GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA

सत्यमेव जयते

MEGHALAYA
SOCIO - ECONOMIC REVIEW

DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMICS & STATISTICS
MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG

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PREFACE

The Socio-Economic Review of Meghalaya, is the first publication of its kind to be published by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Meghalaya. The publication seeks to reflect briefly the social and economic condition of the State during the last 30 years and to some extent, brief account even during the Pre-Independence era. Most of the activities and achievements in different sectors of the economy have been covered according to the availability of information and those left out of the coverage, are mainly due to the non-availability of required statistics or the paucity of data. The co-operation extended by different Departments / Offices and Organisations is gratefully acknowledged.

As regards this publication, I sincerely appreciate the dedication of Shri. C.M. Syiem, Deputy Director, who took up the gigantic task of compilation, analysis and preparation of this report single-handedly. This work is in addition to his assignments as the Officer-in-Charge of the State Domestic Product Section. Also, my sincere thanks goes to Smti. M. Kharpuri, Statistical Officer for her efforts to assist in the finalisation of the report. However, the cooperation extended by Officers and Staff of the Directorate are acknowledged with thanks.

It is hoped that in future, the Socio-Economic Review of the State will be a regular issue. Suggestions for improvement of subsequent publication of such issues will be gladly welcome.

Shillong,
The 18th July, 2003.

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PRELUDE TO MEGHALAYA

PRELUDE TO MEGHALAYA

With the attainment of Independence by India from the British rule, on the 15th August, 1947, the two districts namely, United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills which were formerly the districts of Assam, under the foreign rule, were included under the administrative set up of Assam state of free India. The inclusion of these two districts under the state of Assam was against the political desire of the people who aspired for a separate political identity. But that political expectation did not die down and the people continued to nurture the idea of a Separate Hill State comprising of all other Hill Districts of composite Assam State, namely Naga Hills, United Mikir and North Cachar Hills and Lushai Hills, as they were then known .

But that cherished idea of Hill State succumbed to political differences in the objective of the movement for attainment of that goal. The Nagas parted company and adopted a different path to fight for a sovereign state. In the same manner, the people of Lushai Hills started their movement with other programmes and objective. The people of United Mikir and North Cachar Hills District were however, reluctant and opted to remain in the Assam State. Ultimately, only the people of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills Districts were left and had to continue the movement for a separate state. Inspite of those hiccups, the movement for a separate state mainly for Khasis, Jaintias and Garos gained momentum and invariably, the Government of India yielded to the political pressure of the peaceful movement for a separate state under the Indian union. As such, an Autonomous State of Meghalaya under the State of Assam was created on the 2nd April 1970. But experiences belied the expectation as the Autonomous State was fraught with unworkable administrative hurdles. So political persuasion for a full fledged state for the people of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills continued and after a period of 21 months, the full statehood status was conferred to Meghalaya on 21st January 1972, with the State Capital at Shillong.

The 21st January, 1972 becomes an important landmark in the history of the State and Meghalaya ' The Abode of Clouds ', as coined by Dr. S.K. Chatterjee, Professor Emeritus thus became the 21st State of India. It is carved out of the then composite state of Assam in order to realize that cherished dream of the Khasis, Jaintias and Garos for their political aspiration and economic well being to be guided by their own genius.

The State of Meghalaya initially comprised of the two districts of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills of the then state of Assam. The State is bounded on the North by Assam, on the South by Bangladesh. The Eastern and Western boundaries are bordered by Assam. Meghalaya is a land-locked territory and geographically located in the eastern corner of the country. The area is away from the mainland but deviously connected with the rest of India through Assam. Obviously, devoid of cheap transportation network like railways, river/water transport, coupled with the absence of industry and inhibited by heavy terrain, the State was, nevertheless, under-developed and backward economically.

According to 1971 Census of India, the information in respect of this small State as on 21st January,1972 are as follows :-

TABLE – 1.1

Area and Districts of Meghalaya as on 21st January, 1972

Particulars	Districts		State
	United Khasi & Jaintia Hills	Garo Hills	
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
Area (in sq. kms.)	14405	8084	22489
Population (in number) Persons	605084	406615	10,11,699
Males	312469	208498	520967
Females	292615	198117	490732
Scheduled Castes	1886	2001	3887
Scheduled Tribes	488358	325872	814230
Others	114840	78742	193582
Sex Ratio Females per '000 males	936	950	942
Literacy Persons	202487 (33.46%)	95825 (23.57%)	298312 (29.49%)
Males	115965 (37.11%)	61807 (29.64%)	177772 (34.12%)
Females	86522 (29.57%)	34018 (17.17%)	120540 (24.56%)

(Figures are according to 1971 Census)

As regards administrative infrastructure, as on 21st January 1972, the State has 3 (three) Civil Sub-Divisions (including Sardar Sub-Divisions) and 24 (twenty four) Community Development Blocks as shown briefly below:-

TABLE – 1.2

Districts, Civil Sub-Divisions and Community Development Blocks
(As on 21st January,1972)

Districts	No. of Civil Sub-Division	No. of Community Development Blocks
1	*2*	*3*
United Khasi Jaintia Hills	2	13
Garo Hills	1	11
Total	3	24

TABLE – 1.3.1

Community Development Blocks in United Khasi & Jaintia Hills District
(As on 21st January,1972)

Sub-Divisions	Date of Creation	Block Headquarter
1	*2*	*3*
Shillong Civil Sub-Divisions		
1. Bhoi Area Community Development Block	02.10.53	Umsning
2. Mylliem Community Development Block	02.10.53	5th Mile Upper Shillong
3. Mawphlang Community Development Block	01.04.64	Mawphlang
4. Mawsynram Community Development Block	01.04.58	Mawsynram
5. Shella-Bholaganj Community Development Block	01.04.58	Sohra-Cherrapunjee
6. Pynursla Community Development Block	01.04.60	Pynursla
7. Mawryngkneng Community Development Block	02.10.63	Mawryngkneng
8. Mairang Community Development Block	02.10.56	Mairang
9. Nongstoin Community Development Block	01.04.62	Nongstoin
10. Mawkyrwat Community Development Block	01.04.61	Mawkyrwat
Jowai Civil Sub-Division		
1. Thadlaskein Community Development Block	01.04.56	Thadlaskein
2. Mynso Raliang Community Development Block	01.04.64	Shangpung
3. Khliehriat Community Development Block	01.04.56	Khliehriat

TABLE - 1.3.2

Community Development Blocks in Garo Hills District
(As on 21st January,1972)

Tura Civil Sub-Division	Date of Creation	Block Headquarter
1	*2*	*3*
1. Rongram Community Development Block	01.10.59	Asanang
2. Dadengiri Community Development Block	02.04.63	Dadengiri
3. Selsella Community Development Block	01.04.58	Selsella
4. Betasing Community Development Block	01.04.64	Betasing
5. Zikzak Community Development Block	01.04.66	Zikzak
6. Dalu Community Development Block	01.04.54	Barengapara
7. Chokpot Community Development Block	01.04.60	Chokpot
8. Dambuk-Aga Community Development Block	02.10.56	Baghmara
9. Dambo-Rongjeng Community Development Block	01.04.56	Rongjeng
10. Songsak Community Development Block	01.04.66	Songsak
11. Resubelpara Community Development Block	01.10.53	Resubelpara

THE PEOPLE

THE PEOPLE

The Khasis, the Jaintias and the Garos form the major ethnic groups of original inhabitants of the State. There are however, other tribes like the Kochs, the Hajongs, the Rabhas, the Mikirs and other minor tribes who are also the aboriginal of the State. Although Khasis, Jaintias and Garos are following the same matrilineal system of society, yet the Garos are of different stock of race believed to belong to Tibeto-Burman group. The Khasis and Jaintias form an isolated group of Austro-Asiatic race who speak the language which belongs to the family of Monkhmer. The population of the tribal groups and other communities according to languages spoken as per 1971 Census of India, is as follows:-

TABLE – 2.1
Distribution of Population according to Languages spoken
(Census 1971)

Languages	Rural	Urban	Total
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1. Assamese	12587 (1.45)	10823 (7.36)	23410 (2.31)
2. Bengalee	59802 (6.92)	34165 (23.21)	93967 (9.29)
3. Hindi	7745 (0.89)	9,475 (6.44)	17220 (1.70)
4. Gurkhali/Nepali	25710 (2.97)	18735 (12.73)	44445 (4.34)
5. Garo	320293 (37.05)	8320 (5.65)	328613 (32.48)
6. Khasi	400094 (46.28)	56970 (38.71)	457064 (45.18)
7. Koch	13470 (1.56)	50 (0.03)	13520 (1.34)
8. Mikir	5755 (0.65)	95 (0.06)	5850 (0.58)
9. Rabha	10810 (1.25)	31 (0.02)	10841 (1.07)
10. Others	8263 (0.96)	8506 (5.78)	16769 (1.66)
Total	864529 (100.00)	147170 (100.00)	1011699 (100.00)

Figures within brackets are percentages to total.
Language groups spoken by less than 5,000 are included in others.

EMERGENCE OF MEGHALAYA

EMERGENCE OF MEGHALAYA

The emergence of Meghalaya dawned a new era of hope for the people of the State. That cherished hope to develop the State with their genius had greatly influenced the State Government in its efforts to improve the economic condition of the people. With this objective in view, new districts had been carved out of these two districts of United Khasi & Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills. As such, during the last 3 decades, 7 (seven) districts have been created in order to bring the administration closer to the people. The following are the districts of the State as per Table below :-

TABLE – 3.1

Area, Population and Districts of Meghalaya during 1991-2001

Former Districts	Name of New District	Date of Creation	Area in Sq. Kms.	Population	
				1991 Census	2001 Census
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
United Khasi & Jaintia Hills	Jaintia Hills	21st Feb.1972	3819	220473	295692
	East Khasi Hills	28th Oct.1976	2748	537906	660994
	West Khasi Hills	28th Oct.1976	5247	220157	294115
	Ri-Bhoi	4th June 1992	2448	127312	192795
Garo Hills	West Garo Hills	23rd Oct.1976	3677	403027	515813
	East Garo Hills	23rd Oct.1976	2603	188830	247555
	South Garo Hills	18th June 1992	1887	77073	99105
Meghalaya		21st Jan 1972	22429	1774778	2306069

The creation of new districts gradually paved the way for the opening up of more Civil Sub-Divisions. This has been felt in view of demanding situation of better governance in respect of administration and execution of law and order. The following Civil Sub-Divisions including Sadar Sub-Divisions are at present functioning in the State as shown below :-

TABLE –3.2

Civil Sub-Divisions and their Headquarters

Districts	Sub-Division	Headquarter	Date of Creation
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
Jaintia Hills	1. Jowai * 2. Khliehriat 3. Amlarem	Jowai Khliehriat Amlarem	 27.05.1982 12.11.1976
East Khasi Hills	1. Shillong * 2. Sohra	Shillong Sohra	 22.05.1983
Ri-Bhoi	1. Nongpoh *	Nongpoh	** 05.01.1977
West Khasi Hills	1. Nongstoin * 2. Mairang 3. Mawkyrwat	Nongstoin Mairang Mawkyrwat	 19.10.1976 26.06.1982
East Garo Hills	1. Williamnagar * 2. Resubelpara	Williamnagar Resubelpara	 30.04.1982
West Garo Hills	1. Tura * 2. Dadengiri 3. Ampati	Tura Dadengiri Ampati	 17.08.1982 15.10.1982
South Garo Hills	1. Baghmara *	Baghmara	** 07.12.1976

* Sadar Sub-Divisions ** Formerly as Civil Sub-Divisions

COMMUNITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The aim of Community Development or Community and Rural Development, as known at present is to bring about an integrated development of rural area covering all social, cultural and economic aspects of the community through various programmes. This is sought to be achieved through fullest development of available human material resources in rural area with the hope to raise the rural communities to higher level of living, together with their active participation.

In order to achieve this aim, Government realised that out of 24 (twenty four) Development Blocks as existed initially, it would not be possibly able to provide the requirements essential for development at grass root level. This is mainly due to difficult terrain accompanied by transportation hurdles in rural area which prevent easy access from Villages to Block Headquarters. Therefore, new Community and Rural Development Blocks were opened up by carving out of those existing Development Blocks so that inaccessible areas could be covered for administrative convenience and efficient functions. With this aim in view, the fruits of political independence may usher in alongwith social well being and economic betterment for the people, particularly the rural inhabitants.

The subsequent tables provide the population in the Rural and Community and Rural Development Blocks of different districts during the last ten years according to information furnished by Censuses, Government of India.

TABLE –3.3(1)

Population in the Community Rural Development Blocks in Jaintia Hills

(Census 1991 and 2001)

Name of District & Development Block	Date of Crea-tion	Population of District Covered by the Blocks						Decadal increase in %
		1991 Census			2001 Census			
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
Jaintia Hills								
1. Thadlaskein	01.04.56	39032	39362	78394	51472	50299	101771	29.82
2. Amlarem	25.06.81	15310	14657	29967	18147	17878	36025	20.22
3. Laskein	01.04.64	23287	23287	46884	32760	32837	65597	39.91
4. Khliehriat	01.04.56	34124	31104	65228	46997	45302	92299	41.50
5. Saipung	20.03.01	Opened in 2001						

TABLE -3.3(2)

Population in the Community Rural Development Blocks in East Khasi Hills
(Census 1991 and 2001)

Name of District & Development Block	Date of Creat-ion	Population of District Covered by the Blocks						Decadal increase in %
		1991 Census			2001 Census			
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
East Khasi Hills								
1. Mawryngkneng	02.10.63	17973	17941	35914	24583	24597	49180	36.94
2. Mylliem	02.10.53	153270	140703	293973	186027	180599	366626	24.71
3. Mawphlang	01.04.64	23363	23322	46685	27526	28091	55617	19.13
4. Pynursla	01.04.60	23480	23691	47171	27862	28485	56347	19.45
5. Mawsynram	01.04.58	19445	18749	38194	22728	22275	45003	17.83
6. Shella-Bholanganj	01.04.58	23376	22423	45799	27432	26667	54099	18.12
7. Mawkynrew	18.06.81	15187	14983	30170	17029	17093	34122	13.10
8. Laitkroh Khatarshnong	20.03.01	Opened in 2001						

TABLE -3.3(3)

Population in the Community Rural Development Blocks in West Khasi Hills
(Census 1991 and 2001)

Name of District & Development Block	Date of Creat-ion	Population of District Covered by the Blocks						Decadal increase in %
		1991 Census			2001 Census			
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
West Khasi Hills								
1. Mairang	02.10.56	32225	30870	63095	40905	39870	80775	28.02
2. Mawkyrwat	01.04.61	28585	27186	55771	25762	25588	51350	
3. Ranikor	07.11.92	Opened after 1991			16413	15456	31869	49.21
4. Nongstoin	01.04.62	31369	29674	61043	37769	36621	74390	21.86
5. Mawshynrut	16.06.81	20681	19567	40248	28310	27421	55731	38.47
6. Mawthadraishan	20.03.01	Opened in 2001						

TABLE -3.3(4)
Population in the Community Rural Development Blocks in Ri-Bhoi District
(Census 1991 and 2001)

Name of District & Development Block	Date of Creation	Population of District Covered by the Blocks						Decadal increase in %
		1991 Census			2001 Census			
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
Ri Bhoi District								
1. Umling	23.06.81	26221	24340	50561	38862	36632	75494	49.31
2. Umsning*	02.10.53	39355	37396	76751	60453	56848	117301	52.83
3. Jirang	20.03.01	Opened in 2001						

* Formerly the Headquarter of Bhoi Area C.D. Block

TABLE -3.3(5)
Population in the Community Rural Development Blocks in East Garo Hills District
(Census 1991 and 2001)

Name of District & Development Block	Date of Creation	Population of District Covered by the Blocks						Decadal increase in %
		1991 Census			2001 Census			
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
East Garo Hills								
1. Dambo-Rongjeng	01.04.56	30610	29582	60192	392201	37186	76387	26.91
2. Songsak	01.04.66	16357	15855	32212	21233	20647	41880	130.01
3. Samanda	10.06.81	15655	14439	30094	22097	21026	43123	43.29
4. Resubelpara	01.10.53	33822	32510	66332	43781	42384	86165	29.90
5. Kharkutta	20.03.01	Opened in 2001						

TABLE -3.3(6)
Population in the Community Rural Development Blocks in West Garo Hills District
(Census 1991 and 2001)

Name of District & Development Block	Date of Creation	Population of District Covered by the Blocks						Decadal increase in %
		1991 Census			2001 Census			
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
West Garo Hills								
1. Dadengiri	02.04.63	31997	31173	63170	16564	16309	32873	30.09
2. Tikrikilla	07.11.92	Opened after 1991			24781	24523	49304	
3. Selsella	01.04.58	50541	49211	99752	65469	64532	130001	30.32
4. Rongram	01.10.59	46556	42990	89546	55991	57857	113848	27.14
5. Betasing	01.04.64	25949	25582	51531	32337	31422	63759	23.73
6. Zikzak	01.04.66	27541	26246	53787	34786	33345	68131	26.67
7. Dalu	01.04.54	23119	22122	45241	29512	28385	57897	27.97
8. Gambegre	20.03.01	Opened in 2001						

TABLE -3.3(7)
Population in the Community Rural Development Blocks in South Garo Hills District
(Census 1991 and 2001)

Name of District & Development Block	Date of Creation	Population of District Covered by the Blocks						Decadal increase in %
		1991 Census			2001 Census			
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
South Garo Hills								
1. Baghmara*	02.10.56	3823	3845	7668	23989	21746	45735	496.44
2. Ronggara	09.06.81	1651	1708	3359	8905	8593	17498	420.93
3. Chokpot	01.04.60	3201	3263	6464	18157	17715	35872	454.95
4. Gasuapara	20.03.01	Opened in 2001						

* Formerly Headquarter of Dambuk-Aga C.D.Block

AREA AND POPULATION

POPULATION

Census is the only official source which recorded the population of the Country or the State. The first Census of India was completed in 1872. Since 1881, Censuses have been taken and conducted regularly in a period of every ten years. The population of the State during the last 100 years according to Census of India is given in the table which shows the trend and growth.

TABLE – 4.1

Trend of Population 1901-2001 in Meghalaya

Years	Population in numbers	Decadal variation in percentage
1	*2*	*3*
1901	340524	-
1911	394005	15.17
1921	422403	07.21
1931	480837	13.83
1941	555820	15.59
1951	605674	08.97
1961	769380	27.03
1971	1011699	31.50
1981	1335819	32.04
1991	1774778	32.88
2001	2306069	29.94

During the last 10 decades, the percentage increase was the lowest with 07.21% between 1911 and 1921 while the highest percentage variation of growth by 32.86% was observed during 1981-1991. However the decadal growth dropped to 29.94% after 1991.

As regards the population in the Districts, the number of persons residing in the State both in rural and urban areas during the last 10 years is given in the table 4.2 :-

TABLE –4.2

Population in the State according to Districts

Districts	Number of persons					
	1991 Census			2001 Census		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*
Jaintia Hills	220473 (100.00)	199872 (90.66)	20601 (9.34)	295692 (100.00)	270669 (91.54)	25023 (8.46)
East Khasi Hills	537906 (100.00)	306763 (57.03)	231143 (42.97)	660994 (100.00)	383027 (57.95)	277967 (42.05)
West Khasi Hills	220157 (100.00)	205818 (93.49)	14339 (6.51)	294115 (100.00)	260595 (88.60_	33520 (11.40)
Ri Bhoi	127312 (100.00)	127312 (100.00)	*	192795 (100.00)	179630 (93.17)	13165 (6.83)
East Garo Hills	188830 (100.00)	176826 (93.64)	12004 (6.36)	247555 (100.00)	211652 (85.50)	35903 (14.50)
West Garo Hills	403027 (100.00)	356961 (88.57)	46066 (11.43)	515813 (100.00)	457422 (88.68)	58391 (11.32)
South Garo Hills	77073 (100.00)	71179 (92.35)	5894 (7.65)	99105 (100.00)	90462 (91.28)	8643 (8.72)
Total State	1774778 (100.00)	1444731 (81.40)	330047 (18.60)	2306069 (100.00)	1853457 (80.37)	452612 (19.63)

* No area was declared as urban

(Figures in brackets are percentages to total)

It is observed that total population of urban area in the State has considerably increased from 3,30,047 to 4,52,612 during 1991 and 2001, registering the decadal growth of 37.14 %. The causes are perhaps due to the classification of new District / Civil Sub-Divisional headquarters and some other suburbs as urban areas. The East Garo Hills District has shown the highest decadal increase of 199.09 % followed by West Khasi Hills with 133.77 % and South Garo Hills with 46.64% during 1991 and 2001. Other Districts have registered decadal growth of 26.76% for West Garo Hills, 20.26% for East Khasi Hills and 21.46% for Jaintia Hills.

The Ri Bhoi District accounted the highest percentage of rural population with 93.17% during 2001 while East Khasi Hills recorded the lowest percentage of 57.95 of rural inhabitants according to 2001 Census. The rural population in the State in 2001 has however, decreased from 81.40 % to 80.37 % out of the total population inspite of decadal rural growth of 28.29%.

AREA AND DENSITY OF POPULATION

The area of the State in 1971 was 22489 sq. kms but in 1981 census, it was corrected as 22429 sq. kms. The area of districts evolves changes with the creation of New Districts after 1971. With the growth of population from one decade to another, the number of inhabitants gradually increased and this could be observed in comparison with the density of population per sq.km.

During 1971, there were two Districts in Meghalaya covering the total area of 22489 sq.kms. The density of population per sq.km. was only 45 persons. After a period of 10 years, the density of population increased to 60 persons per sq.km, but in 1991 the number has increased to 79 persons per sq.km.

The area of United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills Districts subsequently decreased with bifurcation of those districts and the creation of new districts known as East Khasi Hills, Jaintia Hills, West Khasi Hills, East Garo Hills and West Garo Hills and South Garo Hills.

Accordingly, the census figures of 1981 and 1991 have shown the density of population per sq.km of East Khasi Hills as the highest concentration of inhabitants with 98 persons and 128 persons per sq.km. respectively. The lowest density of population of 31 persons per sq.km was recorded in West Khasi Hills District in 1981 and also in 1991 with 42 persons per sq.km. West Garo Hills District recorded 66 and 86 persons per sq.km in 1981 and 1991 respectively and thereby, was second to East Khasi Hills in respect of density of population.

The table below gives the picture of density of population in all the districts of the State.

TABLE –4.3

Area & Density of Population in the State during 1971-91

Districts	Years					
	1971		1981		1991	
	Area in Sq.km	Density per Sq.km	Area in Sq.km	Density per Sq.km	Area in Sq.km	Density per Sq.km
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*
Jaintia Hills	Included in United Khasi & Jaintia Hills District		3819	41	3819	58
East Khasi Hills			5196	98	5196	128
West Khasi Hills			5247	31	5247	42
Ri-Bhoi	14405	42	Included in East Khasi Hills District			
East Garo Hills	Included in Garo Hills District		2603	52	2603	73
West Garo Hills			5564	66	5564	86
South Garo Hills	8084	50	Included in West Garo Hills District			
Total State	22489	45	22429	60	22429	79

The Census of India 2001 provides the latest figures on the density of population in the State and according to the report, there were 84 persons per sq.km in the rural area and 1970 persons in urban area and 103 persons per sq.km in the State. The highest density of population was recorded in East Khasi Hills District with 141 persons per sq.km. in rural, while in urban, there are 7976 persons per sq.km. the total in the district as a whole, the density was 241 persons per sq.km. The lowest concentration of population with 48 persons per sq.km is recorded in South Garo Hills District in rural area while lowest density of population per sq.km with 286 persons in urban area is accounted by the Ri Bhoi District. In comparison with other districts of the state, South Garo Hills has shown as the most thinly populated district with 53 persons per sq.km.

The following tables show the area and density of population of the state and districts including rural and urban areas in 2001.

TABLE – 4.4

Density of Population in rural,urban and total in 2001

(Census 2001)

District	Rural	Urban	Total
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1. Jaintia Hills			
a. Area in sq.km	3811.20	7.80	3819.00
b. Density of population per sq.km	96	2308	77
2. East Khasi Hills			
a. Area in sq.km	2713.15	34.85	2748.00
b. Density of population per sq.km	141	7976	241
3. West Khasi Hills			
a. Area in sq.km	5150.37	96.63	5247.00
b. Density of population per sq.km	51	347	561
4. Ri Bhoi			
a. Area in sq.km	2402.00	46.00	2448.00
b. Density of population per sq.km	75	286	79
5. East Garo Hills			
a. Area in sq.km	2585.66	17.34	2603.00
b. Density of population per sq.km	82	2071	95
6. West Garo Hills			
a. Area in sq.km	3658.70	18.30	3677.00
b. Density of population per sq.km	125	3191	157
7. South Garo Hills			
a. Area in sq.km	1878.20	8.80	1887.00
b. Density of population per sq.km	48	982	53
Total			
a. Area in sq.km	22199.28	229.72	22429.00
b. Density of population per sq.km	84	1970	103

URBANISATION

The growth of towns is the result when villages with increasing population have attained a certain standard in respect of norms required for urbane status. In the course of years, Meghalaya which had only 3 towns in 1971 has gradually developed in urbanisation and is having now 1 urban agglomeration now and 9 towns. In the process, the following are towns with their respective population during the last 30 years.

TABLE – 4.5

Growth of Towns In Meghalaya, 1971-2001

Towns	Population						
	1971	1981	Decadal Growth in %	1991	Decadal Growth in %	2001	Decadal Growth in %
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
1. Shillong Urban Agglomeration	122732	174643	42.30	223366	27.90	267881	19.93
a. Shillong Municipality	87639	109244	24.65	131719	20.57	132876	0.88
b. Shillong Cantonment	4730	6620	39.96	11076	67.31	12385	11.82
c. Mawlai	14260	20405	43.09	30964	51.75	38241	23.50
d. Nongthymmai	16103	21558	33.88	26938	24.96	34209	26.99
e. Pynthorumkhrah	*	10711	*	13682	27.74	22108	61.58
f. Madanrting	*	6165	*	8987	45.77	16700	85.82
g. Nongmynsong	*	*	*	*	*	11362	**
2. Cherrapunjee	*	6097	*	7777	27.55	10086	29.69
3. Nongstoin	*	3880	*	14339	269.56	22003	53.44
4. Mairang	*	*	*	*	*	11517	*
5. Jowai	8929	12323	38.01	20601	67.18	25023	21.46
6. Williamnagar	*	4290	*	12004	179.81	18251	52.04
7. Resubelpara	*	*	*	*	*	17652	*
8. Tura	15489	35257	127.63	46066	30.66	58391	26.76
9. Baghmara	*	4183	*	5894	40.90	8643	46.64
10. Nongpoh	*	*	*	*	*	13165	**
Total	147150	240733	63.60	330047	37.10	452612	37.14

* Not yet declared as Towns. ** Newly declared as Towns

POPULATION OF SCHEDULED CASTES/TRIBES AND OTHERS

Meghalaya is one of the states where Scheduled Tribes constituted more than 80% of the total population. This is mainly due to the fact that the Khasis, the Jaintias and the Garos who are the ethnic inhabitants of the state are the communities which are recognised as Scheduled Tribes under the Scheduled Castes/Tribes List of India. In addition, Scheduled Castes and Other communities are also inhabitants of the state. According to census figures, Government of India, the Scheduled Castes accounted to 0.38% in 1971 and increased to 0.41% and 0.51% in subsequent Censuses of 1981 and 1991 respectively. The Scheduled Tribes who formed the bulk of the population in the state constituted 80.48% in 1971 Census and increased to 80.58% in 1981 and 85.53% in 1991 as per the reports of the Census of India. As the populace of the State is not unmixed with other communities, the population of Non Scheduled Castes/Tribes identified as Others, accounted to about 19% in 1971 and 1981 censuses but dwindled to 13.96% in 1991 according to latest available figures.

The table given below furnished the population of Scheduled Castes/Tribes and Others in Meghalaya during 1971 to 1991.

TABLE – 4.6

Population of Scheduled Castes/Tribes and Others in Meghalaya

Castes/Tribes	Years		
	1971	1981	1991
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1. Scheduled Castes	3887 (0.38)	5492 (0.41)	9072 (0.51)
2. Scheduled Tribes	814230 (80.48)	1076345 (80.58)	1517927 (85.53)
3. Others	193582 (19.14)	253982 (19.01)	247779 (13.96)
4. Total Population	1011699 (100.00)	1335819 (100.00)	1774778 (100.00)

Figures within brackets are percentages to total.

The sex ratio in the State as reflected by census reports revealed that males are more than females in the population as recorded through censuses. The number of females for every 1,000 males of the Scheduled Caste was 897 in 1971 but came down to 790 in 1981 and increased to 1002 in 1991. As regards Scheduled Tribes, there were 996 females for every 1,000 males in 1971 and increased to 1,002 in 1981 but reduced to 997 in 1991. The sex ratio in respect of other communities reflects the dominance of male population over female in numbers. Accordingly, there were 743 females for every 1,000 males in 1971. The number of females slightly increased in 1981 with sex ratio of 776 females per 1,000 males but again dropped to 734 females per 1,000 males in 1991. However, the number of females per 1000 males in the State as a whole , had clearly shown that males outnumbered females during the period of 20 years with sex ratio of

942 females in 1971, 953 and 955 females in 1981 and 1991 per 1000 males respectively. The following table shows the sex ratio in the State during 1971 to 1991

TABLE – 4.7

Population of Scheduled Castes / Tribes & Others including sex ratio in Meghalaya

Castes/Tribes	Years		
	1971	1981	1991
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1. Scheduled Castes a. Total	3887	5492	9072
b. Males	2048	3068	4081
c. Females	1839	2424	4091
d. Females per '000 Males	897	790	1002
2. Scheduled Tribes a. Total	814230	1076345	1517927
b. Males	407859	537635	760234
c. Females	406371	538710	757693
d. Females per '000 Males	996	1002	997
3. Others a. Total	193582	253982	247779
b. Males	111060	143007	143372
c. Females	82522	110975	105307
d. Females per '000 Males	743	776	734
4. Population a. Total	1011699	1335819	1774778
b. Males	520967	683710	907687
c. Females	490732	652109	867091
d. Females per '000 Males	942	953	955

The population according to languages spoken by the people in the State as per Census reports of 1971, 1981 and 1991 is given in the table below.

TABLE – 4.8

Distribution of Population According to Languages Spoken

LANGUAGES	1971	1981	1991
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1. Assamese	23410 (2.31)	23356 (1.75)	34118 (1.92)
2. Bengalee	93967 (9.29)	119571 (8.95)	144261 (8.13)
3. Hindi	17220 (1.70)	29728 (2.23)	38930 (2.20)
4. Gurkhali / Nepali	44445 (4.34)	61259 (4.59)	49186 (2.77)
5. Garo	328613 (32.48)	399069 (29.87)	547690 (30.86)
6. Khasi	457064 (45.18)	629640 (47.14)	879192 (49.54)
7. Koch	13520 (1.34)	16150 (1.21)	18698 (1.05)
8. Mikir	5850 (0.58)	9674 (0.72)	N.A.
9. Rabha	10841 (1.07)	13888 (1.04)	20455 (1.15)
10. Others	16769 (1.66)	33484 (2.50)	42248 (2.38)
Total	1011699 (100.00)	1335819 (100.00)	1774778 (100.00)

N.A. – Not Available (included in others)

Language groups spoken by less than 5,000 are included in others

RELIGION

Though the Hindus formed the major religious communities in the country, yet the picture is not the same in Meghalaya. In this regard, the Christians dominate the population in respect of religion. There were 4,75,267 Christians in 1971 constituting nearly 47 %, according to 1981 census the decadal percentage growth was 47.89 % and by 1991, the decadal growth has further went up to 63.06 with a population of 11,46,092. The population of Hindus though increased from 1,87,140 in 1971 to 2,60,306 in 1991, yet the decadal growth between 1981-91 was only 8.09 %. There is a negative growth in respect of Jains and persons of other religions and persuasions where the growth rate between 1981 and 1991 was (-) 17.90 % and (-) 13.29 % respectively. As regards other religious communities such as Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains, their percentages to the total population are below 5 % but their decadal growth in some cases is very high. The following table shows the population of different religious communities.

TABLE –4.9

Population according to Religious Communities

Religious Communities	1971	1981	Decadal Percentage Growth	1991	Decadal Percentage Growth
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
1. Hindus	187140 (18.50)	240831 (18.03)	28.69	260306 (14.67)	8.09
2. Muslims	26647 (2.60)	41434 (3.10)	57.26	61462 (3.46)	48.37
3. Christians	475267 (46.98)	702854 (52.62)	47.89	1146092 (64.58)	63.06
4. Sikhs	1262 (0.12)	1674 (0.13)	38.65	2612 (0.15)	56.03
5. Buddhists	1878 (0.18)	2739 (0.20)	45.85	2934 (0.16)	7.12
6. Jains	268 (0.03)	542 (0.04)	102.24	445 (0.02)	(-) 17.90
7. Other Religions Persuasions	318168 (31.45)	344215 (25.77)	8.19	298466 (16.82)	(-) 13.29
8. Religion not stated	1369 (0.14)	1530 (0.11)	13.76	2461 (0.14)	60.85
Total	1011699 (100.00)	1335819 (100.00)	32.04	1774778 (100.00)	32.96

Figures within brackets are percentages to total.

LITERACY AND EDUCATION

LITERACY AND EDUCATION

Literacy and Education may be regarded as important criteria to reflect the progress of individuals at the level of understanding in day to day activities while literacy is the primary condition of an individual who is able to read and write, but education is the level where the body and mind have been strengthened by that power of better understanding.

As far as literacy is concerned, the ability to read and write is considered as an average level of understanding and comparatively, literate persons are better equipped than their illiterate counterparts. A community with more literate persons is considered to be prudently more advanced than their illiterate counterparts.

According to Census reports of the Government of India, the percentage of literate persons of Meghalaya was 29.49 % in 1971. The rural percentage of literacy was 23.40 % while that of urban area was 65.22 %. As such, Meghalaya occupied the 17th position in the All India ranking among the States and Union Territories in 1971. But in 1981 Census, the State slumped to the 22nd position with 34.08 % of literacy rate. Inspite of improved rate with 49.1 % in 1991 census, the State still remained in the 22nd position in the ranking at all India level. According to latest census figures of 2001, the percentage of literate persons has gone up to 63.31 % but its rank at the All India dropped down to 27th position. The growth in the percentage of literate female between 1991 and 2001 has improved remarkably from 24.56 % in 1971 to 60.41 % in 2001. It is also observed that the rate in literacy in the rural area of the State has increased from 23.40 % to 57 %.

The following tables show the growth of literacy in Meghalaya during the past 30 years.

TABLE – 5.1
Growth in the percentage of literacy in Meghalaya 1971-2001

Particulars	Years			
	1971	1981	1991	2001
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
Rural	23.40	27.45	41.05	57.00
Urban	65.22	64.12	81.74	87.19
Total	29.49	34.08	49.10	63.31
Male	34.12	37.89	53.12	66.14
Female	24.56	30.08	44.85	60.41

According to the 2001 Census report, Government of India, the East Khasi Hills District has shown the highest rate of literate persons in the State with 74.74 % while the West Garo Hills District with 50.78 % has been reckoned as the lowest. Among the literate persons, the percentage of males is higher than that of females and the literacy percentage of males is the highest with 74.89 % in the East Khasi Hills while the percentage of 50.13 % in Jaintia Hills was the lowest rate in the State. As regards

literacy of females, the East Khasi Hills has again shown to be the highest with the percentage literacy of 74.58 % but West Garo Hills with 44.41 % has been considered to be lowest in the State.

The percentage of literate persons in the rural area of the districts in the State, was the highest attained by the East Khasi Hills with 63.72 % while the lowest percentage of the same was only 46.09 % shown by the West Garo Hills District. The Ri-Bhoi District recorded the highest percentage of literacy in respect of males in the rural area of the State with 64.74 % while the lowest percentage of 46.03 % was accounted by the Jaintia Hills District. The lowest percentage of literate females in the rural area of the State was only 39.52 % in West Garo Hills District while the highest percentage literate females has been shown by the East Khasi Hills District with 65.60 %.

The highest percentage of literate persons in the urban area of the State has been attained by the Jaintia Hills District with a record of 91.14 % while the lowest percentage of 77.10 % was shown by the Ri-Bhoi District. It may be remarked that the Jaintia Hills District recorded also the highest in respect of male and female percentage of literacy in the urban area by 93.07 % and 89.33 % respectively. The Ri-Bhoi District with 79.74 % of literate males and 74.34 % of literate females has shown the lowest percentage of urban area.

TABLE – 5.2
Literacy Rates by Districts – 2001

Literacy Rate	DISTRICTS							
	East Khasi Hills	West Khasi Hills	Ri-Bhoi	East Garo Hills	West Garo Hills	South Garo Hills	Jaintia Hills	Meghalaya
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
1. Total								
a. Persons	74.74	65.50	63.67	61.57	50.78	55.21	52.79	63.31
b. Male	74.89	66.74	65.77	67.17	57.12	61.42	50.13	66.14
c. Female	74.58	64.21	61.40	55.72	44.41	48.61	55.52	60.41
2. Rural								
a. Persons	63.72	63.13	62.66	57.97	46.09	52.28	48.97	57.00
b. Male	61.88	64.48	64.74	63.99	52.67	58.79	46.03	59.90
c. Female	65.60	61.73	60.41	51.68	39.52	45.42	52.00	54.02
3. Urban								
a. Persons	88.65	83.83	77.10	82.15	85.17	83.96	91.14	87.12
b. Male	91.50	84.59	79.74	85.32	89.14	86.15	93.07	89.90
c. Female	85.79	83.08	74.34	78.84	81.05	81.43	89.33	84.30

EDUCATION

Education has become an important factor which could shape up not only the personality of an individual but could also develop the social set up of the community. In this context, the foreign missionaries who came to the hills of Khasi, Jaintia and Garo Districts way back to the middle of the Nineteenth century were the pioneers in propagating education. In spite of heavy odds, devoid of many facilities, those Foreign Missionaries had ventured to reach these inaccessible corners with a missionary zeal of vision and ultimately left a legacy to the Khasis, Jaintias and Garos. It may be mentioned that the Khasis and the Garos had no writing system of their own. Reconstruction of history was entirely based on memory and oral tradition handed from one generation to another by virtue of stories, mythologies and fables. With the coming of foreign missionaries, written system was invented by the introduction of Roman scripts for the Khasis and the Garos. The Welsh Presbyterian Missionaries started by introducing Roman script in Khasi language and set up primary schools in 1841 in Khasi Hills. The Baptist Missionaries on the other hand, started the primary schools in Garo Hills in 1873 and the present Christian Girls High School in Tura was one of the earliest institutions established in 1882 in Garo Hills area by those foreign missionaries. After the spate work had been done by the Welsh Presbyterian and American Baptist Missionaries, the Catholic Missionaries who later came to these hills, found the job easier and could therefore play an important role in the spread of higher education in Khasi and Garo Hills areas. Shillong Government Boys High School set up in 1880 was the first high school and St. Edmund's College established in 1924 was the first college in these hills.

With the emergence of Meghalaya, the part played by various educational institutions to propagate education, needs no elaboration. Education now occupies an important position in the planned programmes of the State Government. As education is primarily the concern of the State Government to fulfill the constitutional directive of free and compulsory education for the children up to the age of 14 years. This is also one of the key points of the national policy in education with the objective of Education for all by the year 2010. However, the North Eastern Hill University (N.E.H.U.) which is the only University in the state, is the direct responsibility of the Union Government. The State is not having any Medical or Engineering Colleges but only one Polytechnic at Shillong however.

There were 2,617 institutions at the level of Primary and Junior Basic in 1971-72. Their number was raised up to 4,054 in 1981-82. A decade later, such institutions increased to 4,235 in 1991-92 and the latest available information have shown as 4,679 in 1998-99.

With the growth of Primary and Junior Basic Schools, enrolment at the level of those institutions also indicated an increasing trend. It is observed that during the first decade of Meghalaya, when there were 1,48,002 students in 1971-72 and the number increased to 1,90,026 in 1981-82. The growth of enrolment of students from 1981-82 to 1991-92 was up to 47.26 % in a ten year period. According to latest available data such enrolment in Primary and Junior Basic Schools went up to 4,02,349 students.

As regards other educational institutions the number of Middle and Senior Basic Schools which were only 266 in 1971-72 increased to 493 in 1981-82 and 946 in 1998-99. The High Schools including Higher Secondary institutions recorded 493 in 1998-99 from the position of only 112 in 1971-72. With the increase of institutions at the school

level, the number of colleges which was only 14 in 1971-72 but accounted to 33 in 1998-99.

TABLE – 5.3

Number of Educational Institutions in Meghalaya

Institutions	1971-72	1976-77	1981-82	1986-87	1991-92	1996-97	1998-99
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
1. Primary & Junior Basic	2617	3350	4054	4129	4235	4295	4679
2. Middle & Senior Basic	266	363	493	677	827	922	946
3. High & Higher Secondary	112	148	213	289	419	448	493
4. Basic & Non Basic Training School	10	10	10	10	10	10	7
5. Teachers Training College	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
6. Polytechnic	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
7. College for Arts, Science & Commerce	14	12	15	14	23	32	33
8. University	-	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	3020	3885	4787	5121	5517	5710	6161

The enrolment at the Middle and Senior Basic Schools was 22,114 students in 1971-72 and 29,397 in the High and Higher Secondary Schools during the same year. The number of students in the Middle and Senior Basic went up to 37,088 in 1981-82 and came up to nearly 80,000 in 1998-99 while enrolment in High and Higher Secondary Schools nearly touched 1 lakh in 1998-99. The growth on the student population is quiet noticeable at the college level with 8159 number in 1971-72 and gradually increased to 13,412 in 1981-82 and 20,102 in 1991-92 and in 1998-99 the college students population recorded 28,035. The growth on the population of the University students is rather slow in comparison with the school level. This might be the factor that a majority of students who have either stopped at the Bachelor Degree level or attending other institutions outside the state. However, there were 499 students in 1976-77 in the N.E.H.U. but subsequently the enrolment at the university rose to 1,439 in 1996-97 and 1606 in 1998-99 as shown in Table 5.4.

TABLE – 5.4

Enrolment in Educational Institutions of Meghalaya

Institutions	1971-72	1976-77	1981-82	1986-87	1991-92	1996-97	1998-99
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
1. Primary & Junior Basic	148002	176591	190026	231528	279833	383258	402349
2. Middle & Senior Basic	22114	27178	37088	48828	63769	74870	79112
3. High & Higher Secondary	29397	34870	54321	62393	78570	93733	99340
4. Basic & Non Basic Training School	269	329	463	623	790	347	326
5. Teachers Training College	125	259	226	360	470	468	325
6. Polytechnic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. College for Arts, Science & Commerce	8159	9592	13412	14068	20102	24324	28035
8. University	-	499	851	732	875	1439	1606
Total	208066	249318	296387	358532	444409	578439	611093

Prior to the setting up of the Meghalaya Board of School Education (M.B.O.S.E.) in 1973, examinations at the level of Schools were under the control of the Assam Board of School Education. The examinations at the college level which were conducted by the Guwahati University also came to a close with the establishment of the N.E.H.U.

AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED ACTIVITIES

AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED ACTIVITIES

Agriculture :

Meghalaya is a land-locked territory where the progress of industrialization is very slow. In view of this under developed state of industrial sector, the majority of the population, mostly the rural masses had to depend on agriculture as the source of livelihood. Agriculture not only supplies raw materials for industries outside the state such as cotton, jute, ginger etc., but also provides inputs to other few small agro-based industries in the state such as turmeric, paddy, maize etc.

Agriculture in the State is being carried on in primitive ways with jhumming cultivation prevailing in many parts of the districts. This practice is however considered destructive, as vast areas of forests is cleared and burnt so that cultivation can be carried on for at least 3 to 4 consecutive years. After a gap of 4 to 5 years, those areas are again used for cultivation without allowing the land to rejuvenate. As abandonment of such jhummed land was but for a short period, therefore, rejuvenation of land is not possible as normal process required for land to rejuvenate, would be for more than 15 years. Further, jhumming cultivation, as the present practice goes, does not only destroy forests but also disturbs the ecological balance and destroys the environment. In this context, efforts are being made by Government to wean back those jhummias for settled cultivation. In this regard, high yielding variety and improved seeds have been procured for farmers and cultivators of those areas under settled cultivation, so that output of agricultural produce could be increased and their economic condition can also be improved. In order to check the attack of pests and insects on standing crops, pesticides and insecticides are supplied to farmers and cultivators at subsidised rate.

Land utilisation statistics provide detailed information of the land use in the state. However such information are briefly given in the subsequent table according to major classifications. The area under forest which was recorded as 8,22,862 hectares in 1973-74, has gone up to 9,50,575 hectares in 2000-01, thereby showing an increase of forest area by 15.5%. Fallow land accounted to 3,29,562 hectares in 1973-74 and recorded 2,28,096 hectares in 2000-01. The decrease of area under fallow land may perhaps be due that such area has either been brought under cultivation or used for other purposes. Area under cultivation as shown as total cropped area sown of 2,02,516 hectares in 1973-74 has increased to 2,67,285 hectares in 2000-01 showing an increase of nearly 32%.

TABLE – 6.1
Land Utilisation in Meghalaya
(Area in hectares)

Year	Total reporting area under land utilisation	Forest	Not available for cultivation	Other uncultivable land	Fallow land	Area	
						Sown more than once	Total cropped sown
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
1971-72	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
1973-74	2248900	822862	309163	613748	329562	28951	202516
1977-78	2248900	822624	309248	613454	329274	30003	204303
1980-81	2240900	852571	225838	732786	247705	33794	215794
1984-85	2240900	853366	225725	723862	240925	39000	236022
1990-91	2240900	939076	225873	647404	226506	38279	240320
1995-96	2240900	937282	229457	636613	231071	40936	247413
1998-99	2240900	950000	220245	620670	231600	44445	262830
* 1999-2000	2240900	950498	222476	618519	228077	45977	267307
* 2000-2001	2240900	950575	222465	617865	228096	45386	267285

* Provisional N.A. = Not available

Farmers and cultivators have to generally depend on monsoons for the supply of water to paddy fields and other wet cultivation. If the monsoons fail, cultivators and farmers had to face various problems in their agricultural activities. In order to help alleviating dependence at the mercy of monsoon for supply of water especially during dry seasons, Government has taken up irrigation channels in some areas of the state. Government has however, not levied any irrigation charges for supply of water to farmers and cultivators from such channels. This is perhaps, due to the fact that areas constructed and commanded by such irrigation channels are in the ownership of Non-government land. It may be stated that the land tenure system in the State of Meghalaya is different from other states. In this respect, Government land in the State accounted to only 10% or so, while the rest of the State area is under the ownership of private parties, community land or local bodies.

Progress of agriculture in the State on land use during the last 30 years is shown briefly in the table under land use and irrigation statistics in Meghalaya. Accordingly, it is observed that the net area sown which read 1,73,565 hectares in 1973-74 increased to more than 27% in 2000-01 with area recorded as 2,21,899 hectares. The area sown more than once has further increased from 28,951 hectares in 1973-74 to 45,386 hectares in 2000-01 showing the progress of mixed cultivation by nearly 57%.

As regards area under irrigation, the net irrigated area recorded 44,735 hectares in 1973-74 had increased its coverage to 53,752 hectares in 2000-01. The area commanded under gross irrigated (area) of 45,912 hectares went up to 62,382 hectares in 2000-01.

TABLE – 6.2
Land Use and Irrigation Statistics in Meghalaya
(Area in Hectares)

Years	Net Area Sown	Area Sown More Than Once	Net Irrigated Area	Gross Irrigated Area
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
1973-74	173565	28951	44735	45912
1977-78	178250	30580	45310	46660
1980-81	182000	33754	49398	50873
1984-85	180084	39000	49354	49836
1990-91	202041	38279	46236	46970
1995-96	206477	40936	46998	47321
1998-99	218691	44445	47626	55182
1999-2000 (Provisional)	221330	45977	52047	60492
2000-2001 (Provisional)	221899	45386	53752	62382

As stated earlier that the land tenure system is different from other states, most of the area in the State is also not cadastrally surveyed except for small portion in the plains of West Garo Hills District. In order to enable the authorities to estimate the area under different crops, eye estimation at the level of village was adopted and trained Village Level Workers or Gram Sevaks are engaged to do the work. These personnels are efficiently trained also that on the basis of seeds that would be used or land cleared for cultivation , estimation of area or plots to be grown for certain crops is arrived at. As regards yield rate of crops, the results of crop cutting experiment surveys conducted by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics provide the average yield in Kg per hectare. In this process the production of crops in the State is estimated.

The principal crops that are grown in the State are rice, maize and other cereals. Pulses like gram, tur and other pulses are also cultivated though the production is not much. Other important crops include jute, mesta, cotton, ginger, turmeric, banana etc. Potato has now become one of the important cash crops in the State and the area and production of this crop had increased during the last 30 years. It may be mentioned that potato is not an indigenous crop of the State. Potato was first introduced and brought by the British in the early part of their occupation in the Khasi-Jaintia territory, during the later part of the middle of the 19th century. Potato has become a legacy and is now a very important crop that is being grown throughout the State.

Though rice is a staple food of the State, yet its production is not sufficient to meet the requirement in the State. Therefore, in order to meet the consumption needs of the people in the State, import of food grains from outside the State had to be resorted to.

The area under important crops like rice, maize and wheat has slowly increased during the last 30 years as shown in the following table. The area under rice during 1970-71 was 95,576 hectares and gradually increased to 1,06,600 hectares in 2000-01 showing

an additional area of 11,024 hectares. The area under maize was 14,068 hectares in 1970-71 and recorded only 16,906 hectares in 2000-01. There is a good progress in the cultivation of wheat as the area of only 336 hectares in 1970-71 accounted to 4,214 hectares in 2000-01. Cultivation of other pulses was 1,171 hectares in 1970-71 and increased to 2,048 hectares in 2000-01.

Cultivation of fibre crops as observed from the area during the last 30 years is on decreasing trend. The area under jute which was 10,210 hectares in 1970-71 succumbed to 4,220 hectares in 2000-01. So also the area of mesta which was 7,000 in 1975-76 decreased to 4,635 hectares in 2000-01. The area under cotton was 10,164 hectares but went down to 7,340 hectares in 2000-01. Potato cultivation which was recorded 14,900 hectares in 1970-71 gradually increased to 20,863 hectares in 1995-96 but slightly decreased to 18,318 hectares by 2000-01. Other crops like ginger, turmeric and banana are showing an increasing trend. The area under banana with 2,130 hectares in 1970-71 increased to 5,377 hectares in 2000-01, thereby showing the growth of more than 150%.

TABLE – 6.3

Area under Cereals and Pulses in Meghalaya

(In Hectares)

Year	Cereals				Pulses		
	Rice	Maize	Wheat	Other Cereals	Gram	Tur	Other Pulses
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
1970-71	95576	14068	336	1500	100	105	1171
1975-76	104344	16184	1500	1907	126	106	1257
1980-81	99040	17268	3050	2689	150	668	1339
1985-86	110987	17700	4336	2645	447	805	1418
1990-91	104364	18552	4214	2962	465	848	1885
1995-96	103945	16961	4217	2219	485	859	1864
1999-2000	106411	16637	4283	2829	460	871	1957
2000-2001	106600	16906	4214	2800	463	863	2048

TABLE – 6.4

Area under other important crops in Meghalaya

(in Hectares)

Year	Jute	Mesta	Cotton	Potato	Ginger	Turmeric	Arecanut	Banana
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
1970-71	10210	N.A.	10164	14900	N.A.	1059	5973	2130
1975-76	5000	7000	7542	17980	N.A.	1315	6065	3100
1980-81	5914	6523	7539	17275	5325	1283	N.A.	2907
1985-86	6115	5075	8044	17872	5351	1095	N.A.	4303
1990-91	4956	4785	7364	17631	6500	1335	6120	5411
1995-96	4227	4709	7554	20863	7288	1362	9466	4814
1999-2000	5235	4457	7455	18339	7606	1458	9645	5319
2000-2001	4220	4635	7340	18318	7811	1523	11184	5377

N.A. – Not available

Production of principal crops like rice, maize and wheat is on the increasing trend during the last 30 years. Rice production of 1,09,353 metric tonnes in 1970-71 increased to 1,32,582 metric tonnes in 1980-81 but slightly dipped down to 1,12,503 in 1995-96. However, production started to increase gradually and accounted to 1,79,042 metric tonnes in 2000-2001. Maize production of 7,566 metric tonnes in 1970-71 continues to increase to 24,250 metric tonnes in 2000-2001. Other cereals and pulses had also increased in production from one year to another during the last 30 years. Other crops like potato which is one of the important cash crops is showing a good progress as production of 71,231 metric tonnes in 1970-71 went up to 1,44,292 metric tonnes in 2000-01. Jute and mesta on the other hand are showing decreasing trend in production and this is due that the area under such crops is also decreasing.

TABLE – 6.5

Production of Cereals and Pulses in Meghalaya

(In metric tonnes)

Year	Cereals				Pulses		
	Rice	Maize	Wheat	Other cereals	Gram	Tur	Other pulses
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
1970-71	109353	7566	250	750	53	61	552
1975-76	119302	11324	1800	1907	120	106	752
1980-81	132582	13987	4148	2713	90	480	869
1985-86	132421	24085	6101	2667	260	719	1255
1990-91	119075	23819	5555	2507	281	674	1452
1995-96	112503	21745	4710	2219	277	678	1466
1999-2000	170733	24051	6992	2288	283	647	1540
2000-2001	179042	24250	6892	2266	286	641	1610

TABLE – 6.6

Production of Other Important Crops in Meghalaya

(In metric tonnes)

Year	Jute *	Mesta *	Cotton **	Potato	Ginger	Turmeric	Arecanut	Banana
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
1970-71	45461	N.A.	4341	71231	N.A.	688	3936	52147
1975-76	35000	25200	3353	74080	N.A.	1230	4143	53165
1980-81	42276	27875	4500	121000	21847	1816	N.A.	38918
1985-86	51034	22708	4883	149462	23349	1598	N.A.	52428
1990-91	38837	21924	5382	119013	31121	1775	5180	60443
1995-96	27156	21675	5318	208630	42960	6810	10318	60522
1999-2000	31781	20071	5549	143287	44710	8196	12472	63383
2000-2001	35816	21358	7684	144292	44900	8565	13715	64100

* Bales – 180 Kgs. ** Bales – 170 Kgs. N.A. – Not Available.

The yield rates of some principal crops had shown a positive increase from one year to another. This is observed that yield rate of rice in 1970-71 was 1,144 Kgs. per hectare though dropped down slightly to 1,082 Kgs. per hectare during 1995-96 but improved considerably to 1,679 Kgs. per hectare by 2000-2001. The yield rate of maize has shown a remarkable progress when the yield of 538 Kgs. per hectare in 1970-71 jumped to 1,434 Kgs. per hectare in 2000-2001. Remarkable yield rate is also observed in respect of wheat in which the area of 1 hectare could produce 1,635 Kgs. in 2000-2001 while from 1 hectare the yield rate was only 744 Kgs in 1970-71. Yield rates of pulses like gram and tur are showing consistent yield rate.

Yield rate of other important crops like mesta, cotton and ginger are consistent during the last 30 years. The yield rate of jute which was 801 bales per hectare improved its rate from 1975-76 onwards and the highest yield per hectare was 1,528 bales in 2000-2001. Potato however is showing a chequered performance with the yield of 10,000 Kgs. per hectare attained in 1995-96 but the lowest rate of yield was 4,120 Kgs. in 1975-76. Banana on the other hand is showing a slight decreasing trend when compared with the highest yield of 24,482 recorded in 1970-71 and 11,170 Kgs. reported in 1990-91.

TABLE – 6.7
Average Yield of Cereal & Pulses in Meghalaya
(Yield in Kg/Hect.)

Year	Cereals			Pulses	
	Rice	Maize	Wheat	Gram	Tur
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
1970-71	1144	538	744	530	581
1975-76	1143	700	1200	952	1000
1980-81	1339	810	1360	600	719
1985-86	1193	1361	1407	582	893
1990-91	1141	1284	1318	604	795
1995-96	1082	1282	1117	609	789
1999-2000	1604	1446	1632	615	743
2000-2001	1679	1434	1635	618	743

TABLE – 6.81
Average Yield of Other Important Crops in the State
(Yield in Kg/Hect.)

Year	Jute	Mesta	Cotton	Potato	Ginger	Turmeric	Arecanut	Banana
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
1970-71	801	NA	73	4781	NA	650	659	24482
1975-76	1260	648	75	4120	NA	935	683	17150
1980-81	1287	769	101	7004	4103	1415	NA	13388
1985-86	1502	805	103	8363	4363	1459	NA	12184
1990-91	1410	825	124	6750	4788	1329	846	11170
1995-96	1156	828	120	10000	5895	5000	1090	12572
1999-2000	1351	810	126	7813	5878	5621	1293	11916
2000-2001	1528	829	178	7877	5748	5624	1226	11921

N.A. – Not Available..

Index Numbers of Agricultural Production etc. in Meghalaya from 1970-71 to 1999-2000.

As stated earlier that the majority of the people in the State has to depend on agriculture either directly or indirectly, and the index numbers of area under crops can reflect the utilisation of arable land under cultivation. The index numbers of agricultural production would again provide information on the production of foodgrains and other non-food crops so that the requirements of such items can be estimated. The index numbers of yield by crops give a vivid idea of comparison on the input and output on food crops and non-food crops in the State, so that technical guidance can be provided to improve the yield rate. All the above three types of index numbers can well reflect the condition of the economy in respect of agriculture for the State during the period.

The All India Triennium base year was 1969-70, but this base year had to be changed for Meghalaya as the State came into being only in 1970 as an Autonomous state and a full-fledge State in 1972. Therefore, the Triennium base year for the State has been changed and fixed at 1972-73. The following table furnishes the information on the index of foodgrains, non-foodgrains in respect of area, production and yield during the period between 1970-71 to 1999-2000.

TABLE – 6.9

Index Numbers On Foodgrains, Non-Foodgrains And All Crops In Meghalaya 1970-71 To 1999-2000

Base: Triennium Ending 1972-73

Years	Index of Area under Crops			Index of agricultural Production			Index of Yield		
	Food Grains	Non-Food Grains	All Crops	Food Grains	Non Food Grains	All Crops	Food Grains	Non Food Grains	All Crops
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*	*10*
1970-71	99.58	96.69	98.59	99.98	103.14	101.46	100.18	112.86	106.13
1971-72	98.84	99.82	99.81	99.10	102.81	100.84	100.19	99.93	100.07
1972-73	101.58	103.48	102.23	100.92	94.05	97.70	99.63	86.66	93.54
1973-74	106.95	103.30	105.71	104.21	100.97	102.64	97.81	92.04	95.10
1974-75	103.60	103.91	107.00	101.38	117.72	109.05	95.13	103.64	99.12
1975-76	110.64	107.13	109.44	111.77	114.73	113.16	101.59	98.26	100.03
1976-77	111.40	102.98	109.63	118.05	119.28	118.63	106.24	103.16	104.79
1977-78	113.50	107.85	111.57	122.80	117.57	120.35	108.80	102.37	105.78
1978-79	114.05	109.45	112.48	123.14	136.48	129.40	109.00	117.11	112.81
1979-80	107.59	102.49	105.85	115.81	146.16	130.05	109.33	126.63	117.45
1980-81	109.59	99.91	106.28	126.73	138.26	132.14	118.62	120.50	119.50
1981-82	118.08	105.69	113.84	123.18	138.66	130.44	105.83	123.07	113.92
1982-83	118.76	109.67	115.66	122.02	152.23	136.19	103.99	129.04	115.74
1983-84	121.86	112.29	118.59	129.85	152.59	140.50	107.49	125.86	116.11
1984-85	122.28	116.32	120.25	125.47	166.85	144.89	103.01	128.90	115.16
1985-86	122.06	115.82	119.93	133.65	168.18	149.85	109.30	133.50	120.65
1986-87	122.47	106.96	117.17	102.39	163.24	130.94	83.82	128.34	104.71
1987-88	122.20	116.26	120.17	111.92	166.74	137.64	93.17	126.58	103.54
1988-89	122.03	111.81	118.54	108.15	123.66	115.43	88.94	93.08	90.88
1989-90	118.06	112.40	116.12	118.54	147.32	132.04	102.52	114.64	108.21
1990-91	118.49	111.96	116.26	120.40	154.41	136.36	104.54	118.24	110.97
1991-92	116.11	119.76	117.36	115.00	155.72	134.11	100.15	116.59	107.86
1992-93	116.11	119.76	117.36	115.00	155.72	134.11	100.15	116.59	109.86
1993-94	116.26	118.65	117.08	118.56	160.25	138.12	102.44	119.40	110.40
1994-95	114.94	119.35	116.45	112.98	161.29	135.65	99.13	120.11	108.97
1995-96	115.78	124.52	118.76	112.65	221.64	163.78	98.87	158.04	126.63
1996-97	116.61	123.68	119.02	141.35	223.10	179.71	123.23	161.43	141.15
1997-98	117.04	125.77	120.02	148.88	222.59	183.46	129.55	156.73	142.30
1998-99	117.34	125.67	120.19	157.06	221.47	193.25	133.85	176.23	160.79
1999-2000	117.75	121.75	119.11	173.69	180.03	177.08	147.51	147.87	148.67

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND VETERINARY

Meghalaya is one of the states where the majority of the population is non-vegetarian. Therefore, development of livestock and also poultry is very essential to improve the economy of the State. In this context, livestock and poultry could be developed to provide alternative avocation to the people especially in the present socio-economic scenario where facilities of Government jobs have reached, more or less a saturated point. Application of modern technologies would bring better scope for commercial purposes in respect of livestock and poultry as a full time occupation. Further livestock and poultry also supplement to various inputs and other needs of an agrarian economy of the State and it can be stated that agriculture and livestock sub sector are interdependent to each other.

The following table is showing the quinquinnial livestock census from 1972-1997 on the number of cattle, buffaloes, pigs, sheep and goats. The number of poultry during the above period has also been shown. The number of cattle which was accounted as 4,67,700 in 1972 gradually increased to 7,55,500 by 1997, the population of buffaloes is however, on the wane. The number of buffaloes which was 46,600 in 1972 dropped down to 17,400 in 1997. Pig population is on the increasing trend right from the year 1972. There were 1,26,700 pigs in 1972 and the number recorded as 3,50,900 pigs in 1997. As regards goats, the number of 95,900 accounted in 1972 jumped to 2,80,400 in 1997. But the number of sheep recorded as 18,400 in 1972 went up to 25,600 in 1982 but gradually dropped down to 17,200 in 1997.

The population of local / desi poultry has been gradually increasing from one year to another and the number of 8,39,300 in 1972 increased to 2,041,900 in 1997. Improved poultry is not so encouraging as the number accounted 1,36,000 in 1972 suddenly dropped to 57,700 in 1982 but started to recover slowly and by 1997, the number is recorded as 1,10,100.

TABLE – 7.1

Livestock Population in the State
(Livestock Censuses 1972-1997)

(In thousand numbers)

Category	1972	1977	1982	1988	1992	1997
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*
Cattle	467.7	477.7	549.8	586.2	637.4	755.5
Buffaloes	46.6	39.6	28.9	27.8	33.7	17.4
Pigs	126.7	151.3	206.5	280.5	294	350.9
Goats	95.9	118.9	186.3	194.4	195.6	280.4
Sheep	18.4	20.6	25.6	15.4	23.1	17.2
Horses & Ponies	5	6	7.9	5.1	2.7	N.A
Other Livestocks	N.A.	N.A.	11.6	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Poultry						
(i) Desi	839.3	953.7	1361.2	1464.8	1717.3	2041.9
(ii) Improved	136.0	119.6	57.7	76.6	108.7	110.1
Total Poultry	975.3	1073.3	1408.9	1541.4	1826	2152

N.A. – Not Available

There was only one veterinary hospital in the State in 1971. This hospital was set up in order to serve the interest of the State for treating sick and injured animals and also poultry. The number of hospitals has however increased to 4 since 1995-96. Veterinary dispensaries were also set up at different centres in the State and in those centres, treatment to animals and birds have been done. During 1970-71, there were 31 dispensaries and these were gradually established from one period to another and the number went up to 64 in 2000-2001. In addition to hospitals and dispensaries, other veterinary aid centres were also set up in 1980-81 and the number was 38 in 1980-81 but increased to 62 since 1995-96. The number of veterinary doctors was only 33 in 1970-71 and gradually raised to 180 in 2000-01. As regards cases treated in hospitals, dispensaries, such cases kept on increasing from one year to another. The number of cases treated was 160,000 in 1970-71 and recorded 930,700 in 2000-01.

The following table furnishes the statistics in respect of Veterinary Hospitals / Dispensaries and cases treated and also the number of Veterinary Doctors during 1970-71 to 2000-01.

TABLE – 7.2

Number of Veterinary Hospitals, Dispensaries, Doctors, etc. in Meghalaya.

Year	Veterinary Hospitals	Dispensaries	Other Aid Centres	Veterinary Doctor	Cases treated in Hospitals / Dispensaries (In'000)
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
1970-71	1	31	NA	33	160
1975-76	1	36	NA	70	180
1980-81	1	41	38	77	186
1985-86	1	48	NA	103	305
1990-91	1	53	47	122	394
1995-96	4	58	62	154	567
2000-01	4	64	62	180	931

In view of scarcity of information, data on production of milk, meat and eggs could not be estimated for the period prior to 1983-84 for the State. With the report on sample survey for estimation of milk, egg and meat regularly provided by the State Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department, information of livestock and poultry population and production estimated for each year are available for 1983-84 onwards.

Livestock and poultry do not only provide necessary inputs to agriculture, but also supply of milk, meat and eggs and also other products for human needs. The estimated production of milk which was 0.402 lakh tonnes in 1983-84 gradually increased from one year to another and the production of milk in 1999-2000 was 0.616 lakh tonnes. The target expected to be achieved in 2001-02 is estimated to be 0.66 lakh tonnes. As the State population is comprised with more than 75 % of non-vegetarians, the meat production in the State which was only 0.124 lakh tonnes in 1983-84 jumped to 0.316 lakh tonnes in 1999-2000, registering an increase of over 150 %. It is estimated that meat production by 2001-02 would go up to 0.34 lakh tonnes. As regards egg production, it is estimated that 51.4 million eggs was produced in 1983-84. The production continues to increase from one year to another and by 1999-2000, the number of eggs estimated and

targeted would be 90.2 million nos. The following table furnishes the estimated production of milk, meat and eggs.

TABLE – 7.3

Production of Milk, Meat and Eggs in Meghalaya

Year	Milk production (lakh tonnes)	Meat production (lakh tonnes)	Egg production (million nos.)
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1983-84	0.402	0.124	51.4
1985-86	0.462	0.136	57.8
1987-88	0.409	0.169	61.6
1989-90	0.474	0.194	63.7
1991-92	0.504	0.220	66.8
1993-94	0.529	0.235	73.0
1995-96	0.554	0.265	77.0
1997-98	0.591	0.288	81.4
1999-2000	0.616	0.316	84.7
Target for 2001-2002	0.660	0.340	90.2

FISHING

Fishing is one of economic activities which has gradually developed in Meghalaya after the attainment of Statehood. During the earlier years, fish catching was mainly from rivers and the fish so catched was generally for drying. Therefore, raw fish could not be used for commercial purpose due to the absence of favourable markets. Added to marketing problem, transportation facilities had encumbered the possibility of finding nearby markets for quick disposal of fish in raw form. Also facilities of cold storage were not available to keep raw fish for certain period of time.

With the improvement of transport facilities and the availability of cold storage amenities, fish marketing in raw form has been made possible. Demand for raw fish has increased from one period to another. In order to enable a good supply of raw fish, setting up and construction of fishery ponds in the State had been started in different areas. In this respect, Government encouraged fish farmers to start private fish farming and subsidies either in cash or in kind has been made.

The following table shows the development of fish farming in the State from 1970-71 to 2001-02.

TABLE – 8.1

Development of Fishing in Meghalaya.

Year	Number of		
	Fish Seed Distributed	Seed Farms	Nursery Area (In Hectares)
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1970-71	7500	5	0.94
1975-76	159600	9	2.45
1980-81	169900	12	3.0
1985-86	363400	9	4.84
1990-91	884400	14	3.2
1995-96	1507800	15	2.3
2000-01	1180500	14	3.33
2001-2002	1366500	14	3.33

The number of fish seeds distributed as shown in the table 8.1, in 1970-71 was only 7,500. But distribution is observed, to have gained momentum from 1975-76 onwards and by the year 2001-2002, the number of fish seeds distributed touched to 13,66,500. The number of fish farms was only 5 in 1970-71 but slowly increased to 12 in 1980-81 and slightly dropped to 9 in 1985-86. However, the number of fish farms remained at 14 by the year 2001-2002. The nursery area was 0.94 hectares in 1970-71 and gradually extended to 4.84 hectares in 1985-86 but decreased to 3.33 hectares in 2001-2002.

The figures in respect of fish production are not available for earlier years. However, the estimates of fish production for 1977-78 up to 2000-01 are presented here. The fish production includes fish catched or gathered from rivers, lakes, tanks, ponds and also subsistence fishing (fish catched by non professional). The production of fish in

1977-78 was estimated at 1,247 metric tonnes. The production subsequently decreased to the lowest record of 695 metric tonnes in 1985-86. This has been attributed to a disease which plagued the fish population during the period between 1985-86 to 1989-90. The production improved substantially during the last 10 years when the annual estimated production of fish was above 3,000 metric tonnes. A record production according to estimates was attained in 2000-01 with 6,179 metric tonnes. The following table shows the estimates on fish production in the State.

TABLE –8.2
Fish Production in Meghalaya
From 1977-78 onwards

Year	Production in Metric Tonnes		
	Inland Fish	Subsistence Fish	Total
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1977-78	1108	139	1247
1981-82	872	109	981
1985-86	619	77	695
1989-90	780	98	878
1990-91	1167	146	1323
1991-92	2906	400	3306
1992-93	3119	445	3564
1993-94	3250	728	3978
1994-95	3634	440	4074
1995-96	3148	430	3578
1996-97	3905	553	4438
1997-98	4381	539	4920
1998-99	3665	458	4123
1999-2000	3519	1157	4676
2000-01	5407	772	6179

SERICULTURE

Sericulture and Weaving provide important rural base industry for the development of the State. Development programmes through sericulture in respect of Mulberry, Eri and Muga plantations and also plantation of food plants for silkworms could enhance the production. Apparently, sericulture has a good scope in the hilly area of the State. Development of Sericulture could also help developing handloom weaving industry. Introduction of modern improved looms or accessories could also provide production of quality fabrics. Cottage industry on weaving could also be intensified and as such, could provide employment to rural folks as a full time or a part time occupation.

Though no information are available before 1984-85, but however, the number of sericulture farms as available in 1984-85 was 7 but gradually reduced to only 6 by 2001-02. The area under sericulture farm was only 37 hectares in 1984-85 and gradually increased to 172.96 hectares in 1993-94. However the area under sericulture farm remained stagnant up to 1998-99 with 172.96 hectares but came down to 130 hectares since 2000-01.

There were 4 eri seed grainages and 6 silk reeling units in 1984-85. Such units gradually increased and the number of units in respect of silk reeling was 8 in 1993-94 and continued to remain so till 2001-02. As regards eri grainage units, the number was only 4 upto 2001-02. The area under eri grainage was 12.83 hectares in 1984-85 and gradually increased to 55 hectares in 1993-94 and remained the same till 2001-02. Production of raw silk which was 270 Kgs in 1984-85 increased to 634 Kgs in 1993-94 and touched 829 Kgs in 1995-96. The production however slowly dropped down annually and by 2000-01 the production was recorded only 270 Kgs.

TABLE – 9.1
Number of Sericulture Farms etc. in Meghalaya.

Year	Sericulture Farms		Eri Seed Grainages		Silk reeling units	
	No	Area (Hectare)	No	Area (Hectare)	No	Production of Raw Silk (Kg)
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*
1984-85	7	37.00	4	12.83	6	270
1985-86	8	37.00	4	12.83	7	231
1986-87	8	40.80	4	13.83	6	273
1993-94	6	172.96	4	55	8	634
1994-95	6	172.96	4	55	8	710
1995-96	6	172.96	4	55	8	829
1996-97	6	172.96	4	55	8	768
1997-98	6	172.96	4	55	8	449
1998-99	6	172.96	4	55	8	408
1999-2000	6	172.96	4	55	8	377
2000-01	6	130.00	4	55	8	270
2001-02	6	130.00	4	55	8	N.A.

The number of sericulture villages accounted to 1459 in 1985-86 with 9107 families engaged in sericulture activities. The number increased to 1,812 villages by 1993-94 but remained constant till 2001-02. So also the number of families engaged in sericulture as accounted in 1993-94 as 14,000 remained the same till 2001-02.

TABLE – 9.2

Number of Sericulture Villages and Families engaged in Sericulture in Meghalaya.

Year	Sericulture Villages	Families Engaged in Sericulture
1	*2*	*3*
1985-86	1459	9107
1986-87	1692	9600
1993-94	1812	14000
1994-95	1812	14000
1995-96	1812	14000
1996-97	1812	14000
1997-98	1812	14000
1998-99	1812	14000
1999-2000	1812	14000
2000-01	1812	14000
2001-02	1812	14000

FORESTRY

The hilly topography of the State with its bountiful vegetation and deep terrain presents a beautiful landscape of variety of trees. Trees of various species are found in those forests and also indigenous medicinal plants are growing wild in some of the forests. Some gifted local healers used these unknown plants for effective treatment and also curing various ailments.The area under forest is between 36% to 42% of the total reported area of the State. The presence of such forests has become a wealth which the nature has graciously bestowed upon Meghalaya. But due to wanton destruction of forest and unscrupulous motives for commercial purposes in respect of forest products, this natural wealth has been robbed of its rich possession. The rampant cutting and felling of trees has not only depleted the forest area but also disturbed the ecological balance and the existence of flora and fauna is very much threatened. However, the ban imposed by the Supreme Court of India in 1996, has come as a boon so that those hills and hillocks which have become more or less barren may again drape with new green covers in years to come.

As stated earlier, the land tenure system of the State is different from others. Therefore, the major portion of forest area is under the ownership and control of the community, local bodies and private parties or individuals. As such, Government controlled forests are well below 10% of the total forest area.

The Government of Meghalaya had taken up various programmes like Social forestry through Forest Department in respect of tree plantation and also afforestation of depleted forest lands. In this context, Soil Conservation also took up programmes of afforestation in those private forest area and barren lands of private parties in order to rejuvenate with vegetation. Further, afforestation programmes are very much essential when the cause of prevention of environment is a common concern. In this context, preservation of environment has gained not only the attention of Government and Social Scientists but also of other Non-Government Organisations at various fora. Therefore, augmentation of forest, particularly the catchment areas of important river sources would help not only checking soil erosion but conservation of water.

The Table 10.1 below shows the area under forests in the State during the last few decades. It is observed that the area under forests which accounted to 8,22,862 hectares in 1973-74, constitutes to 36.59% of the total reported area of the State. The area under forests slowly increased in spite of cutting and felling of trees. After 1995-96, the area decreased slightly but from 1997-98, forest area appeared to have increased. By 1998-99 the area under forest accounted to 9,50,000 hectares showing the percentage constitution of 42.39%.

TABLE 10.1

Area under Forests in the State
(in Hectares)

Years	Area reported for Land Utilisation Statistics	Area under Forests
1	*2*	*3*
1970-71 and 1971-72	N.A.	N.A.
1973-74	2248900 (100.00)	822862 (36.59)
1975-76	2248900 (100.00)	822998 (36.60)
1980-81	2240900 (100.00)	853728 (38.10)
1985-86	2240900 (100.00)	852175 (38.03)
1990-91	2240900 (100.00)	939076 (41.91)
1995-96	2240900 (100.00)	937282 (41.83)
1996-97	2240900 (100.00)	935334 (41.74)
1997-98	2240900 (100.00)	949600 (42.37)
1998-99	2240900 (100.00)	950000 (42.39)
1999-2000 (P)	2240900 (100.00)	941823 (42.03)

Figures within brackets are percentages to total.
N.A. - Not Available , P - Provisional

After the attainment of statehood by Meghalaya, road construction taken up by Government, has opened up link roads to some inaccessible remote and interior villages. Construction of such roads has further paved the way also for exploitation of forest resources for commercial purposes due to the demand of industrial wood and other forest product mainly from outside the State. As such, fair weather roads were also constructed by private parties in order to have access to those dense and large forests, hitherto handicapped by natural barriers. Due to the availability of large supply of forest product, unprecedented demand and supply of timbers etc. from such tropical evergreen and semi-tropical evergreen virgin forests have resulted to an exploitation of large forest areas and gradually effecting in the loss of Bio-diversity.

The outturn in respect of forest produce during the period between 1979-80 to 1999-2000, has shown an increasing trend also in other forest product. Production of fuel wood which was reported as 1,284.700 metric tonnes during 1979-80 to 1981-82 is

continually in the increasing trend and recorded 3,475.700 metric tonnes during 1997-98 to 1999-2000, showing an increase of over 170 %. The production of Bamboos which was only 1,82,000 numbers during the period of 1979-80 to 1981-82 increased many folds by recording 4,154,000 and 5,682,000 in number during 1994-95 to 1996-97 and 1997-98 to 1999-2000 respectively.

As regards industrial wood, the production of 47.029 m^3 in 1979-80 to 1981-82 dropped down between 1982-83 up to 1990-91. Production of industrial wood gained momentum from 1991-92 onwards with a record production of 513.731 m^3 during 1994-95 to 1996-97. The production however slightly decreased after 1996-97 due to the imposition of the Ban by Supreme Court of India in 1996. But the stock of forest products like timbers, round logs, etc were gradually disposed subsequently. The production of tezpata is available only from 1994-95 onwards. The production of the same for earlier years was not reported but during the last six years, the production between 1994-95 to 1999-2000 was 5,752 metric tonnes.

The outturn of forest produce for the State of Meghalaya is given below :-

TABLE –10.2

Outturn Of Forest Produce

Year	Industrial Wood ('000 m^3)	Other Forest Products			
		Fuel Wood ('000 Metric Tonne.)	Bamboo (No.'000)	Broomstick (In Metric Tonne)	Tezpata (In Metric Tonne)
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
1979-80 to 1981-82	47.029	1284.7	182	194	N.R.
1982-83 to 1984-85	19.657	2069.3	554	453	N.R.
1985-86 to 1987-88	4.855	2248.4	865	830	N.R.
1988-89 to 1990-91	11.576	2453.9	1200	1521	N.R.
1991-92 to 1993-94	90.685	2652.9	1540	2790	N.R.
1994-95 to 1996-97	513.731	2894.3	4154	6252	2326
1997-98 to 1999-2000	155.141	3475.7	5682	10189	3426

N.R. – Not Reported.

MINING AND QUARRYING

MINING AND QUARRYING

The State is greatly blessed also in respect of mineral wealth. In this context, good deposits of coal, limestone and clay are found in various areas of the districts of the State. Sillimanite which is one of the important minerals was found only in the western area of West Khasi Hills District. This mineral is considered to be one of the best in the world. The total estimated reserve of this important mineral was about 0.045 million tonnes,but production and exploitation of sillimanite has been now stopped.

Coal could be found in those areas of coal belt extending from Jaintia Hills in the East and then in the East and West Khasi Hills and ending in East Garo Hills District in the West. Though the coal is of superior quality in term of calorific value and ash content yet the drawback is in its high sulphur content. The inferred reserve of coal in the State is estimated to be about 640 million tonnes. Due to the absence of big industries, coal from the State is mainly used for export outside the State and also outside the Country. As regards coal mines in the State, they are totally under the ownership of private individuals. The process of mining is being carried on in an unscientific manner and this process of coal exploitation has affected the environment and ecological conditions.

Limestone :

The total estimated of limestone in the State is in the region of about 5,000 million tonnes. As regards the quality of limestone, it is found that the range is from chemical to cement grade. Limestone in the State is used in cement factories and in local kilns for lime production. This mineral is also exported outside the State and also to Bangladesh.

Clay:

Koalin clay is found in many parts of the State and this could be used in pottery, paper industry and rubber industry. The total estimated is to be about 6 million tonnes.

Uranium:

Uranium was recently discovered in the State and now Meghalaya has appeared in the uranium map of India. The discovery of this mineral of high grade uranium deposit is in the Southern part of West Khasi Hills.

The production of coal in the State was only 61 thousand metric tonnes in 1971 but slowly went up to 521 thousand metric tonnes in 1980-81. By 1985-86 the production increased to 1,265 thousand metric tonnes and steadily raised to 2,241 thousand metric tonnes in 1990-91. The production kept on increasing and by the year 2001-02, coal production touched 5,149 thousand tonnes.

As regards limestone production, only 87,000 metric tonnes was produced in 1970-71. Gradually, the production started increasing right from 1975-76 till it touched the highest figures of 7,48,000 metric tonnes in 1995-96 but slowly decreased to about 500 to 600 thousand metric tonnes during 2000 to 2002. The production of clay was available only upto to 1985-86 but no records are available in respect of production after 1985-86.

The production of sillimanite was 3 thousand metric tonnes in 1970-71 and increased to 5 thousand metric tonnes in 1975-76 but subsequently decreased and the production was only 3,900 metric tonnes in 1985-86 and 3,100 metric tonnes in 1990-91.

The production of minerals in Meghalaya during the last 30 years is furnished below.

TABLE – 11.1
Production of Minerals in Meghalaya

Years	In '000 Metric Tonnes			
	Coal	Limestone	Clay	Sillimanite
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
1970-71	61	87	16	3
1975-76	59	164	6	5
1980-81	521	234	16	4.4
1985-86	1265	256	4	3.9
1990-91	2241	205	N.R.	3.1
1995-96	3248	748	N.R.	Nil
1999-2000	4060	489	N.R.	Nil
2000-2001	4065	500	N.R.	Nil
2001-2002	5149	585	N.R.	Nil

N.R: Not Reported

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRICITY

The topography of the area in the State with rivers cascading into the ravines presents an ideal scope for generation of hydel power. With these favourable conditions available in the State and particularly in the Khasi Hills region, the first hydel power in the North Eastern region and the third in the country was commissioned during the early part of the 20th century in Shillong. Shillong being the capital of the undivided Assam was without electricity even after the 1st World War. The idea to generate electricity at Sunapani dawned to some prominent persons of Shillong and other compatriots like Dr. B.C. Roy to tap the water of Umshyrpi river and Umkhrah river into a reservoir near Sunapani. As such, the Shillong Hydro Electric Company Limited was formed after the 1st World War with Syiem Kmuin Manik, the Chief of Mylliem State as one of the Directors. With the setting up of that company, generation of electricity of 1.51 MegaWatts was installed in 1922 to provide electricity for lighting Government Houses including the House of Governor. Gradually, the whole of Shillong Municipality was covered by the Shillong Hydro Electricity Company Limited for providing electricity for lighting of private houses and street lights. However, this Hydel Project has stopped functioning in 1980's due to the aging of the machines.

The State Electricity Board of Assam started a Hydel project known as Umtru project and was installed in 1957. This Hydel power project was the result by tapping the Umtrew river near Byrnihat with an installed capacity of 11.20 Mega Watts in order to provide electricity to Guwahati and neighbouring areas.

The Garo Hills area was also without electricity and in order to provide electricity to Tura town, the Tura Diesel Project was executed in 1957 with 1.58 Mega Watts.

The most important Hydel project in the State was the installation of the Umiam Hydel project in 1965 by the State Electricity Board of Assam. This project was made possible by harnessing mainly the Great Umiam Khwan river at a beautiful reservoir known as Umiam Lake. The initial installation capacity for stage I was only 36.00 Mega Watts. Subsequently, another stage II was executed in 1970 by the State Electricity Board of Assam with an installed capacity of 18.00 Mega Watts. The Third stage or stage III was installed by the Meghalaya State Electricity Board in 1978 with a capacity of 60.00 Mega Watts and in 1992 the stage IV was started with an installed capacity of 60.00 Mega Watts. The Umiam Hydel project provides power (electricity) to the whole State of Meghalaya and also sold power to other North Eastern States.

As the Eastern part of Garo Hills is the Coal belt area, the Nangal Bibra thermal project was launched and started providing electricity to those areas in 1977 by Meghalaya State Electricity Board with an installed capacity of 8.00 Mega Watts.

TABLE – 12.1

Name of Project, Installed Capacity and Year of Installation.

Project	Installed Capacity in Mega Watts	Year of Installation
1	*2*	*3*
1. Sunapani Hydel Project	1.51	1922
2. Umtru Hydel Project	11.20	1957
3. Umiam Hydel Project		
Stage I	36.00	1965
Stage II	18.00	1970
Stage III	60.00	1978
Stage IV	60.00	1992
4. Tura Diesel	1.58	1957
5. Nangal Bibra	8.00	1977

The following table shows the installed capacity and generation of electricity of all the projects in Meghalaya as per available information during the last 26 years.

TABLE – 12.2

Installed Capacity and Generation of Electricity

Year	Installed Capacity (in MW)	Generation (in MKWH)
1	*2*	*3*
1975-76	70.20	175.30
1981-82	133.66	369.65
1985-86	183.76	355.44
1986-87	133.66	301.46
1987-88	133.66	462.07
1988-89	133.66	422.89
1989-90	133.76	402.23
1990-91	133.76	338.63
1991-92	133.76	421.08
1992-93	193.76	429.80
1993-94	193.76	584.06
1994-95	193.76	377.73
1995-96	186.71	542.55
1996-97	188.76	486.01
1997-98	188.76	595.61
1998-99	188.76	555.79
1999-2000	185.20	633.54
2000-01	185.20	657.86
2001-02	185.20	675.59

The State of Meghalaya consists of towns and thousands of villages situated in rural areas. Some of these villages are located in remote areas and even in some inaccessible parts of the State. The problem of rural electrification is really a gigantic task in order to reach such remote villages with electricity. According to 1991 census there were 3,130 villages with a population of less than 200 persons and they constituted to about 57% of the total number of villages in the State. Taking the average size of the household in the State which is worked out at 5.4 persons per household, it may be inferred that those villages may perhaps have less than 40 households each. In spite of the above hurdles, it may be remarked in favour of the State Electricity Board for the grand achievements for having electrified to 2,580 villages with a percentage coverage of 47.0 %.

The following table shows the position of electrified villages in the State.

TABLE – 12.3
Number of Villages electrified

Year	Villages electrified (Nos)	Percentage of villages electrified	Percentage of rural population covered
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1989-90	2271	46.3	66.68
1990-91	2271	46.3	66.68
1991-92	2315	42.2	67.78
1992-93	2384	43.4	69.91
1993-94	2407	43.8	71.75
1994-95	2407	43.8	71.75
1995-96	2408	43.9	70.51
1996-97	2508	45.7	54.35
1997-98	2510	45.8	54.40
1998-99	2510	45.8	54.40
1999-2000	2510	45.8	54.72
2000-01	2518	45.9	54.88
2001-02	2580	47.0	56.16

INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRIES

Industries have been classified into two groups, namely Registered Manufacturing Industries and Un-Registered Manufacturing Industries. In both these counts, Meghalaya can be identified as one of the industrially backward states in the country. In this regard, the Panda Working Group recommended the following criteria to be applied in aggregate for the purpose of identification of industrially backward State / Union Territories.

1. Total per capita income.
2. Per capita income from Industry and Mining.
3. Number of workers in Registered factories
4. Per capita annual consumption of electricity.
5. Length of surfaced road in relation to
   (a) Population (b) Area of the State.
6. Railway mileage in relation to
   (a) Population (b) Area of the State.

The per capita income both at current and at constant (1993-94) prices is always lower than the All India per capita income throughout the last ten years and even twenty years back. Due to the absence of large / medium scale industries, the per capita income accordingly from industries and mining would be very low.

As the number of registered factories is very few, the number of workers is also very much less as could be observed from the table provided hereafter. Owing to the absence of big industries, the per capita consumption of electricity is mainly for domestic purposes and this would obviously result in low per capita consumption of electricity annually.

Road density in 2001-02 per 1,000 Sq.Kms. of the State geographical area is only 338.80 Kms against the All India road density of 750.13 Kms. and 548.23 Kms. of North Eastern Region in 1996-97. As the State has no Railway lines, Railway mileage in relation to population and area of the State would not be possible for application

Though the State has sufficient hydel power potentially and a good supply of coal, yet the industrial sector is very low in comparison to national level. Industrial backwardness may be attributed to various factors which might have hindered the progress of this sector. As the area is a landlocked territory with hilly terrain connected only by serpentine roads to various villages, therefore, cheap means of transport is not at all possible. Further, shy of capital in respect of industrial investment is perhaps, not forthcoming accompanied by the lack of the spirit of entrepreneur. Industries in the State can be classified into registered manufacturing and un-registered manufacturing.

Registered Manufacturing

Registered manufacturing industries can be identified as the organised manufacturing enterprises. It includes all those industrial units registered under 2m (i) and 2m (ii) of Factories Act, 1948 which extends on the entire country except in the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Sikkim and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. According to this Act, those industrial units with 10 or more workers engaged and using power and 20 or more workers working without power fall under category of registered

manufacturing industries. Such workers should have worked or have been working on any day during the proceeding 12 months. These registered manufacturing enterprises are mostly engaged in economic activities like food products, wood furniture, paper printing press, non-metallic industries, repair services etc.

Such industrial units are registered with the State Chief Inspector of Factories and they accounted to only 45 with 2,943 number of workers in 1974. The number of such units dropped to 35 in 1981 with workers however increasing to 3,075 in number. From 1985 the number of registered units slowly increased from 58 to 69 in 1998, but the number of workers decreased to 3,079 in 1998. The years 2000 & 2001 have shown that the registered industrial units dropped down to 31 and this is mainly due to the fact that most of those forest based industrial units had to be closed down in view of the ban imposed by the Supreme Court of India. In addition, some of those industrial units had stopped functioning and few industries are excluded from the purview of this Act. The following table shows the number of registered manufacturing industries along with the number of workers.

TABLE – 13.1

Number of Registered Manufacturing Industries in Meghalaya

Years	No. of units	No. of workers
1	*2*	*3*
1974	45	2943
1981	35	3075
1985	56	3689
1990	58	3345
1995	58	2800
1998	69	3079
2000	31	1507
2001	31	N.A.

N.A. – Not Available

The true picture of the State in respect of industrial backwardness could be observed from the subsequent table 13.2 which reflects the industrial condition in the districts of the State. As such there is no registered manufacturing industries in the districts of West Khasi Hills, West Garo Hills and South Garo Hills according to latest available information.

TABLE – 13.2

Number of Registered Manufacturing Industries in the Districts of Meghalaya during 2000

Districts	No. of units	No. of workers
1	*2*	*3*
Jaintia Hills	2	85
East Khasi Hills	16	643
West Khasi Hills	Nil	Nil
Ri-Bhoi	11	3489
East Garo Hills	2	291
West Garo Hills	Nil	Nil
South Garo Hills	Nil	Nil
Total	31	1507

Un-Registered Manufacturing

The State of Meghalaya is industrially backward and that could be observed from the presence of few numbers of registered manufacturing industries that are registered in the State and development in respect of large scale or medium scale factories appears to be very dim at present. In order to improve the economic condition of the people, attention for development of industries in un-registered manufacturing sector may have to be taken up and encouraged with earnestness. The un-registered manufacturing sector covers all those industrial units engaging in manufacturing, processing, repairs and maintenance services that are not covered under Factories Act 1948. Therefore, those industrial units or enterprises employing less than 10 workers using power and also units engaging less than 20 workers not using power are covered under un-registered manufacturing sector. Also own account enterprises engaged in manufacturing are also included in the un-registered manufacturing sector. However, activities of manufacturing, processing etc included in agriculture and allied activities are excluded from the purview of the un-registered manufacturing sector.

The un-registered manufacturing sector has a very important role to play in the industrially developed states as it is always complementary to the registered manufacturing sector. But the part played by un-registered manufacturing sector in industrially under-developed economy cannot be totally ignored. In this context it is expected that this sector would help providing employment to the un-employed persons in the State. The present scope of employment in government services has reached at a saturated point and future avenues for educated youths to be released by Education Boards and Universities to find employment would undoubtedly be a burning issue. In order to alleviate this problem, development of small scale industries is very much essential in the un-registered sector of the economy. Encouragement for setting up industries in small scale manner especially in the rural area, with locally available resources would not only lessen the un-employment burden but may also check the influx

of rural people to the urban areas. The scope for setting up and development of small scale industries would perhaps be optimistic if proper attention is drawn with mobilization attitude to tap local materials and also other Forest and Agro based industries. This may help raising the economic condition of the people and improve the economy of the State as well.

Inspite of many hurdles in the form of finance, technical skill etc, yet the progress of small scale industries appears to be encouraging. According to information furnished by the Director of Industries, Meghalaya during the period of the last 25 years, performance of small scale industries in the un-registered manufacturing sector, has shown a good progress. The following table furnishes the number of industrial units and also the number of workers in the State.

TABLE – 13.3

Number of Small Scale Industrial Units in Meghalaya

Years	No.of units	No. of workers
1	*2*	*3*
1972-73	N.A.	N.A.
1976-77	18	109
1980-81	180	1440
1985-86	671	4240
1990-91	1558	7248
1995-96	2533	14791
2000-01	3803	21416

N.A.- Not Available

ROAD AND TRANSPORT

ROAD AND TRANSPORT

Road :

A land locked territory like Meghalaya, with far flung villages accompanied by heavy terrain, transportation from one village to another, in most of the cases, is a problem to connect by roads. A hilly region with natural landscape, presents a topography with beautiful scene, but causing a hindrance for availability of cheap transport. These prevalent circumstances may beset the progress of development yet they are to be overcome for the economic growth and well being of the people at large. Added to the above hurdles, the State has no railway lines and no water transport is also available in spite of the presence of many but un-navigable rivers. Air transport is now available in the State, but air travel may still be considered as the prerogatives of the few and a luxury to the populace.

In view of these impeding factors, road transport is the only means of transportation for carrying goods and passengers in the State as well as to and from the State. Another importantly significant aspect is that road transport has become the life-line of the State as far as its economy is concerned. Further, roads are also the only connecting link between Meghalaya and the rest of the country either socially or culturally. As such they are the arteries and veins which channelised the over all circulation in the economic health, social coordination and cultural understanding in the State and in the country.

Road transport has become one of the important infrastructural needs of the people in order to help productive activities and the well being of the society. According to N. Venkataraman report,1977, it is estimated that employment opportunities on various activities and observed that activities on road occupies the top position and accordingly, the same amount of investment could create about 104 jobs in road transport, while such investment would create jobs only 52 in agriculture, 50 in housing and 19 in railways.

The necessity to construct roads as one of the infrastructure in the social and administrative set up was realized by the Jaintia Raja during the 16th Century. As such the earliest known road from Jaintiapur, the then winter capital of Jaintia Raja was connected with Nartiang, the summer capital. But the road was left unattended and ultimately consigned to history. The British Rulers after subjucating Sylhet of the then East Bengal and after the treaty of Yandaboo, annexed Assam, realized the exigency of connecting Surma Valley with Brahmaputra Valley by road through Khasi Hills territories (then ruled by Independent Khasi Rajahs and Chiefs). By virtue of friendly persuasion and constant parleys, permission to construct road from Gauhati (Guwahati) via Nongkhlaw and Mawphlang was made sometime around the middle of the 19th century. That road was also required to facilitate the movement of British troops for political security and administrative necessity. Remnants of that road could be observed only here and there but the major portion has remained more or less in oblivion. Another known earliest road constructed in Garo Hills was the road linking Tura with Harigaon and then connecting with Assam. The present Shillong-Gauhati Road was constructed and completed in 1877 by the then Imperial Government having a distance of about 65 miles or approximately 104 Kms.

Prior to the post Independence era, some roads and some bridle paths were constructed from Mawphlang to Mairang and from Jowai to Jaintiapur and others. The present Shillong-Tamabil road upto Syllhet had existed during pre-independence period and is now one of the important roads in the State.

Road construction in the State gained momentum when Meghalaya attained the status of statehood. This could be seen that the road mileage inherited from Assam was only 3,090 Kms in 1973-74 with road density of 13.74 Kms. per 100 Sq.Kms. After a decade, the road length increased to 4,113 Kms and the road density gradually raised to 18.34 Kms per 100 Sq.Kms. According to the latest available figures, the road length from that of 1973-74 increased to 6,022 Kms with density of 26.85 Kms per 100 Sq.Kms in 1992-93 . The progress of road construction showing the road length of 7328 Kms in 2000-01 has further increased to 7,598 Kms in 2001-02 . So also the road density of 13.74 Kms recorded in 1973-74 jumped to 33.88 Kms per 100 Sq.Kms in 2001-02. The following table shows the progress of roads in Meghalaya between 1973-74 to 2001-02.

TABLE – 14.1

Road Length maintained by the Public Works Department

Year	Surfaced (Km)	Un-Surfaced (Km)	Total (Km)	Road Density in Km Per 100 Sq.Kms.
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
1973-74	978	2142	3090	13.74
1977-78	1422	2464	3886	17.33
1980-81	1405	2419	3824	17.05
1983-84	1603	2510	4113	18.34
1987-88	2295	3104	5399	24.07
1990-91	2407	3280	5687	25.36
1992-93	2857	3165	6022	26.85
1997-98	3859	2914	6773	30.20
2000-2001	3413	3915	7328	32.67
2001-2002	3523	4075	7598	33.88

Motor Transport:

As the State is mainly served by roads for the purpose of connectivity between one place with another or one village with other villages, the quickest means of mechanized transport are motor vehicles. Though roads had been constructed initially during the middle and later half of the nineteenth century, yet the advent of motor vehicles was but in the early period of the twentieth century. According to available records, the first motor vehicle which came to the State or to Shillong and travelled the Guwahati - Shillong road was in 1904.

The post independence period saw the slight increase in the number of vehicular traffic. This is due that some local bodies took up the commercial initiative to run transport services in important roads like Guwahati – Shillong road and also Shillong-

Dawki road. However, the number of registered vehicles were still less as the number of motor vehicles on road during the composite State of Assam was only 19,897 in 1957. As such, the number of motor vehicles in the State was also less and this might be due to the general economic condition of the people and also the absence of link roads to most of the villages of Meghalaya. With the increase of the road length in the State after 1972 and onwards, the number of vehicles registered in the State gradually rose. There were 3831 registered vehicles in 1972 and increased to 6,828 in 1975-76. The year 1985-86, saw a sudden spurt of registered vehicular traffic in the State and that is in the matter of 5 years, the number of vehicles registered in 1980-81 read as 7,922 doubled to 16,194 in 1985-86 and further increased to 32,456 in 1990-91. During the last decade of the twentieth century the number of registered vehicles increased from one year to another and touched to the new height of 73,382 as the number of registered vehicles in 2002-03.

The following table furnishes the trend on the number of vehicle registered in the State according to type.

TABLE – 14.2

Trend on the number of Motor Vehicles registered in the State.

Years	Buses	Trucks	Cars & Taxis	Jeeps	Three Wheelers	Others	Total
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
1971-72	253	561	1500	479	N.A.	1038	3831
1975-76	386	1150	2205	1024	N.A.	2063	6828
1980-81	287	1075	2518	1403	N.A.	2639	7922
1985-86	836	3677	3904	2973	5	4799	16194
1990-91	1509	7292	7107	5963	25	10560	32456
1995-96	1884	9874	10184	7142	246	15385	44715
1997-98	2042	10961	11919	7744	612	17969	51247
1998-99	2091	11353	12854	7647	962	19053	53960
1999-2000	2208	11815	14067	8155	1447	20173	57865
2000-01	2271	12640	15710	8514	1779	21270	62184
2001-02	2463	13464	17367	8930	2196	22656	67076
2002-03	2827	14028	19625	9401	2934	24567	73382

N.A. – Not Available

According to the population figures thrown out by the censuses, Government of India, there is one (1) vehicle for every 264 persons in the State in 1971. A decade later, the ratio of population vis-à-vis the number of registered vehicles improved to 1 vehicle for 169 persons in 1981. The last decade shows a remarkable improvement on the process of vehicular traffic in the State.

Accordingly, the ratio of 1 vehicle for every 55 persons in 1991 and 37 persons in 2001 had aptly indicated healthy sign of development in respect of motor transport . The table below shows the ratio of registered vehicles to population in Meghalaya.

TABLE – 14.3
The ratio of Registered Vehicles to Population in the State

Year	Population according to Census of India	Number of Registered Vehicles	Number of Person per Vehicle
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1971	1011669	3831	264
1981	1335819	7922	169
1991	1774778	32,456	55
2001	2306069	62,184	37

Meghalaya Road Transport Corporation:

The Meghalaya Road Transport Corporation is the only public sector undertaking that is performing the service in transportation activities in different routes of the State. In spite of it being a solitary public sector organization, yet is has no monopolistic right over the state routes. As such, competition with other private vehicle operators in those routes had to be faced. The main aim of the state road transport corporation is to serve the people and the operation of corporation vehicles are to cover even those uneconomical routes.

The Corporation initially started with 35 vehicles for nine routes covering a distance of 931 kms. in 1972-73. The number of vehicles has increased to 209 in 1977-78, plying in 40 routes with a distance of 2,431 kms. Running of fleet vehicles is very much inconsistent as the number dwindled to only 92 in 1978-79 covering only 28 routes. It is observed from Table 14.4 that the highest number of vehicles held by the Corporation was 209 in 1977-78. The highest number of routes covered was 61 in 1994-95 with 8,326 kms. and the highest average number of passengers carried daily was 7,448 in 1996-97 while the lowest was 1,486 in 2001-2002.

Apparently, it can be deduced that the corporation which is expected to be an earning organization may perhaps, not be able to sustain long with its decreasing trend in vehicles. As such the corporation is at present a losing concern which could not stand in view of the expected recurring and unavoidable expenditure for the upkeep of the corporation and competition with private transport operators.

Table 14.4 shows the strength and performance of the Meghalaya Road Transport Corporation

TABLE - 14.4

Strength and performance of Meghalaya Road Transport Corporation

Year	No. of Vehicles	Routes Covered		Average number of passengers carried daily
		Number	Length Kms	
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
1972-73	35	9	931	N.A.
1977-78	209	40	2431	N.A.
1978-79	92	28	2893	4000
1981-82	105	28	2893	N.A.
1982-83	145	34	3746	5291
1984-85	131	39	4146	6969
1986-87	124	39	4146	4274
1988-89	145	48	5128	5678
1990-91	183	53	7735	6639
1991-92	168	53	7826	5968
1992-93	176	53	7911	5644
1993-94	191	56	8042	5630
1994-95	187	61	8326	4871
1995-96	184	53	7324	4392
1996-97	181	53	4632	7448
1997-98	191	53	4387	6050
1998-1999	146	53	3852	2871
1999-2000	152	53	2510	2042
2000-2001	134	53	2221	1678
2001-2002	87	53	2200	1486

N.A. – Not Available

POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

POST AND TELECOMUNICATIONS

Post Offices:

The Postal services in India were thrown open to public in 1854, though postal system was introduced in the country in 1837. It may be stated that postal services came to the erst-while Districts of the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills and Garo Hills Districts sometime in the later part of the 19th century by the British Administrators. As such, postal services were started to serve mainly to the needs of the administrators and to some extent for the people of the region since those early days. The progress gradually developed especially after the Pre-independence period where more areas were covered under postal services. With the improvement of road infra-structure, the postal system in the State has further increased and even some of those remote interior villages has been catered under postal services.

The following statistics as furnished in the table below shows the progress of postal services from 1984-85 to 2001-02 according to available data.

TABLE –15.1
The Progress of Postal Services in Meghalaya.

Years	General Post Office	Head Post Office	Sub-Post Office	Branch Post Office	Letter Boxes	Telegraph Office
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*
1984-85	1	1	59	375	1326	2
1985-86	1	1	59	396	1343	2
1986-87	1	1	59	356	1343	2
1992-93	1	1	61	407	1448	2
1993-94	1	1	61	413	1651	2
1994-95	1	1	64	413	1708	2
1995-96	1	1	62	414	1708	2
1996-97	1	1	62	414	1708	N.A
1997-98	1	1	62	414	1709	N.A
1998-99	1	1	62	416	1715	N.A
1999-2000	1	1	63	419	1724	N.A
2000-01	1	1	63	419	1721	N.A
2001-02	1	1	64	424	663	N.A

N.A. – Not Available

Telecommunications :

Telegraph was one of the earliest inventions that came as a boon to enable communicating between two points of places, separated by long distance. Other inventions like telephones and wireless had revolutionized and changed the communication system in the history of communication technology. The first telephone exchange in Calcutta (Kolkata) was started in 1881 and the first telephone exchange with automatic lines was installed at Simla in 1913. But the rapid progress in telephone services was only after India attained Independence. In this respect, the key factors which keep the pace of development in the way of life and modernized the social set up, is the telecommunication. Telecommunication now plays a vital role in different economic activities and comparatively made the world to look smaller. The growth achieved by India in telecommunications and the rapid progress made during the last part of the 20th century in the country is the advent of satellite which had greatly benefited also the State of Meghalaya in the telecommunication system. Through telecommunication system, villages and remote rural areas of the State has been brought under the map of telecommunications. Development and progress of telecommunication in the state from 1984-85 to 2001-02 have been shown in the following table.

TABLE –15.2

Development and Progress of Telecommunication in Meghalaya

Years	Telephone Exchanges	Public Call Offices	Telephone connections
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1984-85	2	75	4707
1985-86	2	75	4812
1986-87	5	75	4841
1987-88	5	75	5539
1988-89	5	75	6027
1990-91	5	75	6769
1991-92	29	329	7696
1992-93	29	397	10142
1993-94	36	632	12227
1994-95	38	857	14558
1995-96	39	930	16883
1996-97	40	178	19616
1997-98	45	275	23630
1998-99	54	383	29944
1999-2000	61	512	38146
2000-01	74	655	46283
2001-02	78	867	52490

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

Public health is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. But the Central Government has however, a part to play for improving the health of the people by sponsoring and also supporting major schemes. In this context, the agency of the Central Government is the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

The broad objectives of health programmes have been not only to control and eradicate communicable diseases but also to provide curative and preventive measures through health services. As the majority of the people live not in urban areas but in rural areas, the roles to be played by health personnel and other health workers would be to serve the interests of the people. The clarion of ' Health for all by 2000' would still be an important goal yet to be achieved even after 2000 for Meghalaya.

Looking back to the past, it is important to note that the foreign missionaries who started the missionary works had also a vision on the importance of providing succours and relief to the sick and suffering of the region through their yeoman service. It may be mentioned that the Welsh Missionaries initially set up dispensaries to cater to the needs of the people in respect of medi-care. Gradually, Welsh mission hospital (present K.J.P. Assembly Hospital) was inaugurated on 25th March 1922 by the Welsh missionaries. Though Civil Hospital was already in existence in Shillong, yet the people were reluctant to go to Civil Hospital. So the Welsh Mission Hospital at Jaiaw Shillong commonly known as Robert's Hospital (the name of Rev. Dr. H.G. Robert who started the hospital) attracted the attention of the sick and the needy people. The Baptist Missionary had also started the Tura Christian Hospital in 1922 and the Jowai Presbyterian Hospital was set up in 1953. Other Health Institutions like the Pasteur Institute was set up on 4th November, 1915 during the British occupation in India. This Institute is one of the important centres in the country for anti-rabbies treatment and immunization.

During the post independence period, various programmes for health services have been initiated and when Meghalaya came into being, improvements of Civil Hospitals in the State are being gradually taken up. With a view to serving the ailing masses and suffering public, Dispensaries were established in many Community Development Block Headquarters. Subsequently some of those dispensaries were upgraded to Public Health Centre in order to form a base of integrated structure for medical services in rural areas. The following table shows the number of Government Hospitals , Dispensaries , Public Health Centres , etc. in the State.

Table – 16.1

Number of Government Hospitals, Dispensaries, Public Health Centres, etc.

Years	Hospital	Dispensary	Public Health Centre	Community Health Centre	Others
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
1971-72	7	57	9	NA	NA
1975-76	7	57	9	NA	NA
1985-86	7	36	36	NA	189
1989-90	8	23	56	NA	NA
1994-95	9	21	72	8	347
1996-97	10	38	78	10	371
1998-99	10	38	88	12	442

N.A. – Not Available.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines health as ' A state of complete physical, mental and social well being not merely the absence of disease or infirmity '. This definition is indeed gratifying and should be a goal to be aimed at. But the medical facilities as available in the State are perhaps, not sufficient to immediately promote for such attainment of the absolute expected health. In the present circumstances the efforts on the part of Government is to set up hospitals, dispensaries etc. with the main objective to serve the sick and the suffering people through the services of Doctors and other para medical personnel. Therefore, Doctors, Nurses have been stationed in various hospitals and centres and other para medical staff like health visitors, auxiliary nurse-cum-midwives and pharmacists have been appointed to render assistance in respect of medical care. It is observed that there were only 113 Government Doctors in 1972 in order to serve the State. The strength gradually increased to 183 Doctors in 1982 and after ten years, that is in 1992 the total number of Doctors went up to 340. According to the latest available information the number of Doctors in 1998 accounted to 389. As regards para medical personnel, their total number was 290 in 1972 and went up to 655 in 1982 and 1039 in 1992 and the total strength was 1129 in 1998.

Table – 16.2
Number of Doctors and Para Medical personnel

Years	Doctors	Nurses & Midwives	Health Visitors	Auxiliary Nurse-cum -Midwives	Pharmacies
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
1972	113	117	8	82	83
1976	140	208	10	105	87
1980	180	200	25	248	76
1982	183	240	35	293	87
1986	256	367	42	340	90
1991	335	318	55	450	137
1992	340	435	50	476	76
1993	344	521	50	587	74
1994	358	506	50	462	79
1995	378	337	50	569	81
1996	382	356	46	559	71
1998	389	384	59	594	92

The availability of the services of Doctors in the State is comparatively very low where 1 Government Doctor has to serve for the population of 9,204 in 1972. The ratio of Doctor to Population slowly decreased to 1 Government Doctor for 7,217 persons in 1980 and in 1998, the ratio is 1:5411. The Table 16.3 shows the position of Government Doctors vis-à-vis population.

Table – 16.3
Doctor Vis-à-vis Population

Year	No. of Doctors	Estimated Population (in thousand)	Ratio of Doctor / Population
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
1972	113	1040	1 / 9204
1976	140	1163	1 / 8307
1980	180	1299	1 / 7217
1982	183	1374	1 / 7508
1986	256	1540	1 / 6016
1991	335	1775	1 / 5298
1992	340	1826	1 / 5371
1993	344	1879	1 / 5462
1994	358	1933	1 / 5399
1995	378	1988	1 / 5259
1996	382	2046	1 / 5356
1998	389	2105	1 / 5411

The number of beds according to the type of medical treatment provided in the hospitals and centres was 1,608 in 1987 according to the earliest available figures. Provision for beds is however slow and the availability of beds for various medical treatment was 1,811 in 1991 and 2,377 in 1998. The following table shows the availability of beds by different types of treatment in the various hospitals and health centres.

Table – 16.4
Number and Types of Beds

Year	General Beds	Maternity Beds	Pediatric Beds	T.B. Beds	Other Beds	Total
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*
1987	983	135	190	254	38	1608
1988	1056	147	195	254	58	1710
1989	1117	147	195	254	58	1771
1990	1117	147	195	254	58	1771
1991	1157	147	195	254	58	1811
1992	1428	147	195	254	58	2082
1993	1428	147	195	254	58	2082
1994	1626	147	195	254	20	2242
1995	1736	147	195	254	20	2352
1996	1688	215	212	259	3	2377
1997	1688	215	212	259	3	2377
1998	1688	215	212	259	3	2377

Family Planning as an official programme was adopted in 1952 with the main aim to reduce the birth rate to a level the economy could sustain. Family planning became a target oriented programme and was fully integrated with the Maternal & Child Health (MCH) programmes after 1966. The family planning programme was declared by the

Government of India as purely a voluntary programme and was renamed as Family Welfare programme in 1976.

The data in respect of the progress of Family Welfare service according to programmes are presented in the table below.

Table – 16.5
Progress of Family Welfare Services

Year	IUD	Vasectomy	Tubectomy	CC users	Pills
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
1978	365	13	217	560	108
1979	239	10	187	432	101
1981	284	11	246	259	146
1983	488	13	424	1580	367
1985	1260	32	502	3292	651
1987	1208	18	540	2571	1341
1989-91	5258	35	1579	4758	3520
1992-94	4482	58	2288	4364	3415
1995-97	5667	N.A.	2824	3930	3609
1998	2604	16	1288	1503	1904
1999	2846	58	1652	1448	1717
2000	2808	56	2157	587	2780

N.A. – Not Available

As regards the performance of the Family Planning through welfare programme in the State in respect of acceptance of effective couples protection rates (CPR), the performance in the State is very low as observed from the rate in comparison with All India as shown in the table below.

Table 16.6
Effective Couples Protection Rates due to all methods as on 31st March

Years	Rates of Couples protection	
	Meghalaya	All India
1	*2*	*3*
1980	6.4	22.3
1985	8.7	32.1
1990	5.2	43.3
1995	4.3	45
1996	4.2	46.5
1997	4.0	45.4
1998	3.9	45.4
1999	4.8	48.6
2000	4.7	46.2

According to provisional estimates of birth rate / death rate etc., the birth rate in the State according to the sample registration system (SRS) of the Registrar General Government of India, are shown below as available for those years.

According to the following table the birth rate was the highest in 1985 with 39.1 and the year 1985 also recorded the highest death rate of 12.7.

Table – 16.7

Provisional Estimates of Birth rate / Death rate. Natural Growth rate and Infant Mortality rate.

(Per thousand)

Years	Birth rate	Death rate	Natural Growth rate	Infant Mortality rate for the three year period ending
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
1980	31.2	11.1	N.A	N.A
1985	39.1	12.7	N.A	N.A
1986	35.4	10.1	N.A	N.A
1987	34.9	9.1	N.A	N.A
1990	31.8	7.8	N.A	N.A
1991	32.4	8.8	N.A	N.A
1997	30.2	8.8	21.4	54
1998	29.2	9.0	20.2	52
1999	28.7	9.1	19.6	56
2000	28.5	9.2	19.3	58
2001	28.3	9.0	19.3	56

N.A. – Not Available

WATER SUPPLY

WATER SUPPLY

Water is considered as the chief constituent of human body and safe drinking water is a necessity for health. As such, one of the objectives of the State Government is to provide safe drinking water to the people at large and more particularly for the rural counterparts. One of the main agencies to shoulder the responsibility of providing drinking water is the State Public Health Engineering Department. With this aim in view, the Department has been able to provide drinking water to about 6,964 habitations upto the year 2001-02 out of the total number of 8,639 habitations.

According to new concept of coverage, the units provided with drinking water has been changed from 'Village' to 'Habitation' since 1994 onwards on the directives of the Government of India. A village may consists of one or more habitations and such number accounted to the tune of 8,639 in the State.

The following table shows the habitations in the State provided with drinking water upto 1997-98 and then upto 2001-02.

TABLE – 17.1

Number of Habitations provided with drinking water in the State.

Year	Number of habitations covered during the year	Progressive total number of habitations covered	Number of habitations remaining uncovered	Total number of habitations in the State
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
1997-98	508	5017	3114	8639
1998-99	541	5492	2606	8639
1999-2000	390	6184	2065	8639
2000-01	397	6567	1675	8639
2001-02	392	6964	1283	8639

BANKING

BANKING

Banking is one of the important factors which is instrumental for the economic development of a state or a region. In this context, Commercial Banks located in Meghalaya have important role to play in the development of the state particularly the rural areas. With the nationalization of banks in 1969, the objective to use financial institutions as instrument for promoting economic and social development has become more purposive.

With the above objective in view, it is hoped and expected that financial assistance in the form of short or medium term loans etc should be more liberal for the State of Meghalaya where the economy is under-developed. Efforts on the part of Banks should be to encourage in savings but at the same time credit facilities should not be cumbrous enough for those persons interested for bank loans in pursuit of their economic activities which need capital investment.

According to the available information, there were 91 Scheduled Commercial Banks in Meghalaya as in December 1983. These banks include State Bank of India and its associates, Nationalised Banks, Regional Rural Banks and other Scheduled Commercial Banks.

The growth on number of these Scheduled Commercial Banks which was only 91 in 1983, gradually increased from one year to another and in 1993, the position stood at 177. The number slightly increased and by 2002, the number of Scheduled Commercial Banks stood at 179 and this total strength was attained in 1994 and remained the same since then. The following table shows the number of Scheduled Commercial Banks in the state.

TABLE – 18.1

Number of Scheduled Commercial Banks in Meghalaya (As on December)

Years	State Bank of India and its Associates	Nationalised Banks	Regional Rural Banks	Other Scheduled Commercial Banks	Total
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
1983	48	29	11	3	91
1984	52	29	29	3	113
1985	56	29	39	3	127
1986	58	29	42	3	132
1987	58	30	42	3	133
1988	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1989	65	31	46	3	145
1990	68	36	50	1	155
1991	77	37	50	1	165
1992	83	38	51	1	173
1993	84	41	51	1	177
1994	85	42	51	1	179
1995	85	42	51	1	179
2000	85	42	51	1	179
2001	85	42	51	1	179
2002	85	42	51	1	179

N.A. – Not Available

The number of Scheduled Commercial Banks has gradually increased. But the indicator to observe on the performances of banks in being instrumental for the progress and development is their average deposit and credit ratio.

The deposit and credit ratio of commercial banks in the State during the period of 1983-2000 is comparatively very much low. The percentage of credits to deposits is well below 20% during the last ten years. It may be stated that the credit deposit ratio of the All India level was 62.3% in March 2002 while the credit deposit ratio for Meghalaya in March, 2002 was only 18.02 %. The following table shows the deposit and credit of Scheduled Commercial Banks in the State.

TABLE – 18.2

Deposits and Credits of Scheduled Commercial Banks

Years	Rupees in Crore		Credit / Deposit Percentage
	Deposit	Credit	
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
	126.70	35.31	27:87
1986	153.64	42.11	27:41
1987-88	207.09	50.21	24:25
1988-89	260.89	59.49	22:80
1989-90	272.25	67.22	24:65
1990-91	373.83	72.33	19:35
1991-92	382.33	77.11	20.17
1992-93	N.A.	N.A.	N.A
1993-94	534.85	83.95	15.70
1994-95	650.34	103.02	15:84
1995-96	730.09	105.05	14.39
1996-97	891.62	127.24	14:27
1997-98	1019.34	154.59	15:17
1998-99	1147.04	191.31	16:68
1999-2000	1409.17	221.48	15:72
2000-2001	1647.26	276.40	16:78
2001-2002	1990.02	358.63	18.02

N.A. – Not Available

FINANCE

FINANCE

The Annual Financial Statement and the Demands for Grants in a Government budget are drawn up in accordance with the provision of the Constitution and needs of legislative control. The expenditure in the Government budget is generally classified department-wise in order to secure legislative control and presented in the form of Demand for grant for various Departments. Though the Budget is divided into revenue and capital account, many items of consumption expenditure are included in the capital accounts and vice versa. Moreover, these magnitudes shown in the Budget are too detailed and scattered and not necessarily based on distinctions and groupings required for understanding the economic significance of various items of revenue and expenditure. The study of budget documents, would become impossible to get a clear idea of Capital Formation out of budgetary resources, savings of Government, drafts made by Government on various resources of the economy and contribution of Government to the generation of state income. As such, Government transactions are significant only in terms of such items and so they have to be sorted out, re-classified and regrouped into meaningful economic categories.

This system of classification, is based on a series of distinctions useful, in view of Government sector being important enough to justify analysing this economic impact on the rest of transactions. Current transactions are distinguished from Capital Transanctions and under both transactions, transfers are separated from the goods and services. The current transactions of Government Administration are distinguished from the operation of Department Commercial Undertakings where transactions are current expenditure of the former on wages and salaries, goods and services, while those of the latter are intermediate expenditure such as cost of raw materials, fuels etc. In other words, such expenditures represent expenses of production and not expenditure on final goods and services. Purely financial transactions are again separated from transactions in goods and services and transfers.

Income and outlay account of Administrative Department.

This account deals with the current revenue and expenditure of Government Administrative Departments. All Departments, other than those which are commercial in nature, are considered as administrative for the purpose of economic classification. The current expenditure of the administrative departments consists of the final outlays of the Government on current account which represents Government current consumption. The final outlays are made up of purchases of goods and services and wages and salaries payments. Besides final outlays, Government makes transfer payment, i.e. interest grants, subsidies, scholarships, etc. to the rest of the economy and these are added indirectly to the disposal income of the community. To meet these current expenditure, Government appropriates a part of the income of community through a variety of taxes, miscellaneous fees, etc. accruing to in the course of administration. In addition, Government has an investment income from property and entrepreneurship and also receives revenue grants, contributions and recoveries from the Union Government and the rest of the economy. The excess of current receipts over current expenditure, denotes the savings of the

Government administration, available for domestic capital formation. Some of the items included in this accounts are explained below:-

1 (a) Compensation of employees: This item comprises the remuneration of General Government Employees such as pay of officers, pay of establishments and allowances and honoraria and also pension payments. Besides payment in cash, there are some items of expenditure which are clearly in the nature of payments in kind. Items like cost of liveries and uniform, rations supplied to police and defence personnel, etc. are treated as wages and salaries.

(b) Commodities and Services: These items include all expenditure under contingency such as office supplies, rent, rates and taxes, fuel and light, printing, travel expenses, telephone and telegraph charges and other items for current operations less sales by general Government of goods and services to enterprises and households. The whole expenditure on current repairs and maintenance is included here. All payments/charges for service rendered for other agencies/departments are also included here.

2. Interest: Interest comprises interest on public debt and other obligations. The interest paid or received from other public authorities are shown separately.

3. Subsidies: Subsidies include all grants on current account which private industries receive from Government. These may take the form of direct payments to producers or differentials between the buying and selling prices of Government trading organisations. Thus, subsidies are transfers which are additions to the income of the producers from current productions. The grants may, for example, be based on the amount of value of commodities produced, exported or consumed, the labour or land employed in production, or the manner in which production is organised and carried on. Under certain circumstances, subsidies include grants made by Government to public corporations in compensation for losses, i.e. negative operating surplus, and in connection with the losses of departmental commercial undertakings. This will be the case, when the loss is clearly the consequence of the policy of the Government to maintain prices at a level at which the proceeds of the public industry could not cover the current costs of productions. All current transfers to public corporations, irrespective of whether they are made to maintain the price level or for other purposes. Losses which are not compensated for by subsidies will be transferred to the income and outlay account of general Government as negative operating surplus. Rebate on the handloom cloth, loss on the sale of fertilizers, improved seeds, pesticides and agricultural implements, loss suffered by the co-operative societies, etc. are to be treated as subsidies. In the case of irrigation, the loss by departmental undertaking is treated as subsidy.

4. Current Transfers: Current transfers or grants paid, fall under the two main categories. Firstly, transfers to other public authorities and local authorities, secondly, to other sectors including the household like grants to aided schools, scholarships and stipends, welfare to the weaker sections of the society.

5. Savings on Current Account: The balancing item of the current account of Government administration represents the savings of this sector, that is surplus of current receipt over current expenditure.

6. Income from Property and Enterpreneurship: The income receivable by the State Government from departmental commercial undertakings as well as the net rent, interest and dividends accruing to it from the ownership of buildings or financial assets.

7. Interest : Interest received can be classified into three broad categories from the household, from the local bodies and from the departmental commercial undertakings

8. Direct Taxes: Direct taxes include the following taxes i.e. (i) Taxes on income other than Corporation tax (ii) Other taxes on income and expenditure (iii) Land revenue. Direct taxes on income cover levies by public authorities on income from employment, property, capital gains or any other sources. Other direct taxes include levies by public authorities at regular intervals on the financial assets or total net work of enterprises, private non-profit institutions or households.

9. Indirect Taxes: Indirect taxes are defined as taxes *assessed on producers that* are chargeable to the cost of goods and services, produced or sold. Indirect taxes include (i) stamps and registration fees (ii) Union and State excise (iii) Sales taxes (iv) Taxes on goods and passengers (v) Taxes on vehicles (vi) Entertainment tax (vii) Taxes and duties on electricity (viii) Fees realised under Factories Act, Fees for stamping weights and measures, etc.

10. Miscellaneous Receipt: These receipts are in the nature of fees, fines and forfeitures.

11. Revenue, Grants, Contribution, etc. : Grants from Government of India have been divided into two parts (i) Revenue grants and (ii) Capital grants.

The Income Outlay Account of Administrative Departments in respect of Expenditure and Receipts have been shown in the subsequent tables for 1993-94 to 2000-01 according to actual figures

TABLE – 19.1

Income And Outlay Account of Administrative Department

(Expenditure)

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl No	ITEMS	YEARS							
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*	*10*
	EXPENDITURE	***1993-94***	***1994-95***	***1995-96***	***1996-97***	***1997-98***	***1998-99***	***1999-2000***	***2000-2001***
1	Total Consumption Expenditure	23313	23404	33358	36400	43380	49,552	55,950	60,196
1.1	Compensation of Employees	16053	16673	24044	25190	32792	38,026	42,352	46,088
(a)	Wages and salaries	14889	15381	22538	23253	30705	34,676	38,560	40,898
(b)	Pension	1164	1284	1506	1937	2087	3350	3792	5190
1.2	Net Purchase of Commodities & Services	7260	6731	9314	11210	10588	11526	13,598	14108
(a)	Purchase	4745	4795	6353	7012	6917	7131	8914	9047
(b)	Maintenance	3592	2983	4216	5379	5490	5860	6290	6808
(c)	Less Sales	1077	1047	1255	1181	1819	1465	1606	1747
2	Net Interest paid	3334	4499	5041	5562	6090	6944	9570	11366
2.1	To Public Authorities	2101	2379	2514	2738	2997	3380	3857	4163
(a)	Centre	2101	2379	2514	2738	2997	3380	-	-
(b)	States	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(c)	Local Authorities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.2	To Foreign	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2.3	To Others	1233	2120	2527	2824	3093	3564	5713	7203
2.4	Less commercial interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Subsidies	876	485	1035	904	967	1452	981	1246
4	Total Current transfer other than inter Govt. transfer	5366	5184	7077	8327	7190	11362	14631	16728
4.1	Other sectors	5366	5184	7077	8327	7190	11362	14631	16728
4.2	Foreign	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Total inter govt. transfer	4386	4024	1175	1041	1486	1512	1617	2359
5.1	Current	3999	3140	867	961	1020	1003	1126	1898
(a)	To Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b)	To States	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
(c)	To Local authorities	3999	3140	867	961	1020	1003	1126	1888
5.2	Capital	387	884	308	80	466	509	491	-
(a)	To Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b)	To States	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(c)	To Local authorities	387	884	308	80	466	509	491	461
6	Total current Expenditure(1+2 +3+4+5)	37275	37596	47679	52230	59107	70,822	82,749	91,895
7	Surplus/Savings of current account (8-6)	10570	13267	17777	17760	6655	8444	7228	16382
8	Total Expenditure	47845	50863	65463	69994	65768	79,266	89,977	10,8277

TABLE – 19.2

Income And Outlay Account of Administrative Department

(Receipts)

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl No	ITEMS	YEARS							
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*	*10*
	RECEIPTS								
1	Income from Entrepreneurship & Property	419	1431	2687	257	(-) 1050	889	3876	3523
1.1	Profits	(-) 703	(-) 631	(-) 909	(-) 809	(-) 1276	(-)1486	(-)1344	(-)1700
(a)	Railways	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b)	Others	(-) 703	(-) 631	(-) 909	(-) 809	(-) 1276	(-)1486	(-)1344	(-)1700
1.2	Income from property	1122	2062	3596	1066	226	2375	5220	5223
1.2.1	Net interest received	177	169	44	138	50	58	64	55
(a)	Public authorities	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(i)	Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(ii)	States	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(iii)	Local authorities	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b)	From Foreign	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(c)	From other sectors	175	168	44	138	50	58	64	55
1.2.2	Other property receipts	945	1893	3552	928	176	2317	5156	5168
2	Total Tax Revenue	17575	20091	22598	29494	36032	38891	44474	28282
2.1	Total Direct Taxes	1704	1885	3221	3960	6043	4208	4740	2128
(a)	Corporation Tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b)	Land Revenue	21	6	70	15	12	32	17	110
(c)	Other direct taxes(including income tax)	1683	1879	3151	3945	6031	4176	4723	2018
2.2	Total indirect taxes	15871	18206	19377	25534	29989	34683	39734	26154
(a)	Customs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b)	Excise	13256	14741	15426	21053	25515	29221	29492	18549
(c)	Sales Tax	1971	2718	2944	3140	3683	4592	5352	6471
(d)	Stamp	94	98	139	116	209	228	266	301
(e)	Other tax & duties	550	649	868	1225	582	642	4624	833
3	Fees & Miscellaneous receipts	188	265	1078	1415	128	254	123	205
4	Total transfer from other public authorities	29663	29076	39100	38828	30658	39232	41504	76267
4.1	Centre	29663	29076	39100	38828	30658	39232	41504	76267
4.2	States	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.3	Local Authorities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total receipts	47845	50863	65463	69994	65768	79266	89977	108277

PRODUCTION ACCOUNT OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS :

The Departmental Commercial Undertakings may briefly be defined as agencies producing goods and services that are not provided free of charge. The essential characteristics distinguishing these Departmental Undertakings from Government administrative departments are that, they charge what they provide according to use and are thus able to meet most of their costs from their sale proceeds. Other related characteristics are as follows:-

1. Departmental commercial undertakings are subject to market forces, i.e. demand and supply.

2. The activities of such undertakings are subordinate to legislative control and are owned, run and managed by Government;

3. The intention to make profit is not the essential characteristics and the activities of an undertaking or may be carried on deliberately at a loss;

4. The operations of the undertakings usually involve the use of expensive capital equipments and holding of stock, which may be subject to large fluctuations and provision for depreciation may therefore, be a significant element in the total cost of operations.

In this study, the following have been considered under Departmental Commercial Undertakings (a) Forest (b) Irrigation (c) Milk Supply (d) Printing Press. The expenditure side of the Departmental Commercial Undertakings spells out the current expenditure into wages and salaries, goods and services interest, consumption of fixed capital and profits. The loss of irrigation is treated as subsidy.

TABLE 19.3

Production Account of Departmental Commercial Undertakings

(Rs. in Lakh)

ITEMS	YEARS							
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
EXPENDITURE 1. Purchase of commodities & services (including maintenance)	464	368	640	480	549	467	382	592
2. Compensation of Employees	992	1063	1201	1481	1820	2187	2303	2626
3. Interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Consumption of fixed capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Profits	(-) 703	(-) 631	(-) 909	(-) 809	(-) 1276	(-)1486	(-)1344	(-)1700
Total Expenditure	753	800	932	1152	1093	1168	1341	1518
RECEIPTS 6. Sales	454	489	558	722	454	505	649	604
7. Press charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Imputed Irrigation subsidy	299	311	374	430	639	663	692	914
Total receipts	753	800	932	1152	1093	1168	1341	1518

CAPITAL FINANCE ACCOUNT OF THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT

This account is concerned with the total capital formation by Government administration and Departmental Commercial Undertakings together with Capital transfer payments, which are mostly for assisting capital formation in the rest of the economy. The Capital expenditure of Government administration and Departmental Commercial Undertakings have been given separately, whereas the sources of finance are common to both.

GROSS FIXED CAPITAL FORMATION

Gross Capital Formation represents the gross value of the goods which are added to the domestic capital stocks of the state/nation. It comprises both expenditure on the

acquisition of fixed assets and the value of physical change in stocks. The gross fixed capital formation has been classified into buildings and other constructions and machinery and equipment.

BUILDING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION

Building includes all expenditure on new constructions and major alteration to residential and non-residential buildings, including the value of the change in the work in progress. Other construction includes mostly expenditure on construction of roads and bridges and works on power and irrigation projects, flood control, forest clearance, land reclamation, plantation, water supply and sanitation.

MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT

These items include expenditure incurred on the purchase of various equipments such as buses, jeeps, trucks, tractors for road haulage, power generating machineries, agricultural machineries and equipments and instruments used by professional men.

CHANGE IN STOCK

Change in stock represents the value of the physical change in raw materials, work in progress, (other than the work in progress in buildings included in fixed capital formation) and finished products which are held by commercial enterprises and in Government stock.

NET PURCHASE OF PHYSICAL ASSETS

The major component here is purchase of land.

CAPITAL TRANSFERS

Capital transfers cover grants to finance the construction of buildings, purchase of machineries and equipments and for public works, water supply and sewage disposal scheme, etc. Capital transfers are intended to assist capital formation in other sector of the economy.

RECEIPTS ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT

This part deals with the financing of the capital formation and the sources for the same are discussed as under:

SAVINGS

The savings on current account is directly taken from table - 19.1.

NET BORROWING

Items like internal debt, small savings, provident fund, etc. are included here.

OTHER LIABILITIES

All investments in the share capital of statutory corporations, co-operative societies are classified as financial assets and are shown against other liabilities as negative figures. Also included are the extra-budgetary receipts like loans from Government of India, inter state debt settlement, contingency, deposits and advances,

suspense, remittance and cash balances. Besides these, there are some funds maintained by the Government like famine relief fund, roads funds, etc. which are also covered here.

TABLE 19.4
Capital Finance Account of The General Government

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl No.	ITEMS	YEARS							
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*	*10*
	EXPENDITURE								
1	Change in stock	1244	383	1973	261	168	296	540	176
1.1	Administrative departments	1241	419	2031	250	188	253	542	172
1.2	Departmental Enterprises	3	(-) 36	(-) 58	11	(-) 20	43	(-) 2	4
2	Gross Fixed Capital Formation (new)	14390	12728	15524	14372	14952	17741	18869	25221
2.1	Administrative Departments	13082	11988	14432	13491	14191	16777	18028	24271
2.2	Departmental Enterprises	1308	740	1092	881	806	964	841	950
3	Net purchase of physical assets	32	17	7	19	21	12	28	175
3.1	Second hand assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(a) Administrative Departments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(b) Departmental Enterprises	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.2	Land	32	17	7	19	21	12	28	175
	(a) Administrative Departments	32	17	7	19	21	12	28	175
	(b) Departmental Enterprises	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Capital Transfer	2643	1901	238.4	3949	2719	2813	2254	5840
4.1	To other Government	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.2	To the rest of the World	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4.3	To other sectors	2643	1901	2384	3949	2719	2813	2254	5840
5	Total Expenditure	18309	15029	19888	18601	17860	20862	21691	31412
	RECEIPTS								
6	Savings	10570	13267	17777	17760	6655	8444	7228	16382
7	Consumption of fixed Capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Net borrowing	3629	4981	1933	3314	5040	11505	12778	16020
8.1	At home	3629	4981	1933	3314	5040	11505	12778	16020
8.2	Abroad	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Other liabilities	4110	(-) 3219	178	(-) 2473	6165	913	1685	(-)990
	Total Receipts	18309	15029	19888	18601	17860	20862	21691	31412

EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYMENT

The scope of providing jobs in the State especially for the educated is very dim. This is due to the fact that the main avenue for employment is mostly in Government services of both State and Central Governments. The State of Meghalaya is economically backward and industrially underdeveloped and this could be observed by the absence of industries where only few Registered Manufacturing Industries are functioning in the State. Employment opportunities in Government Services appeared to have reached a saturated point. According to latest available statistics there were only 46,529 state government employees as on 1999-2000 and 16,279 central government employees in Meghalaya during the same year. However, the number of educated persons has been rising from year to year as Universities, Boards and other Institutions sent those students to the employment markets in search of work.

The employment exchanges are to some extent, the index of the employment situation prevailing in the State. It could also be observed that the number of persons registering their names with the employment exchanges is rising from one year to another. But the situation of unemployment is actually more than could be reflected as many more unemployed do not registered themselves with the exchanges due to ignorance or perhaps, considering such registration to be impractical. Further, most of the rural youths do not register in employment exchanges thinking that such institutions are perhaps for educated and urban persons. The following table shows the number of applicants who have registered with the employment exchanges in the State.

Table – 20.1
Applicants in the Live Register of Employment Exchanges

Years	Number of Employment Exchanges	Registration	Vacancies Notified	Placements	Number on the Live Register
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
1980	5	5761	874	457	9903
1985	5	5711	871	146	17246
1989	7	8181	1254	271	23441
1994	10	7572	427	170	2782
1995	10	3816	489	190	27584
1996	10	8677	631	131	27888
1997	10	11108	628	271	34349
1998	10	7401	294	191	33460
1999	10	10694	295	66	36094
2000	10	11729	433	87	35411
2001	11	10826	186	57	38727
2002	11	8126	833	186	36718

The distribution of educated applicants in the live register by level of education reflects the plight of educated unemployed in the State. It may be stated that many other educated persons also do not register with the employment exchange in view of the fact that posts advertised by State or Union Public Service Commissions do not come under the purview of employment exchanges. The following table shows the distribution of educated applicants registering with employment exchanges.

Table –20.2

Distribution of Educated Applicants in the Live Register by Level of Education

Level of Education	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
1. Matriculation	8892	9302	10909	9597	10687	9883	10497	9435
2. H.S.S.L.C / P.U. / Intermediate	4108	6465	5487	5616	6043	6194	6722	6159
3. Graduates								
a. Engineering	96	90	16	141	130	189	1085	541
b. Agriculture	3	19	34	24	10	12	15	11
c. Medical	-	4	-	12	2	2	19	2
d. Veterinary	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-
e. Arts	1217	1292	1989	1862	2221	2362	2485	2408
f. Science	475	546	462	427	559	627	549	549
g. Commerce	303	327	392	482	431	429	430	405
h. Law	70	5	-	2	4	-	-	2
i. Education	-	109	4	113	131	158	1311	142
j. Others	2	30	6	-	2	-	-	-
4. Post Graduates								
a. Engineering	-	-	-	9	-	10	30	-
b. Agriculture	23	40	5	7	-	-	-	6
c. Education	44	-	-	20	-	20	14	8
d. Arts	80	90	119	104	117	152	1595	342
e. Science	159	67	92	101	102	94	79	86
f. Commerce	7	3	19	11	12	20	-	19
g. Law	-	-	19	-	-	-	33	1
h. Others	4	-	125	-	14	2	1	-
5. Diploma Engineering	251	302	294	387	266	309	297	301
Total	15734	18691	19975	18915	20732	20463	25162	20417

Unemployment is not only an economic problem but also a social issue which could result along with other impending evils that may disturb the pace of development and also the peace in the State. In order to remove or reduce unemployment, the following measures may be taken up by the State Government.

Economic development : Any State or Region could not be expected to develop if industrial sector is stagnant or under-developed. In this context, Government should have a clear intention to face the continuing challenge and enunciate some clear and decisive policies to encourage investment in industries.

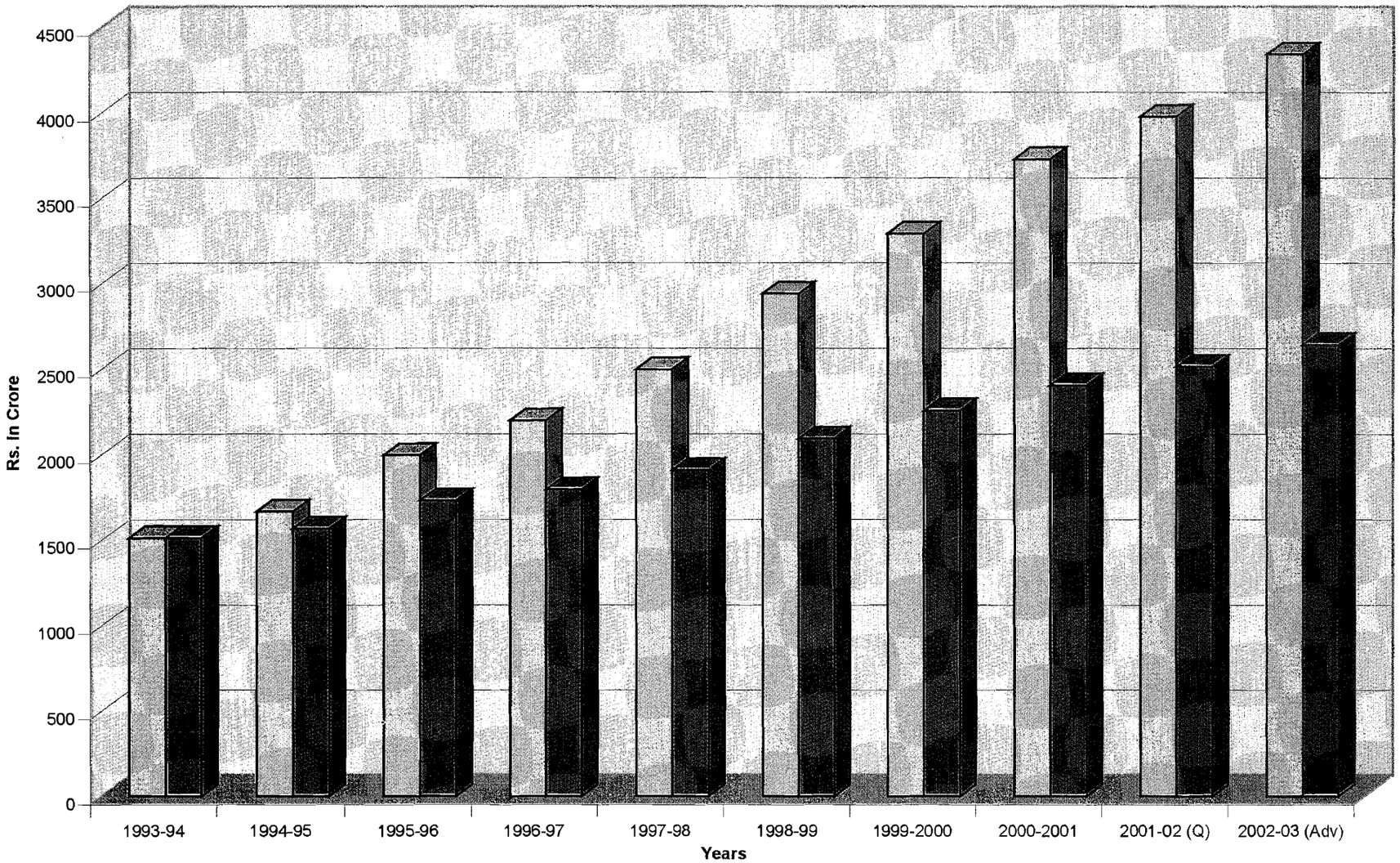
Improvement of Agriculture : The primitive method of cultivation should be discouraged and modern farm technology should be introduced so that the output of agricultural production could be improved: At the same time, proper markets for the sale of agricultural crops may be set up in order to provide profitable returns for their products. The same method of improved technology may be introduced in respect of livestocks.

Population Growth : As far as possible, population growth should be checked as food production and other resources could not make the same pace of growth to provide food, employment, etc. to the population.

Educational System : Educational system should be made job oriented so that students released by the Institutions would not depend entirely on Government Services.

Small Scale Industries : In order to provide employment especially the youths, industries in the Un-organized sector should be encouraged so that Agro or Forest base vocation in the small scale industry could be set up with proper training according to trades.

Estimates of Gross State Domestic Product at factor cost



ECONOMY OF MEGHALAYA

ECONOMY OF MEGHALAYA
(1993-94 To 2002-2003)

The performance of the State in term of economic growth according to the estimates of State Domestic Product is analysed on the various sectors of the economy and their inter-relationship. The estimates of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) as well as the Net State Domestic Product (NSDP) along with the Per Capita Income (PCI) provide useful indicators for assessing the growth of the economy as well as the level of living standard of the people during the period under review.

In order to keep pace with the fast growing economic scenario that are taking place in the country it has become desirable to rebase the estimation of National/ State Income series periodically. This has become necessary in view of those commodities and services that are not captured or covered earlier or emerging in the economy. Hence the estimates of National Income as well as the State Domestic Product or State Income are now being followed according to the New Series with a new base and the year 1993-94 has been selected. This has been done under the guidelines framed by the System of National Accounts 1993 (SNA 1993) by shifting the base year from 1980-81 to 1993-94. Hence the economy of the State from 1993-94 to 2002-03 has been reflected in order to throw some light on the performance of the State during the period.

The concept of the estimates of Gross Domestic Product is more widely used in the analytical studies than the estimates of Net Domestic Product. This is generally acceptable in the view of more reliable measures of gross added value than the net value added. However, the estimates at current prices whether Gross or Net Domestic Product generally reflect the combined increase in output as well as the change in prices of commodities and services but do not reflect on the growth of the economy.

TABLE –22.1
Estimates of Gross State Domestic Product at Factor Cost

CURRENT PRICES		Years	AT CONSTANT(1993-94) PRICES	
Gross State Domestic Product (Rs in crore)	Percentage variance over Previous Year		Gross State Domestic Product (Rs in crore)	Percentage growth over Previous Year
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
1511.05	-	1993-94	1511.05	-
1664.90	10.18	1994-95	1566.62	3.68
1995.29	19.84	1995-96	1731.04	10.50
2198.58	10.19	1996-97	1795.06	3.70
2498.05	13.62	1997-98	1906.17	6.19
2940.27	17.70	1998-99	2093.43	9.82
3291.36	11.94	1999-2000	2256.56	7.79
3729.46	13.31	2000-2001	2403.92	6.53
3978.30	6.67	2001-02 (Q)	2513.12	4.54
4342.92	9.17	2002-03 (Adv)	2642.27	5.14

Q- Quick Estimates Adv- Advance Estimates.

According to Table 22.1, the estimates of Gross Domestic Product at current prices , which recorded Rs.1511.05 Crore in 1993-94 increased to Rs.4342.92 Crore in 2002-2003 (Advance estimates). The annual increase over the previous year was the lowest in 2001-02 resulting only 6.67 % but recorded the highest annual percentage variation over the previous year with 17.70% during 1998-99. However, the annual average increase between 1993-94 and 2002-2003 was over 12.45%.

The estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the Country or the State at constant prices have been termed as the real growth to reflect the state of the economy. In view of this fact, recourse to the estimates of Gross Domestic Product at constant (1993-94) prices has been adopted so that studies or analyses on the performance of the State in real term could be understood vividly. The figures at constant prices are also the sources that can be used to measure of the change over time in the overall physical magnitude of national/regional product etc. and also the temporal changes in the inter-relationship of different aggregates and their components.

The figures at Table 22.1 provide the estimates of Gross Domestic Product at constant (1993-94) prices of Meghalaya during the period of 1993-94 – 2002-2003. Accordingly, the estimates show the annual growth rate of 3.68% during 1994-95 to be lowest during the period, while the growth rate of 10.50 % over the previous year during 1995-96 was the highest during the same period . After attaining the highest annual growth in 1995-96, the growth rate slumped to 3.70 % in 1996-97 but again recovered improvingly in 1997-98 and 1998-99 with the annual growth of 6.19 % and 9.82 % respectively. The annual growth again slowed down to 7.79 % during 1999-2000 and further decreased to 6.53 % in 2000-01 and 4.54 % in 2001-02. However, the annual growth improved slightly by recording 5.14 % during 2002-03.

The estimates are regarded as Net Domestic Product when deduction in the form of Consumption of Fixed Capital is made from the Gross Domestic Product. The estimates on Consumption of Fixed Capital are directly supplied by the Central Statistical Organisation , Government of India to most of the states . The Table 22.2 below furnishes the estimates of Net State Domestic Product of Meghalaya at current as well as at constant (1993-94) prices for the period of 1993-94 to 2002-2003.

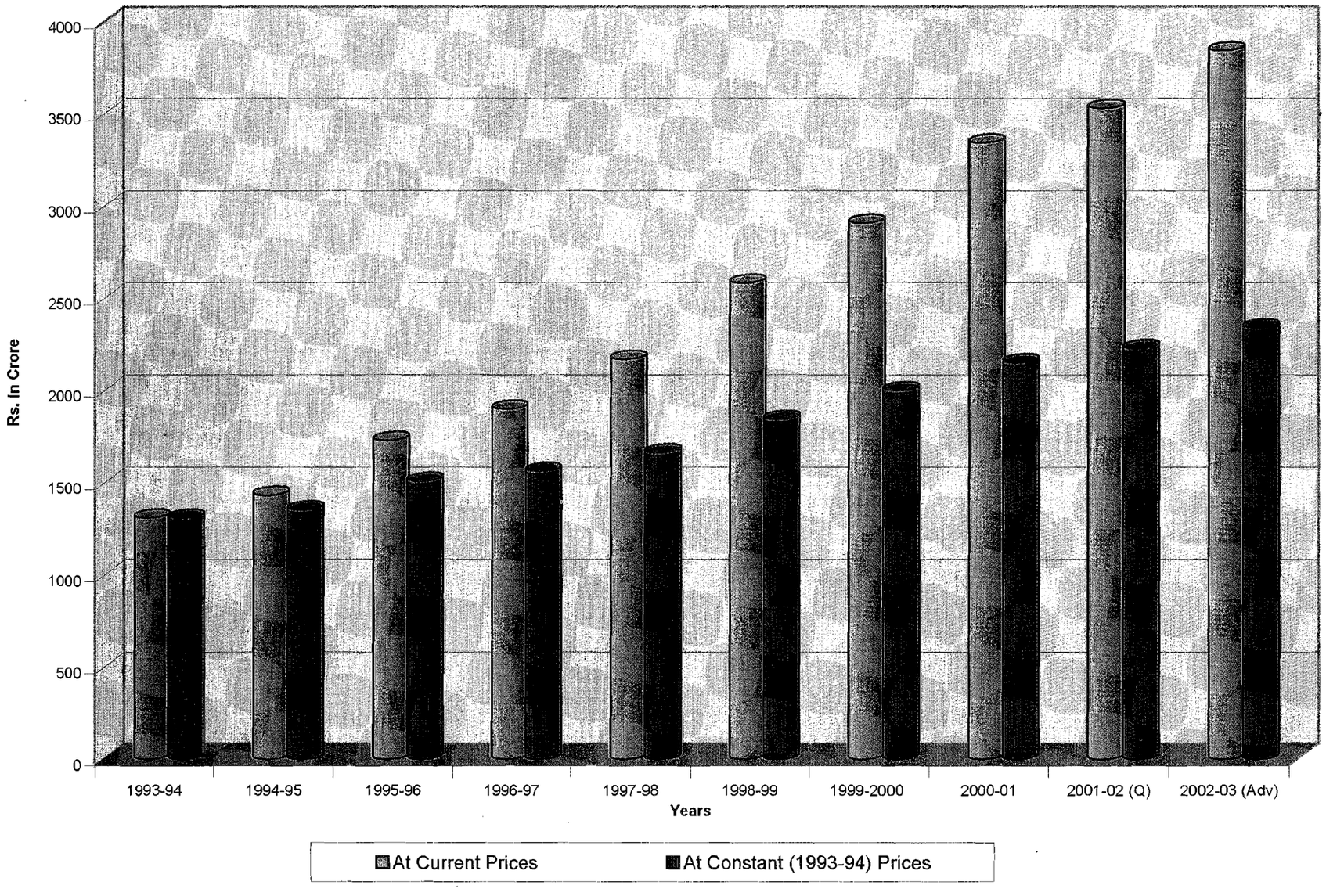
TABLE – 22.2

Estimates of Net State Domestic Product at Factor Cost

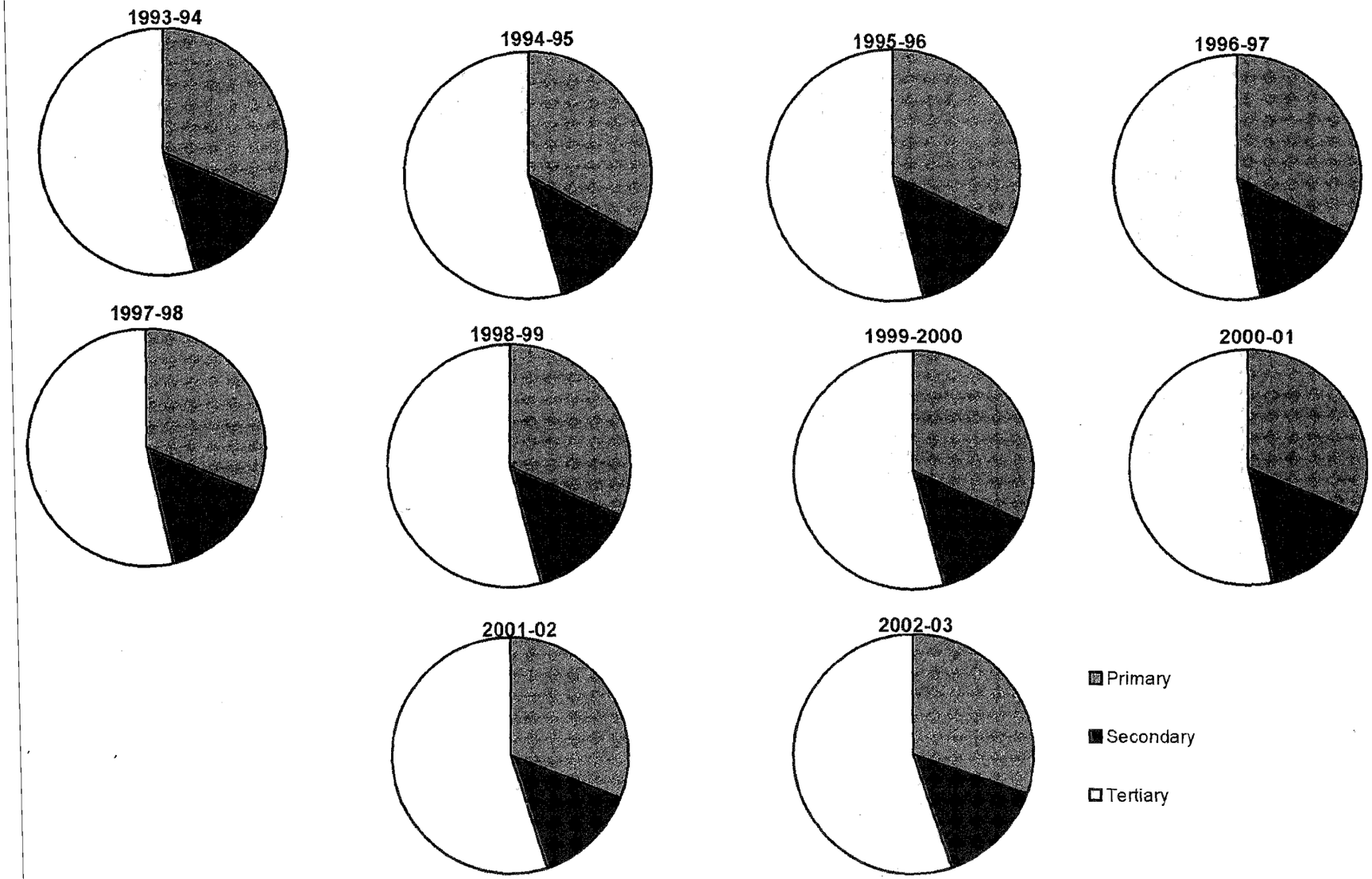
At Current Prices		Years	At Constant (1993-94) Prices	
Net State Domestic Product (Rs. in Crore)	Percentage Variance over Previous Year		Net State Domestic Product (Rs. in Crore)	Percentage Growth over Previous Year
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
1309.08	-	1993-94	1309.08	-
1432.28	9.41	1994-95	1352.88	3.35
1729.58	20.76	1995-96	1508.12	11.47
1899.21	9.81	1996-97	1562.03	3.57
2168.20	14.16	1997-98	1662.55	6.44
2581.01	19.04	1998-99	1843.89	10.91
2906.90	12.63	1999-2000	2000.39	8.49
3342.51	14.98	2000-01	2150.38	7.50
3529.32	5.59	2001-02 (Q)	2228.23	3.62
3842.27	8.87	2002-03 (Adv)	2338.29	4.94

Q – Quick Estimates Adv – Advance Estimates.

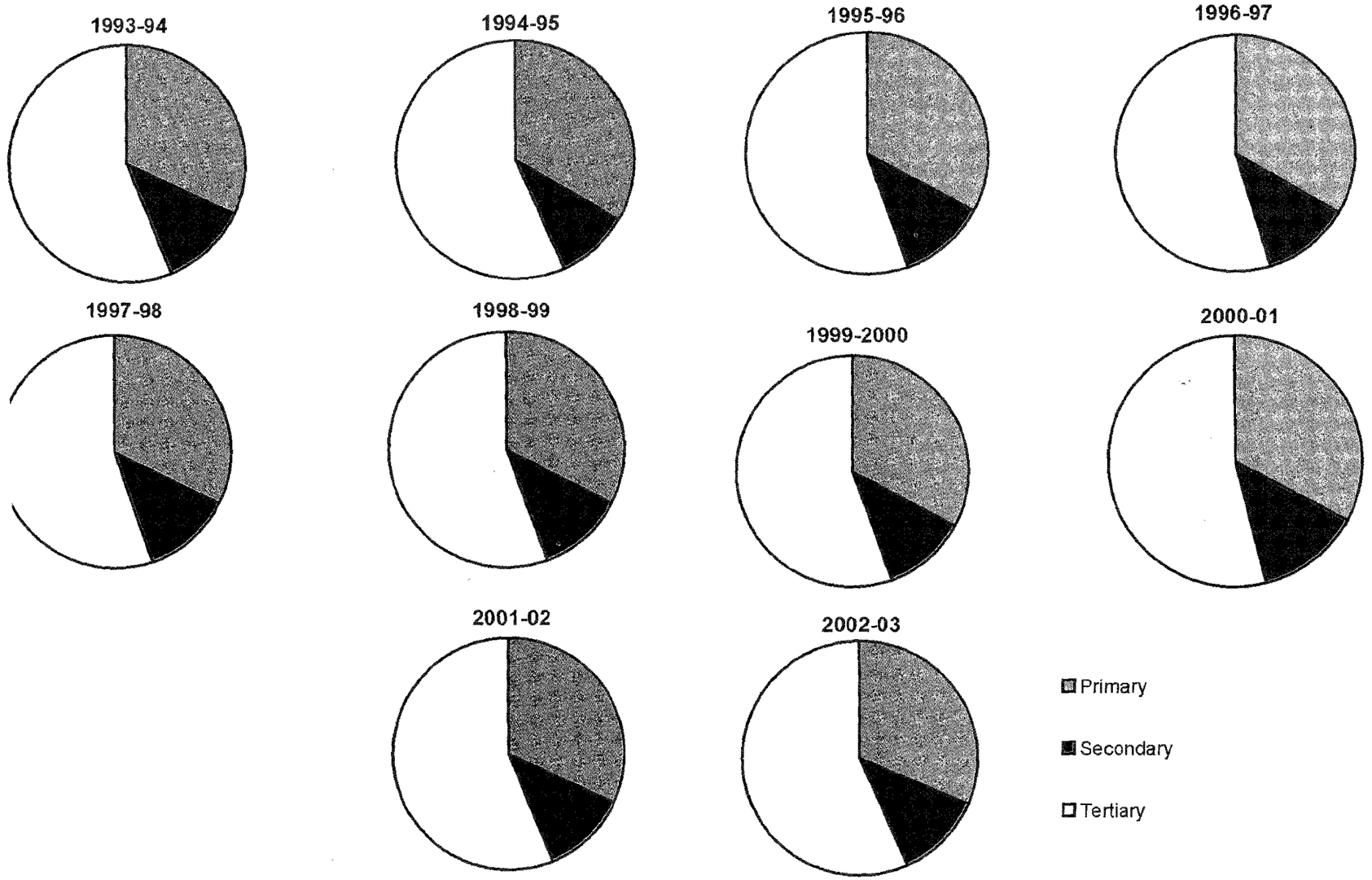
Estimates of Net State Domestic Product at Factor Cost



Estimates of Gross State Domestic Product by Main Sectors at Current Prices



Estimates of Net Domestic Product by Main Sectors at Current Prices



The estimates of Gross /Net State Domestic Product of the State by main Sectoral origin reveal the role performed by each sector in the economy . The Table 22.3 below presents the figures in respect of estimates of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Sectors and their contribution to the economy. Though the contribution of primary sectors did not decrease from one year to another, yet its share to the Gross Domestic Product at current prices is between 30.28 % in 2002-2003 (Advance estimates) and 32.68 % in 1994-95. The same observations are made in the estimates of Net State Domestic Product at current prices where its contribution to the state economy ranges between 31.29 % in 2002-2003 (Advance estimates) and 33.38 % in 1996-97. The Secondary Sector contributed between 12.77 % to 15.46 % to the Gross State Domestic Product at current prices during the period of 1993-94 to 2002-2003 and 10.07 % to 13.22 % during the same period to the Net State Domestic Product. The Tertiary Sector becomes the main contributor to the Gross and Net Domestic Product at current prices and share of this sector in the economy of the State ranges from 53.18 % to more than 55.28 % . The contribution of the Tertiary sectors was the lowest with 53.18 % in 1996-97 and the highest with 55.28 % in 2002-03, while its contribution (Tertiary sector) to the Net State Domestic Product at current prices was 54.00 % as the lowest in 2000-01 and 56.67 % as the highest in 1994-95.

TABLE –22.3

Estimates of Gross / Net State Domestic Product by Main Sectors at Current Prices

Gross State Domestic Product (Rs. in crore)				Years	Net State Domestic Product (Rs. in crore)			
Primary	Secon-dary	Tertiary	Total		Primary	Secon-dary	Tertiary	Total
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
477.51 (31.60)	215.57 (14.27)	817.97 (54.13)	1511.05 (100.00)	1993-94	419.07 (32.01)	155.67 (11.89)	734.34 (56.10)	1309.08 (100.00)
544.13 (32.68)	212.67 (12.77)	908.10 (54.55)	1664.90 (100.00)	1994-95	476.35 (33.26)	144.26 (10.07)	811.67 (56.67)	1432.28 (100.00)
639.32 (32.04)	282.16 (14.14)	1073.81 (53.82)	1995.29 (100.00)	1995-96	567.90 (32.83)	201.96 (11.68)	959.72 (55.49)	1729.58 (100.00)
712.46 (32.41)	316.90 (14.41)	1169.22 (53.18)	2198.58 (100.00)	1996-97	633.93 (33.38)	225.46 (11.87)	1039.82 (54.75)	1899.21 (100.00)
779.92 (31.22)	377.63 (15.12)	1340.50 (53.66)	2498.05 (100.00)	1997-98	696.43 (32.12)	275.27 (12.70)	1196.50 (55.18)	2168.20 (100.00)
929.60 (31.61)	418.60 (14.24)	1592.07 (54.15)	2940.27 (100.00)	1998-99	839.98 (32.54)	305.97 (11.86)	1435.06 (55.60)	2581.01 (100.00)
1047.60 (31.83)	459.05 (13.95)	1784.71 (54.22)	3291.36 (100.00)	1999-2000	951.93 (32.75)	336.17 (11.56)	1618.80 (55.69)	2906.90 (100.00)
1164.20 (31.22)	576.58 (15.46)	1988.68 (53.22)	3729.46 (100.00)	2000-01	1095.65 (32.78)	442.02 (13.22)	1804.84 (54.00)	3342.51 (100.00)
1224.70 (30.78)	569.30 (14.31)	2184.30 (54.91)	3978.46 (100.00)	2001-02(Q)	1128.32 (31.97)	420.04 (11.90)	1980.96 (56.13)	3529.32 (100.00)
1314.84 (30.28)	627.31 (14.44)	2400.77 (55.28)	4342.92 (100.00)	2002-03 (Adv)	1202.25 (31.29)	462.88 (12.05)	2177.14 (56.66)	3842.27 (100.00)

Q – Quick Estimates Adv – Advance Estimates.

The estimates of Gross Domestic Product of the State at constant (1993-94) prices by the main sectors of the economy reflect the real growth on the performance of Meghalaya. Though the performance of the Primary sector in the contribution to the total G.D.P. accounted between 31.60 % to 33.61 % during the period 1993-94 to 2002-03, yet the sector as a whole is consistently growing from one year to another in spite of the shift to Tertiary sector. The Secondary sector is more or less remaining constant with its contribution ranging between 12.92 % to 15.94 % throughout the period, though at All India level, the industrial sector has made enormous progress. Therefore, it may be stated that Meghalaya being industrially backward and the contribution from this sector is comparatively low. The Tertiary sector has become the main contributor to the State economy where its contribution is more than 50 % to the Gross Domestic Product.

As regards Net State Domestic Product at constant (1993-94) prices, the same behaviour could be observed in the performances of all the three sectors during the period of 1993-94 to 2002-03 in the economy.

The following table shows the estimates of Gross / Net Domestic Product at constant prices by main sectors.

TABLE – 22.4

Estimates of Gross / Net State Domestic Product by Main Sectors at Constant (1993-94) Prices

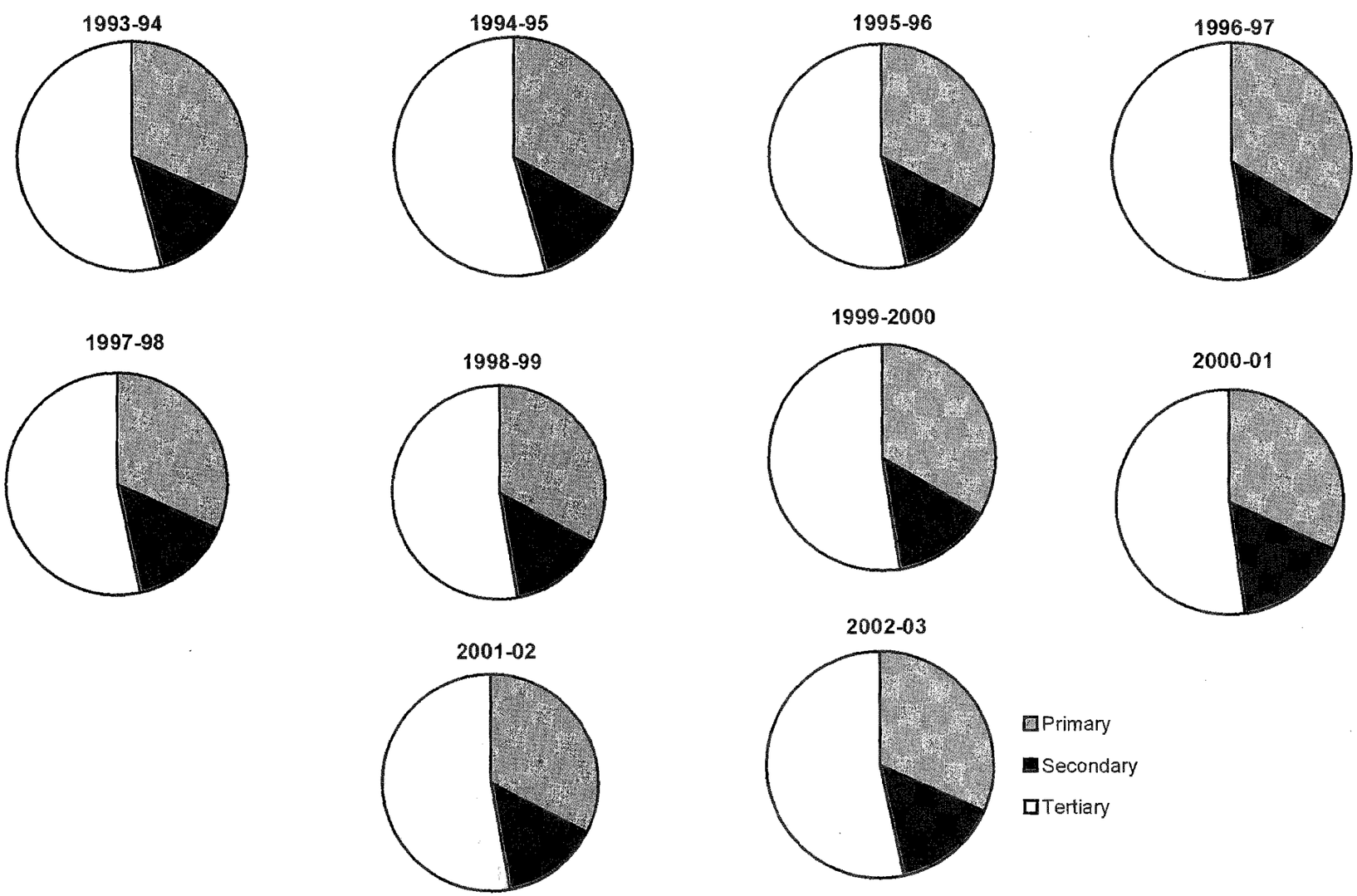
Gross State Domestic Product (Rs. In Crore)				Years	Net State Domestic Product (Rs. in Crore)			
Primary	Secon-dary	Tertiary	Total		Primary	Secon-dary	Tertiary	Total
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*
477.51 (31.60)	215.57 (14.27)	817.97 (54.13)	1511.05 (100.00)	1993-94	419.07 (32.01)	155.67 (11.89)	734.34 (56.10)	1309.08 (100.00)
51334 (32.77)	202.47 (12.92)	850.81 (54.31)	1566.62 (100.00)	1994-95	451.17 (33.35)	139.73 (10.33)	761.98 (56.32)	1352.88 (100.00)
569.19 (32.88)	233.23 (13.47)	928.62 (53.65)	1731.04 (100.00)	1995-96	508.81 (33.74)	165.79 (10.99)	833.52 (55.27)	1508.12 (100.00)
603.35 (33.61)	248.94 (13.87)	942.77 (52.52)	1795.06 (100.00)	1996-97	541.88 (34.69)	177.73 (11.38)	842.42 (53.93)	1562.03 (100.00)
604.81 (31.73)	286.58 (15.03)	1014.78 (53.24)	1906.17 (100.00)	1997-98	543.05 (32.66)	210.82 (12.68)	908.68 (54.66)	1662.55 (100.00)
684.45 (32.70)	306.06 (14.62)	1102.92 (52.68)	2093.43 (100.00)	1998-99	623.88 (33.83)	227.38 (12.33)	992.63 (53.84)	1843.89 (100.00)
750.90 (33.28)	323.26 (14.32)	1182.40 (52.40)	2256.56 (100.00)	1999-2000	690.53 (34.52)	239.95 (12.00)	1069.91 (53.48)	2000.39 (100.00)
765.82 (31.86)	383.10 (15.94)	1255.00 (52.20)	2403.92 (100.00)	2000-2001	722.10 (33.58)	294.51 (13.70)	1133.77 (52.72)	2150.38 (100.00)
81426 (32.40)	371.39 (14.78)	1327.47 (52.82)	2513.12 (100.00)	2001-2002 (Q)	755.35 (33.90)	275.52 (12.36)	1197.36 (53.74)	2228.23 (100.00)
837.67 (31.70)	394.02 (14.91)	1410.58 (53.39)	2642.27 (100.00)	2002-2003 (Adv)	775.48 (33.17)	290.90 (12.44)	1271.91 (54.39)	2338.29 (100.00)

Q -Quick Estimates Adv – Advance Estimates

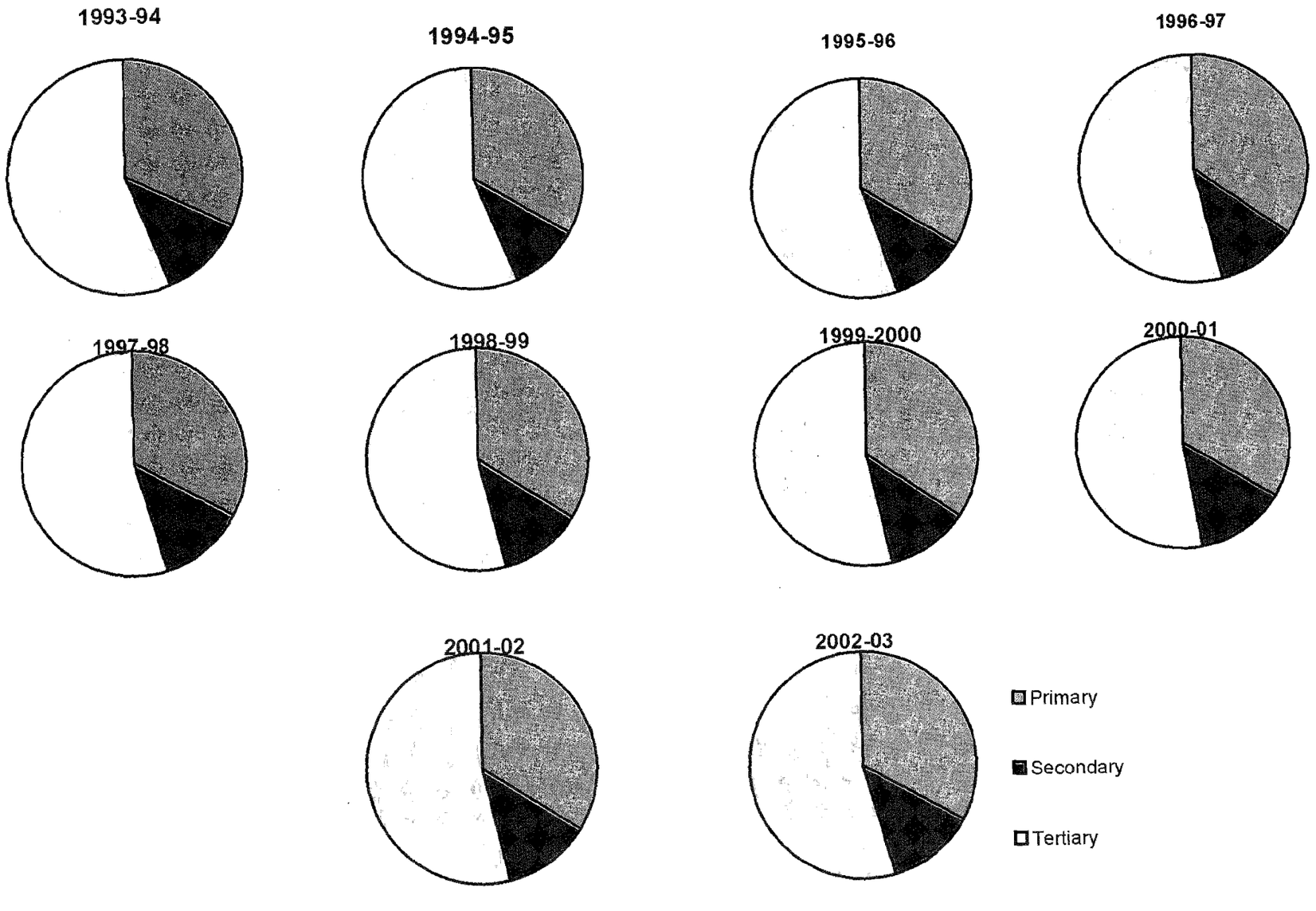
Figures within brackets are percentages to total.

The per capita income of the State Domestic Product is also used to determine both in absolute and relative term to understand the performance of the Economy. The

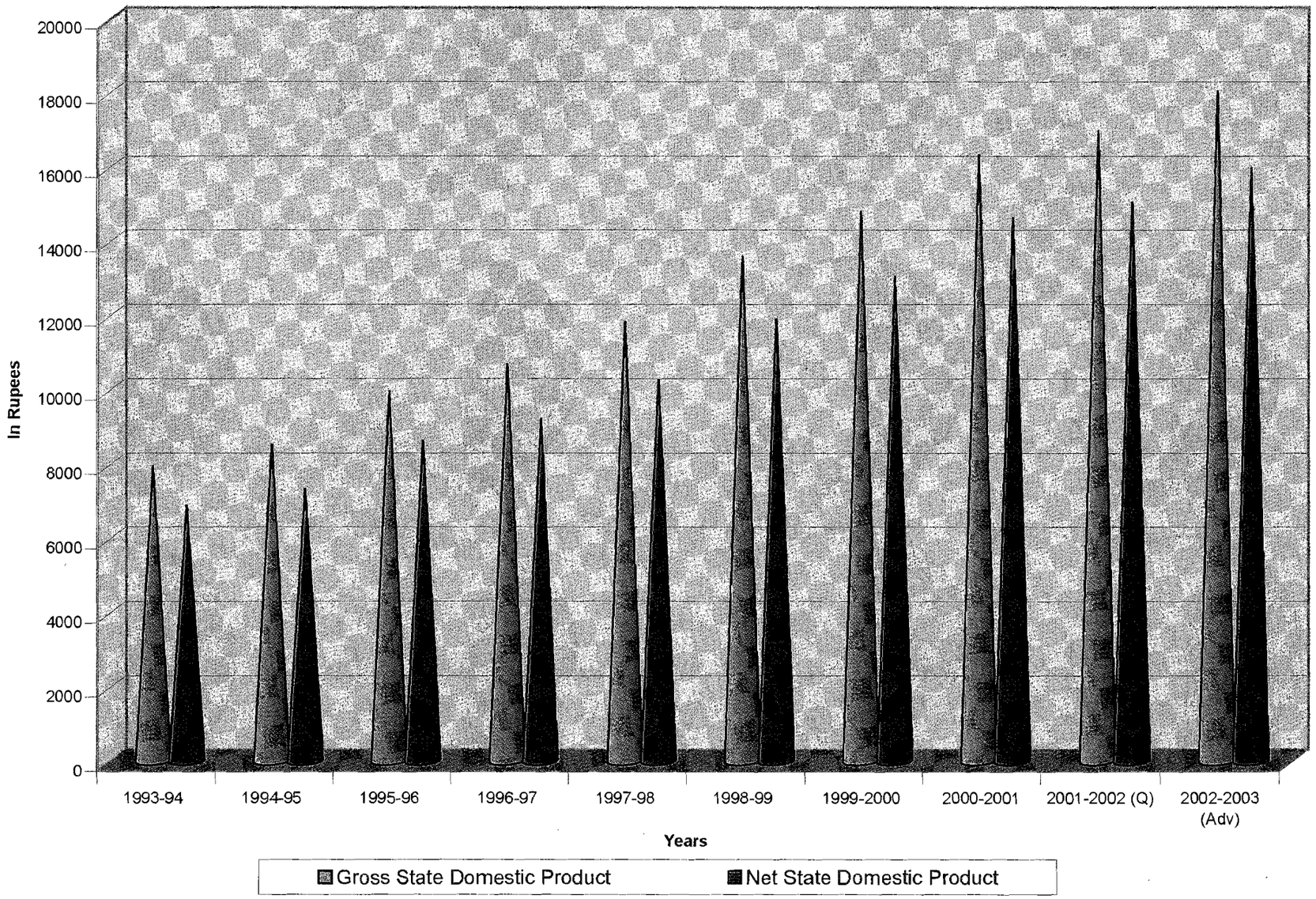
Estimates of Gross State Domestic Product by Main Sectors at Constant (1993-94) Prices



Estimates of Net State Domestic Product by Main Sectors at Constant (1993-94) Prices



PER CAPITA INCOME AT CURRENT PRICES



per capita income which was Rs. 7,957 in 1993-94 at current prices accelerated to Rs.18,065 in 2002-2003 according to the Gross State Domestic estimates at current prices. The per capita income in respect of Net State Domestic Product at current prices shows positive signs of increasing from 1993-94 onwards and recorded Rs. 6,894 in 1993-94 and Rs.15,983 in 2002-2003 (Advance estimates). The Table 22.5 below shows the per capita income of Meghalaya during the period of 1993-94 to 2002-2003 along with annual increases over the previous year.

TABLE – 22.5

Per Capita Income at Current Prices

Gross State Domestic Product		Years	Net State Domestic Product	
Per Capita Income in Rs.	**Percentage variance over previous year**		**Per Capita Income in Rs.**	**Percentage variance over previous year**
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
7957	-	1993-94	6894	-
8542	7.35	1994-95	7349	6.60
9971	16.73	1995-96	8644	17.62
10704	7.35	1996-97	9246	6.96
11845	10.66	1997-98	10281	11.19
13589	14.72	1998-99	11922	15.96
14813	9.01	1999-2000	13082	9.73
16350	10.38	2000-2001	14654	12.02
16987	3.90	2001-2002 (Q)	15070	2.84
18065	6.35	2002-2003 (Adv)	15983	6.06

Q -Quick Estimates Adv – Advance Estimates

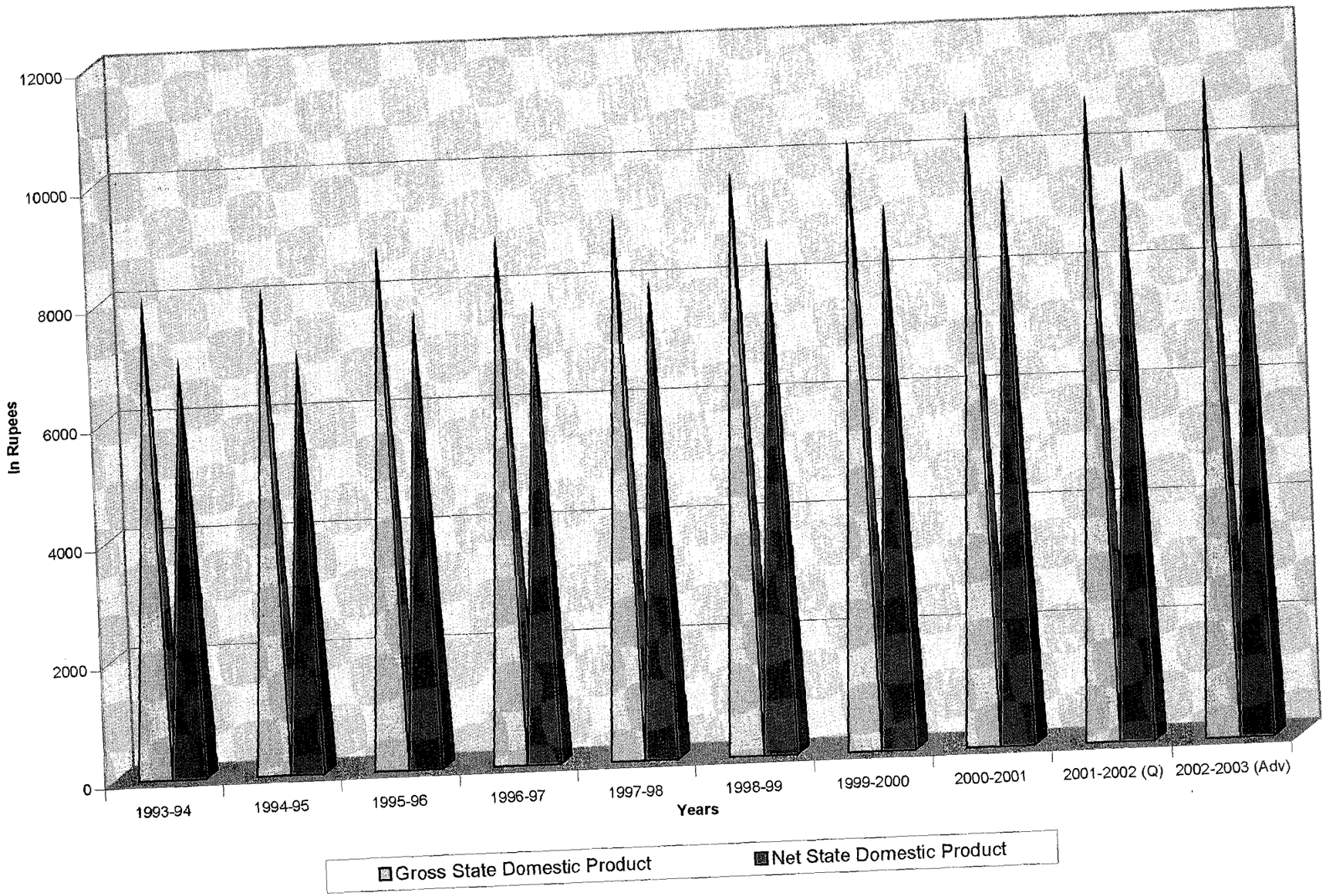
The estimates of per capita income at constant (1993-94) prices were Rs.7957 of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) and Rs. 6894 of Net State Domestic Product (NSDP) during 1993-94. The per capita income rose to Rs.10991 at GSDP and Rs. 9727 of NSDP in the 2002-03. The annual percentage growth of 7.63 % and 8.59 % were the highest attained in 1995-96 both at the estimates of Gross / Net Domestic Product respectively. The lowest annual growth rate of 1.02 % and 0.68 % were recorded in 1994-95 of both Gross and Net Domestic Product estimation respectively. However, the annual growth of 1.02 % was again accounted in 1996-97 in the estimates of per capita income of GSDP. However, the compound growth rate of per capita income is 3.65 % in respect of GSDP and 3.90 % for NSDP during the period.

TABLE – 22.6
Per Capita Income at Constant (1993-94) Prices

Gross State Domestic Product		Years	Net State Domestic Product	
Per Capita Income in Rs.	Percentage growth over previous year		Per Capita Income In Rs.	Percentage growth over previous year
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
7957	-	1993-94	6894	-
8038	1.02	1994-95	6941	0.68
8651	7.63	1995-96	7537	8.59
8739	1.02	1996-97	7605	0.90
9038	3.42	1997-98	7883	3.66
9669	6.98	1998-99	8517	8.04
10156	5.04	1999-2000	9003	5.71
10539	3.77	2000-2001	9427	4.71
10731	1.82	2001-2002 (Q)	9514	0.92
10991	2.42	2002-2003 (Adv)	9727	2.24

Q -Quick Estimates Adv – Advance Estimates

PER CAPITA INCOME AT CONSTANT (1993-94) PRICES



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