

Crops in the two villages are generally grown for the purposes under two categories; viz., (i) domestic consumption and (ii) domestic consumption as well as marketing. The purpose of growing the crops in the two villages is shown in the following table:

Table 6.6
Distribution of the Families into the Categories of Purpose of Growing the Crops in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Purpose of Growing Crops	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
Domestic consumption	28 (43.75)	108 (34.18)	136 (35.79)
Domestic consumption as well as marketing	36 (56.25)	208 (65.82)	244 (64.21)
Total (%)	64 (100)	316 (100)	380 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January – March 2010

The data reveal that in the two villages, about two thirds (64.21%) of the families have grown the crops for domestic consumption as well as their marketing whereas over one third (35.79%) have grown the crops only for domestic consumption.

In Koutruk, near about three fifths (56.25%) of the families have grown the crops for domestic consumption and marketing while over two fifths (43.75%) have grown these for domestic consumption only. In Leimaram, about two thirds (65.82%) of the families have grown crops for domestic consumption as well as marketing while over one third (34.18%) have grown these for domestic consumption.

Thus, as compared to Koutruk, there is seen more diversified purpose of the crops grown in Leimaram where the crops are grown for marketing, apart from the domestic consumption. It indicates that people of Leimaram are interested in commercalization of agricultural products as it is settled beside the main road. However, families of the villages keep their sufficient amount of crops for domestic consumption and then sell the surplus production to their local fellows. All crops need seeds for raising them. Therefore, it becomes important to know how seeds are procured for crops by the villagers.

Seeds

The villagers used two types of seeds for cultivation; namely, local and high yielding variety seeds. The following table shows the types of seeds used by the families for agricultural production in the two villages:

Table 6.7
Distribution of the Families by the Types of the Seeds Used in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Seeds used	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
Local	64 (100%)	308 (97.47%)	372 (97.89%)
Local as well as high yield variety		8 (2.53%)	8 (2.11%)
Total (%)	64 (100)	316 (100)	380 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the villagers during January – March 2010

The table shows that most (97.89%) of the cultivators in the two villages are using local seeds only and a very few (2.11%) of them are using the local as well as high yield variety of seeds.

In Koutruk, all the agricultural families are using only the local seeds on their agricultural lands. In Leiimaram, 97.47% are using local seeds and a very few (2.11%) are using local as well as high yield variety seeds.

Thus, all the families in the villages are using local seeds. Only a small fraction of the families use high yielding variety of seeds as well. As local seeds are

available in the locality, it becomes easy to procure them. The names of the local seeds used by the farmers in the two villages are given in the following table:

Table 6.8
Distribution of the Families into the Types of the Local Seeds Used in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Name of the Seeds	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
Dharam	45 (70.31)	118 (37.34)	163 (42.89)
Ayang Leima	5 (7.81)	16 (5.06)	21 (5.53)
P.R.I	12 (18.75)	42 (13.29)	54 (14.21)
Phourel khongnembi	2 (3.13)	140 (44.30)	142 (37.37)
Total (%	64 (100)	316 (100)	380 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected the Villages during January – March 2010

The table finds that four types of seeds are used by the cultivators in the two villages; viz., as (i) Dharam, (ii) Ayang Leima, (iii) P.R.I and (iv) Phourel Khongnembi. Of the 380 families using these types of seeds, over two fifths (42.89%) used Dharam seeds, near about two fifths (37.37%) used Phourel Khongnembi, over one tenth (14.21%) used P.R.I and a few (5.53%) used Ayang Leime type of seeds.

In Koutruk, over two thirds (70.31%) of the total 64 families used Dharam, near about one fifth (18.75%) used PRI, 7.81% used Ayang Leima and a small fragment (3.13%) used Phourel Khongnembi. In Leimaram, over two fifths (44.30%) of the total 316 families used Phourel Khongnembi, near about two fifths (37.34%) used Dharam, over one tenth (13.29%) used P.R.I and a few (5.06%) used Ayang Leima.

Thus, the villagers of Koutruk mainly used the Dharam seeds than other types of seeds because the seeds yield more than other seeds. However, the agricultural families in Leimaram used the Phourel Khongnembi as well as the Dharam seeds. Ayang Leima is not commonly used in both the villages, except a very few (5.53%) families because of its less yield. Thus, one can see a change of use from low yield to high yield seeds.

The villagers get these seeds for cultivation from three different sources; viz., (i) preserved seeds, (ii) locality and (ii) market. The following table shows the sources from which the cultivators of the two villages get the seeds:

Table 6.9
Distribution of the Families into the Sources from which Seeds are Procured in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Name of seed procurementSource	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
Preserved seeds	50 (78.13)	180 (56.96)	230 (60.52)
Locality	14 (21.87)	134 (42.41)	148 (38.95)
Market as well as preserved seeds	—	2 (0.63)	2 (0.53)
Total (%)	64 (100)	316 (100)	380 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January – March 2010

The table shows that in the two villages three fifths of the agricultural families used the preserved seeds, about two fifths (38.95%) procured these from the local fellows and a very few (0.53%) used the seeds purchased from the market as well as their preserved seeds.

In Koutruk, nearly four fifths (78.13%) of the families used their preserved seeds for cultivation whereas one fourth procured from their local fellows. In Leimaram, nearly three fifths (56.96%) of the families used their home preserved seeds, two fifths procured from the local fellows and a very few (0.63%) used the seeds from the market as well as their home preserved seeds.

Thus, all the agricultural families of both the villages used their own preserved seeds. When they want to grow different types of seeds they buy these from the local fellows. Sometimes, seeds are also exchanged among the local fellows. There is now seen operation of market practice in procurement of seeds in the two villages.

Fertilizers

There are two types of fertilizers which are generally used by the cultivators; namely, (i) the chemical fertilizers like urea, D.A.T, potash, super phosphorus and (ii) the natural fertilizers like cow dung. The following table shows the types of fertilizers used by cultivators in the two villages:

Table 6.10
Distribution of the Families into the Types of Fertilizer Used in Agriculture in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Fertilizer	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
Chemical fertilizer	61 (95.31)	283 (89.56)	344 (90.53)
Natural as well as chemical fertilizer	3 (4.69)	33 (10.44)	36 (9.47)
Total (%)	64 (100)	316 (100)	500 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January to March 2010

The table shows that in the two villages, most (90.53%) of the families used chemical fertilizers while one tenth used the chemical as well as natural fertilizer for agriculture. It means that all the families use the chemical fertilizers.

In Koutruk, most (95.31%) of the families used chemical fertilizers and a very few (4.69%) used the chemical as well as natural fertilizers. In Leimaram also, most (89.56%) of the families have used chemical fertilizers while one tenth of the families used the chemical as well as the natural fertilizer.

Thus, all the families in the two villages use the chemical fertilizers rather than natural fertilizers to yield better agricultural production. Moreover, most of the villagers have discarded the practice of rearing cattle from which natural fertilizer like cow dung is obtained.

Generally, four types of chemical fertilizers are found in use among the cultivators; namely, D.A.T, urea, potash and super phosphorus. The following table shows the types of chemical fertilizers used by cultivator in the two villages:

Table 6.11

Distribution of the Families into Types of Chemical Fertilizers Used among the Families of Cultivators by Their Land Size in Koutruk and Leimaram

(Percentage in Parentheses)

Name of the Chemical Fertilizer	Koutruk (%)				Total (%)	Leimara (%)				Total (%)	Grand total (%)
	Marginal farmers	Small farmers	Semi-medium farmers	Medium farmers		Marginal farmers	Small farmers	Semi-medium farmers	Medium farmers		
D.A.T & urea	1 (1.85)	—	—	—	1 (1.56)	3 (1.12)	—	—	—	3 (0.95)	4 (1.05)
Diamond & potash	1 (1.85)	—	—	—	1 (1.56)	—	—	—	—	—	1 (0.26)
D.A.T, urea & potash	6 (11.11)	—	—	—	6 (9.38)	1 (0.37)	—	—	—	1 (0.32)	7 (1.84)
D.A.T, urea & super phosphorus	5 (9.26)	—	—	—	5 (7.81)	50 (18.66)	—	—	—	50 (15.82)	55 (14.47)
D.A.T, potash & super phosphorus	1 (1.85)	—	—	—	1 (1.56)	1 (0.37)	—	—	—	1 (0.32)	2 (0.53)
D.A.T, urea, potash & super phosphorus	40 (74.07)	7 (100)	2 (100)	1 (100)	50 (78.13)	213 (79.48)	42 (100)	5 (100)	1 (100)	261 (82.59)	311 (81.84)
Total (%)	54 (100)	7 (100)	2 (100)	1 (100)	64 (100)	268 (100)	42 (100)	5 (100)	1 (100)	316 (100)	380 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January – March 2010

The data show that four fifths of the farmers from marginal, small, semi-medium and medium landholders in the two villages used chemical fertilizers like D.A.T, urea, potash and super phosphorus, 14.47% of farmers from marginal land holders used D.A.T, urea and super phosphorus, 1.84% of farmers from marginal land holders used D.A.T, urea and potash, 1.05% of marginal farmers used only diamond and urea, 0.53% of marginal farmers used D.A.T, potash and super phosphorus and a very few (0.26%) of the marginal landholding families used D.A.T and potash only.

In Koutruk, nearly four fifths (78.13%) of the families from the marginal, small, semi-medium and medium landholdings used D.A.T, urea, potash and super phosphorus, one tenth (9.38%) of the marginal farmers used D.A.T urea and potash, 7.81% of the marginal farmers used D.A.T urea and super phosphorus and a very few (1.56%) each of the marginal farmers used D.A.T and urea, D.A.T and potash and diamond, potash and urea. In Leimaram, over four fifths (82.59%) of the farmers from the marginal, small, semi-medium and medium landholdings used D.A.T, urea, potash and super phosphorus, 15.82% used D.A.T, urea and super phosphorus, 0.95% used D.A.T and urea and a very few (0.32%), each, of the marginal farmers families used D.A.T, urea and potash, and D.A.T, potash and super phosphorus.

Thus, D.A.T and urea are more used by the farmers than any other chemical fertilizers in the two villages to make the soil more fertile. This pattern shows a change from cow dung to chemical fertilizers.

These chemical fertilizers are easily available in the Kwairamband bazaar, the main market of Manipur and other village markets. The following table shows the names of the places where the farmers get the chemical fertilizers:

Table 6.12
Distribution of the Families into the Places from Where They Buy Fertilizers by Their Landholding Size in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Name of the Place	Koutruk (%)				Total (%)	Leimaram (%)				Total (%)	Grand total (%)
	Marginal farmers	Small farmers	Semi medium farmers	Medium farmers		Marginal farmers	Small farmers	Semi medium farmers	Medium farmers		
Imphal Town	48 (88.89)	7 (100)	2 (100)	1 (100)	58 (90.63)	—	14 (58.33)	5 (100)	1 (100)	20 (6.33)	78 (20.53)
Lamshang Bazar	6 (11.11)	—	—	—	6 (9.37)	—	—	—	—	—	6 (1.58)
Nambol Bazar	—	—	—	—	—	172 (60.14)	10 (41.67)	—	—	182 (57.59)	182 (47.89)
Leimaram Village	—	—	—	—	—	114 (39.86)	—	—	—	114 (36.08)	114 (30)
Total (%)	54 (100)	7 (100)	2 (100)	1 (100)	64 (100)	286 (100)	24 (100)	5 (100)	1 (100)	316 (100)	380 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January – March 2010

The data show that from four different places the cultivators of the two villages buy the fertilizers; namely, (i) the Imphal town, (ii) the Lamshang Bazaar, (iii) the Nambol Bazaar and (iv) the Leimaram village. Nearly half (47.89%) of the 380 agricultural families buy the fertilizers from the Nambol Bazaar, nearly one third of the families buy from Leimaram, one fifth buy from the Imphal town and a small fraction (1.58%) buy from the Lamshang Bazaar.

Most (90.63%) of the families in Koutruk buy the fertilizers from the Imphal town and a small fragment (11.11%) buy these from the Lamshang Bazaar which is the nearest market for the village. In Leimaram, near about three fifths (57.59) of the families buy the fertilizers from the Nambol Bazaar, the nearest market for the village, 36.08% from the village glocery shop and a very few (6.33%) buy from the Imphal town.

Further, most (88.89%) of the marginal farmers from the Koutruk buy the fertilizers from Imphal town and 11.11% from Lamsang Bazaar. However, all the families of the small landholders, semi-medium landholders and medium landholders buy the fertilizers from the Imphal town only. In Leimaram, three fifths (60.14%) of marginal farmers buy the fertilizers from the Nambol Bazaar and near about two fifths (39.86%) from the village itself. Among the small landholders, majority (58.33%) of them buy the fertilizers from the Imphal town while over two fifths (41.67%) from the Nambol Bazaar. However, all the families from the semi-medium landholders and medium land holders buy the fertilizers only from the Imphal town.

Thus, marginal farmers are trying to buy the fertilizers from the nearest market whereas the small, semi-medium and medium farmers buy it from the Imphal town, the main market of Manipur. This pattern shows that the farmers have extended their connectivity with the large market in their vinicity.

Outcome of the uses of seeds and fertilizers is the production which differs in the families of the two villages. The following table shows the amount of production and its value in the two villages:

Table 6.13
Distribution of the Families into the Production Size and Its Value in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Quantity of Product (in bags)	Value (in Rs)	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
15-30	10,800-21,600	17 (26.56)	51 (16.14)	68 (17.89)
30-45	21,600-32,400	15 (23.43)	102 (32.28)	117 (30.79)
45-60	32,400-43,200	11 (17.19)	83 (26.26)	94 (24.74)
60-75	43,200-54,000	2 (3.12)	25 (7.91)	27 (7.11)
75-90	54,000-64,800	7 (10.94)	21 (6.65)	28 (7.37)
90-115	64,800-82,800	5 (7.81)	18 (5.7)	23 (6.05)
115-130	82,800-93,600	-	13 (4.11)	13 (3.42)
130-145	93,600-1,04,400	2 (3.12)	-	2 (0.53)
145-160	1,04,400-1,15,200	3 (4.69)	2 (0.63)	5 (1.31)
160-175	1,15,200-1,26000	1 (1.56)	-	1 (0.26)
175-190	1,26000-1,36,800	-	-	
190-205	1,36,800-1,47,600	-	1 (0.32)	1 (0.26)
205-220	1,47,600-1,58,400	-	-	-
220-235	1,58,400-1,69,200	-	-	-
235-250	1,69,200-1,80000	-	-	-
250-265	1,80000-1,90,800	-	-	-
265-280	1,90,800-2,01,600	-	-	-
280-288	2,01,600-2,07,360	1 (1.56)	-	1 (0.26)
Total (%)		64 (100)	316 (100)	380 (100)

1 *bag*= 60 *Kg*, 1 *kg*= *Rs* 22

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January – March 2010

The data reveal that in the two villages, nearly one third (30.79%) of the families produced 30-45 bags of rice in a year, one fourths (24.74%) produced 45-60 bags, 17.89% of families produced 15-30 bags and a very few (0.26% of each) family produced 60 bags of rice upto 288 bags in a year.

In Koutruk, over one fourth (26.56%) of the families produced 15-30 bags of rice, 23.43% produced 30-45 bags, 17.19% produced 45-60 bags, one tenth produced 75-90 bags and only one family produced 160 bags of rice upto 288 bags.

In Leimaram, about one third (32.28%) of the families produced 30-45 bags of rice, over one fourth (26.26%) produced 45-60 bags, 16.14% produced 15-30 bags and a very few (0.32%) produced 90-205 bags of rice. Thus, the families which produced more than thirty bags of rice in a year are more in Leimaram (32.28%) than in Koutruk (23.43%) because of their size of land holding.

Farm Implements

Like their concern for using modern agricultural techniques, e.g., chemical fertilizers, the families also use the modern farm implements for agriculture such as tractor, power tiller and sprayer along with traditional implements such as bullock cart. The following table gives the types of farm implements the villagers have:

Table 6.14
Distribution of the Families into the Types of Farm Implements in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Farm Implements	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
Tractor	___	4 (4.82)	4 (4.12)
Power tiller	7 (50)	10 (12.05)	17 (17.53)
Bullock cart	7 (50)	41(49.4)	48 (49.48)
Sprayer	___	28 (33.74)	28 (28.87)
Total (%)	14 (100)	83 (100)	97 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the villages during January – March 2010

The table shows that there are four farm implements owned by the families in the two villages; namely, (i) tractor, (ii) power tiller, (iii) bullock cart and (iv) sprayer. Out of these, only two implements, i.e., power tiller and bullock cart are available in Koutruk, while all the four implements are available in Leimaram. Of the 97 families in the two villages, which have farm implements, half of the families have bullock cart, more than one fourth have sprayer, 17.53% of families have power tiller and a few (4.12%) families have tractor.

In Koutruk, out of the 14 families which have farm implements, half of these have power tiller and the remaining half have bullock cart. In Leimaram, of the 83 families which have farm implements, half of the families have bullock cart, one third (33.74%) have sprayer, one tenth have power tiller and a very few (4.82%) have tractor.

Thus, bullock cart and sprayer are commonly available in both the villages. This shows a mixture of traditional and modern implements according to their needs. Also, there are some families which have power tiller (17.53%) and tractor (4.12%). They have used these farm implements for agricultural purpose of the families. The families, which do not possess the implements, have hired these on rent from others during the cultivation season. Thus, the farmers have mostly adopted the modern agricultural implements. However, the traditional implements like bullock cart which

is used for plaughing the field and carrying rice bags, combined with the modern implements.

Secondary Sector of Occupations

Secondary occupations consist of the occupations related to manufacturing and mining. In the two villages, one finds the people engaged in the secondary sector of liquor manufacturing. Liquor manufacturing, though a traditional occupation, is now an important source of income in the Loi villages. Mostly, the womenfolk engage in this occupation along with household chores. They produce it to earn cash income and to use it during ceremonial festivities, e.g.; worship of Lainingthou Sanamahi (the family deity) and *Yupanthaba* (the child birth ceremony). A ban on illegal liquor manufacturing and sale is checked by Excise Department of the State as well as by local associations such as Meira Paibi (women's association in every locality) which restrict the open selling of liquor to the public. However, the brewers continue this illegal activity by bribing the state officials. Besides, weaving and tailoring are other two manufacturing activities in the villages. The villagers used few industrial implements for manufacturing.

Industrial Implements

The industrial implements are used for generating income as well as meeting day-to-day needs. Some of the families in the two villages are having some of these implements. The following table shows the families having industrial implements and their types in both the villages:

Table 6.15
Distribution of the Families into the Types of Industrial Implements in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Industrial Implements	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
Looms	11 (61.11)	64 (60.95)	75 (60.98)
Sewing machine	6 (33.33)	33 (31.43)	39 (31.71)
Rice mill	1 (5.56)	2 (1.90)	3 (2.44)
Generator	-	4 (3.81)	4 (3.25%)
Electric pump set	-	2 (1.90)	2 (1.62)
Total (%)	18 (100)	105 (100)	123 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January – March 2010

The table shows that 123 families of the two villages are having five industrial implements; namely, (i) looms, (ii) sewing machine, (iii) rice mill, (iv) generator and (v) electric pump set. Looms are used for weaving; sewing machine for embroidery;

rice mill for converting crude rice into clean rice, generator for substitutory electric source and electric pump set for generating water. Of the families, three fifths have looms, near about one third (31.71%) have sewing machines, 3.25% have generators, 2.44% have rice mills and 1.62% have electric pump sets.

In Koutruk, three fifths (61.11%) of the families (11) have looms for weaving, one third (33.33%) have sewing machines for tailoring and embroidery and a very few (5.56%) have rice mills. In Leimaram, three fifths of the families (64) have looms for weaving, near about one third (31.43%) have sewing machines for tailoring and embroidery, 3.81% have generators and a very few (1.90% each) have rice mills and electric pump set. Notably, 3.81% of the families have generators and 1.90% have electric pump sets in Leimaram, which is absent in Koutruk village. Also, the number of the families having the industrial implement is greater in Leimaram than in Koutruk. Thus, the people of Leimaram are more expose to the modern technology. They know the benifits of modern technology in day-to-day life. The industrial implements indicates the emergence of new industrial activity.

Entrepreneurial Jobs

The jobs taken up by one by taking risk are known as entrepreneurship. The following table shows the number of persons employed by entrepreneurial jobs in the two villages:

Table 6.16
Distribution of villagers into Entrepreneurial Jobs in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Entrepreneurial Job	Koutruk (%)			Leimaram (%)			Grand Total (%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Weaving	—	10 (71.43)	10 (62.5)	—	22 (40.0)	22 (34.38)	—	32 (46.38)	32 (40)
Embroidery	—	—	—	—	6 (10.91)	6 (9.37)	—	6 (8.69)	6 (9.37)
Hotel Running	—	1 (7.14)	1 (6.25)	2 (22.22)	11 (20.0)	13 (20.31)	2 (18.18)	12 (17.39)	14 (17.5)
Shopkeeping	1 (50.0)	3 (21.43)	4 (25)	3 (33.33)	16 (29.09)	19 (29.69)	4 (36.36)	19 (27.64)	23 (28.75)
Rice Mill Operation	1 (50.0)	—	1 (6.25)	4 (44.44)		4 (6.25)	5 (45.45)	—	5 (6.25)
Total (%)	2 (100)	14 (100)	16 (100)	9 (100)	55 (100)	64 (100)	11 (100)	69 (100)	80 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villagers during January –March 2010

The data show that 80 members in the two villages are employed in enterprises; namely, weaving, embroidery, running hotel, shopkeeper and running rice

mill. Of these, two fifths are working as weavers, nearly over one fourth (28.75%) are shopkeepers, nearly one fifth (17.5%) run hotels, 7.5% are in embroidery and 6.25% run rice mills.

In Koutruk, over three fifths (62.5%) of the entrepreneurs are engaged in weaving, one fourth are shopkeepers, and one persons each is running hotel and rice mill. In Leimaram, over one third (34.38%) of the entrepreneurs are engaged in weaving, over one fourth (29.69%) are shopkeepers, one fourth run hotels, one tenth are engaged in embroidery and a small fragment is running rice mills.

Thus, of the self-employed persons in the two villages, majority is engaged in weaving and shop keeping.

Tertiary Sector of Occupations

Tertiary occupations consist of the service occupations related to government, private firms or self entrepreneurship and labour.

Private Services

Private Service jobs are those jobs which are performed for the benefit of some other person. Some of the people in the two villages are engaged in some private jobs available in Manipur and outside of Manipur. The following table shows the number of persons engaged in the private jobs in the two villages:

Table 6.17
Distribution of the Villagers into Types of Private Services in Koutruk and Leimaram (Percentage in Parentheses)

Private Service	Koutruk (%)			Leimaram (%)			Total (%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Teacher in Private School	—	4 (80.0)	4 (30.77)	—	—	—	—	4 (57.14)	4 (13.33)
Nurse in Private Hospital	—	—	—	—	2 (100)	2 (11.76)	—	2 (28.57)	2 (6.67)
Call Centre Attendant	—	1 (20.0)	1 (7.69)	—	—	—	—	1 (14.29)	1 (3.33)
Driver	8 (100)	—	8 (61.54)	15 (100)	—	15 (88.24)	23 (100)	—	23 (76.67)
Total (%)	8 (100)	5 (100)	13 (100)	15 (100)	2 (100)	17 (100)	23 (100)	7 (100)	30 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villagers during January – March 2010

The table lays bare that 30 people, 23 males and 7 females, in the two villages are engaged in four different types of private jobs. Of the villagers, three fourths of

the males are engaged as driver, 13.33% females are engaged as teacher in private school, two female members are in private hospital as nurse and one female as attendant in a call centre in Delhi.

In Koutruk, of the private job holders, over three fifths (61.54%) of the males are employed as drivers, nearly one third (30.77%) of the females as teacher and one female in a call centre as attendant. In Leimaram, most (88.24%) of the males work as drivers and two females are working as nurses in the Shija Hospital and Research and Training Centre, one of the most popular private hospitals in Manipur .

Thus, among the persons engaged in private jobs, most of them are employed as drivers (males).

Government Services

Government as an organization employs persons to render services to the people of a state or nation. Among the villagers, it becomes an important to get a job in government organizations as the government jobs carry high social prestige for the people in the society. The following table shows the number of persons engaged in government jobs and their classes:

Table 6.18
Government Service-Job Patterns among the Villagers in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Service-jobs	Koutruk (%)			Leimaram (%)			Grand Total (%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Class I	—	—	—	1 (0.75)	—	1 (0.68)	1 (0.62)	—	1 (0.57)
Class III	27 (100)	1 (100)	28 (100)	133 (99.25)	14 (100)	147 (99.32)	160 (99.38)	15 (100)	175 (99.43)
Total (%)	27 (100)	1 (100)	28 (100)	134 (100)	14 (100)	148 (100)	161 (100)	15 (100)	176 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from Villagers during January- March 2010

The data show that the people of the two villages are holding jobs in two classes of government service; i.e., class I and class III. Most (99.43%) of them are engaged in class III jobs and one person is engaged in class I jobs.

In Koutruk, all the peoples are employed in class III jobs. In Leimaram, one person is engaged in class I jobs while the rest (99.32%) are engaged in class III jobs. The person who is engaged in class I job is in the post of District Co-ordinating

officer in the Social Welfare Department of Manipur Government. The following table distributes the people engaged in class III jobs into their post:

Table 6.19

Distribution of the Villagers into Types of the Post held in Government Services in Koutruk and Leimaram

(Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Post	Koutruk (%)			Leimaram (%)			Grand Total (%)		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Assistant Instructor (Craft)	—	—	—	2 (1.50)	—	2 (1.36)	2 (1.25)	—	2 (1.14)
Teacher in High School	—	—	—	1 (0.75)	—	1 (0.68)	1 (0.63)	—	1 (0.57)
Primary School Teacher	—	—	—	—	2 (14.29)	2 (1.36)		2 (13.33)	2 (1.14)
Engineer	—	—	—	3 (2.26)	—	3 (2.04)	3 (1.88)	—	3 (1.71)
Nurse	—	1 (100)	1 (3.57)		2 (14.29)	2 (1.36)	—	3 (20.0)	3 (1.71)
UDC	4 (14.81)	—	4 (14.29)	21 (15.79)	3 (21.43)	24 (16.33)	25 (15.63)	3 (20.0)	28 (16.0)
LDC	2 (7.41)	—	2 (7.14)	15 (11.28)	5 (35.71)	20 (13.61)	17 (10.63)	5 (33.33)	22 (12.57)
Lab Attendant	—	—	—	8 (6.02)	1 (7.14)	9 (6.12)	8 (5.0)	1 (6.67)	9 (5.14)
Post Master	—	—	—	2 (1.50)	1 (7.14)	3 (2.04)	2 (1.25)	1 (6.67)	3 (1.71)
Pump Operator	5 (18.52)	—	5 (17.86)	4 (3.01)	—	4 (2.72)	9 (5.63)	—	9 (5.14)
Riflemen in Army	3 (11.11)	—	3 (10.71)	14 (10.53)	—	14 (9.52)	17 (10.63)	—	17 (9.71)
Riflemen in Police	4 (14.81)	—	4 (14.29	39 (29.32)	—	39 (26.53)	43 (26.88)	—	43 (24.57)
Riflemen in Air Force	—	—	—	1 (0.75)	—	1 (0.68)	1 (0.63)	—	1 (0.57)
Riflemen in SSB	2 (7.41)	—	2 (7.14)	2 (1.50)	—	2 (1.36)	4 (2.5)	—	4 (2.29)
Riflemen in CRPF	1 (3.70)		1 (3.57)	11 (8.27)	—	11 (7.48)	12 (7.5)	—	12 (6.86)
Riflemen in IRB	6 (22.22)	—	6 (21.43)	10 (7.52)	—	10 (6.80)	16 (10.0)	—	16 (9.14)
Total (%)	27 (100)	1 (100)	28 (100)	133 (100)	14 (100)	147 (100)	160 (100)	15 (100)	175 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January – March 2010

The table shows that majority (26.35%) of the people employed in the government jobs, are engaged mainly in the class III jobs related to defence.

In Leimaram, there is one class I rank gazetted officer and others are teachers, technicians and class III job holders. These jobs among the lois are a result of the

state's policy for educational promotion and reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes in jobs. On the other hand, Koutruk is comparatively much backward as the villagers are engaged only in class III government jobs related to defence, due to their low educational background.

Labour

Labourers are those persons who do manual works for getting wages. In the two villages, 16% of villagers are engaged in manual labour in order to sustain their families. The following table shows the number of persons engaged as labourers in the two villages and the kind of the works they do:

Table 6.20
Distribution of Villagers Engaged into the Types of Labour in Koutruk and Leimaram (Percentage in Parentheses)

Type of Work	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
Carpentry	8 (47.06)	37 (58.73)	45 (56.25)
Mason's work	9 (52.94)	24 (38.1)	33 (41.25)
Blacksmithy		2 (3.17)	2 (2.5)
Total (%)	17 (100)	63 (100)	80 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January – March 2010

The table shows that in the two villages, nearly three fifths (56.25%) of the persons are carpenters and two fifths are masons who work for the construction of the houses and a few (2.5%) are blacksmiths.

In Koutruk, over half (52.94%) of the labourers are masons and 47.06% are carpenters. In Leimaram, near about three fifths (58.73%) of the persons are carpenters, near about two fifths (38.1%) are masons and a very few (3.17%) are blacksmiths.

Thus, people of the two villages are mainly the carpenters and masons. Compared to Leimaram, Koutruk has not a single person who works as blacksmith in the village. Briefly, the secondary and tertiary sector occupations indicate differentiation of occupational structure in the villages.

Income

Income is one of the most objective indicators for measuring one's status in society. In the Loi villages, there is observed an increase of incomes generated through modern agriculture and animal rearing, liquor manufacturing and

government, private and entrepreneur jobs, individually or combined. The range of income in the two villages is from zero to above Rs. 4, 00,000/-. The following table distributes the families into income groups in the two villages:

Table 6.21
Distribution of the Families into the Income Groups in Koutruk and Leimaram
(Percentage in Parentheses)

Income Group (in Rupees)	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
00-50000	23 (26.14)	132 (32.04)	155 (31.0)
50001-100000	33 (37.5)	128 (31.07)	161 (32.2)
100001-150000	15 (17.04)	71 (17.23)	86 (17.2)
150001-200000	6 (6.82)	28 (6.8)	34 (6.8)
200001-250000	7 (7.95)	20 (4.85)	27 (5.4)
250001-300000	1 (1.14)	19 (4.61)	20 (4)
300001-350000	1 (1.14)	9 (2.18)	10 (2)
350001-400000	2 (2.27)	5 (1.21)	7 (1.4)
Total (%)	88 (100)	412 (100)	500 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January – March 2010

The table shows that of the 500 families in the two villages, about one third (32.2%) have annual income of Rs. 50001/- to Rs.100000/- and a slightly less than one third (31%) have annual income upto Rs. 50000/-. There are a few (1.4%) families having the annual income of Rs. 4,00,000/- in both the villages.

In Koutruk, around two fifths (37.5%) of the families have annual income of Rs. 50001/- to Rs.100000/-, one fourth of the families have the income upto Rs. 50000/- and a few (2.27%) families have their annual income of Rs.350,000/- to Rs.400,000/-.

In Leimaram, near about one third (32.04%) of families have annual income upto Rs. 49284/-, a slightly less than it (31.07%) have Rs. 50001/- to Rs. 1,00000/-, near about one fifth (17.23%) have Rs. 100001/- to Rs. 150,000/-. There is a small fraction (1.21%) of families which have annual income of 3, 50,000/- to 4, 00,000/-. The mean value of the income for Koutruk is Rs. 10, 1136.7 and for Leimaram is Rs.100000.3.

The families having annual income of Rs.350, 000/- – 4,00,000/- in the two villages have semi-medium and medium size of agricultural lands and have more than one family members employed in the government jobs.

Below Poverty Line

Below Poverty Line family also known as BPL family is an economically backward family which needs government assistance and aid for survival. Government of India in its ninth five year plan (1997-2002) set BPL of rural areas as the family whose annual income is less than 20,000, less than two hectares land, and no television or refrigerator (http://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Below_Poverty_Line). *However,* The Supreme Court set a significant upward revision of the poverty line in a move that could result in a substantial increase in the government's food and housing subsidy bills. According to which BPL annual household income is Rs49,284 (http://www.livemint.com). The following table shows the distribution of families having annual income up to Rs. 49284/- in the two villages as these families fall under the Below Poverty Line (BPL) according to the revised criteria of the supreme court's decision:

Table 6.22

Distribution of Families into the Income Group in the Range of 0-49284/- in Koutruk and Leimaram

(Percentage in Parentheses)

Income Group	Koutruk (%)	Leimaram (%)	Total (%)
0-10000	0	1 (0.76)	1 (0.65)
10001-20000	9 (39.13)	15 (11.36)	24 (15.48)
20001-30000	2 (8.69)	31 (23.48)	33 (21.29)
30001-40000	5 (21.74)	41 (31.06)	46 (29.68)
40001-49,284	7 (30.43)	44 (33.33)	51 (32.90)
Total (%)	23 (100)	132 (100)	155 (100)

Source: Field Data Collected from the Villages during January – March 2010

The data show that of the families (155) which have annual income of Rs.0-49284/- in the two villages, around one third (32.90%) have annual income of Rs.40,001/-49284/-, over one fourth (29.68%) have Rs.30,001/ - 40,000/-, and one fifth (21.29%) have Rs.20001-30000/-.

In Koutruk, two fifths of the families have annual income in the group Rs.10,001/ - 20,000/-, near about one third (30.43%) have annual income in the group Rs.40,001/ - 49284/-, one fifth have the income in the group Rs.30,001/ -40,000/- and a few (8.69%) have Rs.20,001/-30,000/-.

In Leimaram, one third (33.33%) of the families each have annual income group of Rs.30,001/ - 40,000/- and income group of Rs.40,001/ -49284/- respectively,

around one fourth (23.48%) have income group of Rs.20,001/ -30,000/- and over one tenth (11.36%) have income group of Rs.10,001/ -20,000/-. There is one family in Leimaram, which has zero income. She is a widow who has no male children and lives alone in her house and receives maintenance allowance from her daughter. Thus , one third of the families have the annual income upto, Rs. 30,000/- only.

Summary

1. The traditional occupation of silk manufacturing which was imposed by the Meitei kings to meet their garment requirement has been discarded by the villagers because it carried along the social stigma of low caste, on the one hand, and became non-remunerative in the market, on the other hand. However, the traditional occupation of liquor manufacturing is still practised because it is profitable and the easiest way of earning money.

The villagers made a rational choice in an environment of democracy and political freedom to do away with the occupation. Thus, they are now scattered over all the three sectors of economy, mainly in agriculture followed by service sector. The traditional occupations like agriculture, weaving and liquor manufacturing are practised, yet, in modern way, leaving a little scope for continuity of occupations

2. Of the total 1842 working persons, 14.12% are engaged in secondary sector of manufacturing, 19.92% in service sector and 65.96% in agriculture and allied activities. Agriculture is thus the main economic activity. It engaged over three fourths (76%) of the families in the two villages. It is mainly done by the male members. Female members also help males in agriculture but they are mainly engaged in liquor manufacturing and pig farming. Sometimes, they are also occupied with weaving, embroidery, teaching in private schools and working in private hospitals to supplement their family incomes.

3. The families cultivated their own lands as well as the leased-in lands. Over two thirds (68%) of the families in both the villages are marginal landholders (below 1 hectares) and very few (0.24%) of them are the medium landholders (4-10 hectares) whereas one fifth of the families do not have any cultivable land.

4. Most (79.84%) of the families paid the land rent at the rate of 16 bags per hectare while one fifth paid 20 bags in per hectare base on the mutual relationship of

the landowners and tenants as relatives and friends. The quantity of 1 bag is similar with 60 kg.

5. Most (83.42%) of the families in the two villages grow food grains, over one tenth (12.63%) grow food grains, oil seeds and vegetable, 2.11% grow food grains and oilseeds, and 1.84% grow food grains and vegetables.

Majority (64.21%) of the families grow crops for domestic consumption as well as marketing and over one third (35.79%) of families grow only for domestic consumption. That is, nearabout two thirds of the families produced for market.

6. Most (97.89%) of the families use local seeds while a few (2.11%) use local as well as high yield variety seeds. Because the price of the high yield variety seeds are higher than the local ones.

Most (42.89%) of the families use Dharam seed and over one third (37.37%) use Phourel Khongnembi seed. Because the quantity of production is more in case of Dharam seeds than the Phourel Khongnembi.

Majority (60.52%) of the families use their own preserved seeds for cultivation and near about two fifths (38.95%) buy from the locality. Beause the agricultural families mostly preserved their own seeds for subsequent year.

7. Most (90.53%) of the families use chemical fertilizer and a few (9.47%) use chemical as well as natural fertilizers to yield better agricultural production. Moreover, most of them discarded the practice of rearing cattle from which natural fertilizers are obtained. It points towards commercialization of agricultural production.

Nearly a half (47.89%) of the families buy the chemical fertilizers from the Nambol, near about one third (30%) from Leimaram village, one fifth from the Imphal town and a few (1.58%) from Lamshang Bazaar. Thus, the villagers approach the big town markets for purchasing agricultural inputs.

8. Majority (30%) of the families produced 30-45 bags of rice per hectare, one fourth produced 45-60 and near about one fifth (17.89%) produced 15-30 bags of rice in a year.

9. Of the persons in jobs, near about one third (31.82%) from Koutruk and over one third (35.92%) from Leimaram are engaged in class I and class III jobs in state and central services.

10. The average annual income of the two villages is Rs. 10, 2273.1 for Koutruk and Rs.100607.1 for Leimaram. Near about one third (31.0) of families in the two villages are Below Poverty Line families.

In sum, the changes in their economic life are the result of occupational choice and development that have followed in the period of post-Independence. It reflects occupational differentiation and modernization of traditional activities. As yet, it is mixture of tradition and modernity, though they are very much on the path of modernization. Much of the changes have taken place in a changed political environment after Independence and the development initiative taken under the democratic state in the country. Therefore, the next chapter deals with political structure of the two villages where the changes in power relations, leadership patterns and political participation will be discussed.

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