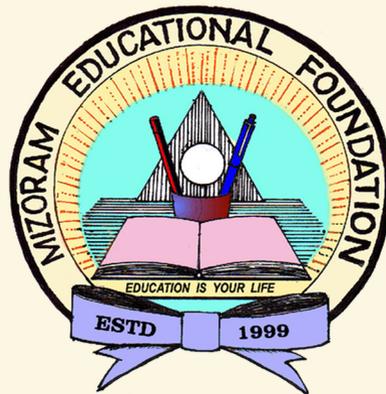


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From the Desk of the Chief Editor

The current issue is a combination of Issue 1 and 2 of Volume VIII for the months of March and June, 2022. The research articles published are both qualitative and quantitative in nature. The articles are briefly introduced to the readers as highlighted below:

We all might be aware of the fact that society, as an informal agency of socialization, has strong impact on moral and character development of its members. Each society has its own code of ethics and tries to instill ethics and moral ideas in the younger generation. It is the society which provides the environment for the moral development of children and youths. In this context, Francis L.R. Puia Tlau and B.B. Mishra studied the perceptions of Mizo under-graduate students about the impact of participation in social activities on moral development. The study was conducted among 800 Mizo undergraduate students from 4 streams viz. arts, science, commerce and professional out of which 400 were males and 400 were females. The study revealed that majority of Mizo undergraduate students, irrespective of their stream of study; recognize their participation in social activities having positive impact on their moral development. The researchers concluded that Mizo undergraduate students were aware that participation in these social activities inculcated among them the values such as service to mankind, sincerity, punctuality, honesty, hospitality etc. But, over time, the nature of society and means of earning livelihood have changed. To face the challenges of the changing scenario, they require building their career through serious studies for which to sacrifice their time for social work is becoming increasingly difficult. As such, the social organizations are required to think and plan judiciously to achieve both the ends i.e., socialization of its young members and their career.

The quality of elementary education is highly determined by the quality of the teachers. As a saying goes: 'no people can rise above the level of its teachers', it is necessary that teachers be provided with quality training programmes. To fulfil this need, a good number of teacher training institutions have been established in different parts of the country including Mizoram. Considering the importance of quality of teacher training programmes, Lalrinsangi Fanai and Lalbiakdiki Hnamte made an attempt to find out the quality of in service elementary teacher education under DIET, Aizawl and SCERT in Aizawl district. The findings of this study indicate that in-service training programmes are considered to be good in most aspects by most of the teachers who participated in the trainings. However, there is room for improvement especially with regards to the training materials distributed and used in these training programmes. At the same time, these training programmes conducted by SCERT and DIET Aizawl do not seem to have a huge impact in the quality aspect of school education especially in enhancing and retention of enrolment as well as standards of teaching in the classroom. Finding of the study imply that there is a need to improve mode of transaction of curricular contents suitable for classroom practices and to increase the number of quality

training programmes in order to provide appropriate in-service training to the teachers to enhance the quality of teaching.

Modern people have become more educated, better-informed, flexible, accommodating per se, yet in many areas of life people have become selfish, demanding, egoistic, opportunistic, competitive, and more savage than ever to survive in the world of work. Hence, people often lack empathy, care and concern for others. Learning how to accept and understand other's emotions and feelings is all the more important if we are to exist with one another. The study conducted by Grace Kim Khaute on emotional intelligence of high school students gives us insight into this. For the study, a sample of 500 students belonging to five different schools in Churachandpur district of Manipur was selected. It was found that majority of the students had average emotional intelligence. High school students are young adults and in the transitional stage from adolescence to adulthood. Therefore, it is important that students' emotional intelligence be improved.

Psychological construct of parenting style has been accepted as the main factor of children's psychological problems. One of the parenting styles which is commonly known as 'asian parenting' or authoritarian style is a style of rearing where parents ruled with an iron fist and children have none or minimal chance for expression and response. Some studies have found that authoritarian style of parenting compared to an authoritative style had a higher chance of developing delinquent behaviour and specifically, anticipates adolescent tobacco use. In addition to parenting style, one prominent element in substance use or abuse is impulsivity, which often gets linked to blundered decision makings. In this context, Samuel Vanlalruata and Zokaitluangi came out with their study on the role of authoritarian parenting style and impulsivity on substance abuse. Respondents were substance abusers and non-abusers drawn using a multi-stage random sampling technique. The results revealed that substance abusers scored higher on authoritarian parenting, motor impulsivity and attentional impulsivity; and positive relation was found between the dependent variables. Results explain the importance of parenting style for moulding the personality of children.

The attitude of a person towards his/her profession is considered to be an influential factor for better performance in the profession. The influence of the teacher's attitude on his or her performance in the profession is a testament for teacher education programmes to focus on developing a positive attitude towards teaching profession. The study of Lalruatfeli Zadeng and Vanlalruatfela Hlondo enlightens us on the attitude of prospective teachers in Mizoram towards teaching profession. A sample of 300 prospective teachers pursuing B.Ed and D.El.Ed programmes in Mizoram was taken. The study found that majority of the prospective teachers of Mizoram had favourable attitude towards the teaching profession. Gender and the type of teacher education programme (secondary/elementary) were also found to be defining factors of attitude towards teaching profession.

Throughout history, morally responsible individuals have been known to be better respected in society too. However, sound moral values are not something that can be inculcated overnight. There is a need not only to inculcate moral values at a tender age, but care must

also be taken to assess what kinds of moral behaviors students are engaged in so that better and more meaningful measures may be adopted. Therefore, there is a need to know the status of moral values among the school going students. A critical study conducted by Francis L.R.PuiaTlau, Lalhlimpuii and Grace Kim Khaute on moral values of middle school students in Aizawl city is a modest attempt in this regard. They came out with the findings that majority of the middle school students in Aizawl City had medium moral values and that they did not differ significantly in their moral values with reference to their gender. The study indicates that parents and teachers alike have the pressing responsibility to take care of and nurture the moral values of the students.

An ideal country is not only built by the government but also by each and every family member. Every family is a principal key to the society and this is why family is important in our lives. The concepts of 'family planning and birth control' have been jointly used by the demographers in India for the past fifty years since independence in the context of the study of the population problems. The family planning program was launched in Mizoram way back in the mid-nineties under the auspices of the Health Department, Govt. of Mizoram. It was felt necessary by Jennifer Lalvenpui and Lalbiakdiki Hnamte to study the attitude of Mizo post graduate students towards family planning and birth control after many years of its launching in Mizoram. Samples of 500 students from different departments under different schools of Mizoram University were selected randomly. The study found that majority of the students had neutral attitude towards family planning and birth control and also that there was no significant difference between males and females and also between the different church denominations.

Mizoram Educational Foundation is committed to disseminate educational materials, ideas, knowledge and experiences through different means including its journal named 'Mizoram Educational Journal.' The Editorial Board conveys its thanks to all the contributors of the research articles.

Lalmmasai Chuaungo
Chief Editor