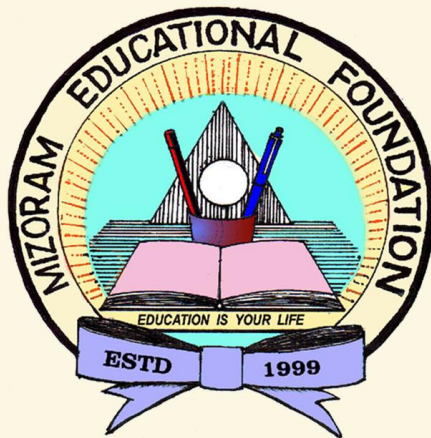


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From the Desk of the Chief Editor

The Editorial Board of Mizoram Educational Journal is happy to bring out the second issue of volume IX of its journal. This issue presents selected articles covering diverse issues of education.

The study conducted by Lalramdini Sailo and Nithiya Amirtham S explores the experiences of women in STEM research in Mizoram. It was conducted on a sample of 32 women pursuing doctoral research from various STEM disciplines in the state of Mizoram, India. The study reveals that the experiences of women in STEM research in Mizoram were quite positive. Family and society were contributing positively in women's entry into STEM disciplines at different levels of higher education among women in Mizoram. Traces of patriarchy influencing performances and experiences of female researchers were nevertheless visible. Women experience burden in STEM research due to responsibilities in household chores and taking care of the family members.

Lynda Zohmingliani, R. Zothanliana, C. Lalremmawii and Lalnuntluanga Colney studied science teachers of higher secondary schools in Mizoram by preparing demographic profiles covering gender, professional status, educational qualifications, age group and teaching experience. Data were collected from primary sources. The study reveals that government and private higher secondary schools in majority of the districts had higher percentage of male science teachers. Government schools had cent per cent trained science teachers while majority of private science teachers in higher secondary school were untrained. Unqualified teachers were still teaching in higher secondary schools of Mizoram. In terms of teaching experience, different districts exhibited the existence of science teachers with varying lengths of experience.

In their study on perceptions of students on access to higher education in Mizoram, Laldinsangi Renthlei and Nithiya Amirtham S focused on choice of educational institutions, methods of teaching, grievance services, infrastructural facilities, transportation facilities, student union and the difficulties faced in receiving scholarships. Their findings reveal that students mostly chose their educational institutions based on the distance between their homes and those institutions, whether or not they had friends there, and whether or not it satisfied their parents' wishes. Projectors were hardly used in teaching in the colleges and that all teachers employed the lecture technique as their main style of instruction. The students were unfamiliar with the idea of bridge courses. Grievance services, infrastructural facilities, and transportation facilities were not upto the mark. Student unions of some colleges exhibited equity in the representation of different socio-economic categories.

In their research article on study habits of higher secondary school students in Aizawl city, Ruby Remruatsanga and Vanlalruatfela Hlondo compared study habits of the students

in relation to gender, type of school, stream of study and parental occupation. It was found that there existed significant difference between students of government and private higher secondary schools in relation to their study habit. The difference was in favour of students of private higher secondary schools. However, no significant difference was found in the study habits of higher secondary school students with regards to gender, stream of study and parental occupation.

Job satisfaction among secondary school teachers of Aizawl, Mizoram was explored and studied by Lalsiamkima Hnamte, Shradha Bhandari and Lalruattluangi Chhakchhuak who employed a descriptive survey method for analysing the data from 100 secondary school teachers consisting of 55 female respondents and 45 male respondents. The findings of the study highlighted that there was no significant difference in job satisfaction among secondary school teachers with reference to gender. Factors that typically contribute to job satisfaction, such as sense of purpose, work-life balance, and professional growth opportunities, appeared to impact both genders equally in this context. The finding also indicated that there was no significant difference in job satisfaction among secondary school teachers with reference to the types of management. This finding is particularly interesting as it suggests that the management approach does not significantly shape or alter the satisfaction teachers derive from their jobs. It appears that other aspects, such as the inherent rewards of teaching, relationships with students, or personal motivation, may play a more substantial role in influencing job satisfaction.

The study undertaken by Lalramnghaki, Vanlaldinpuia and R. Lalhmingangi on Dynamics of Parental Involvement: A Focus on High School Students in Aizawl reveal that majority of parents had average involvement in the education of their children studying in high schools. No significant differences were found in the parental involvement with regard to their gender and parent's educational qualification. The paper provides suggestions for enhancing parental involvement in their children's education.

Vanlaluati and Lalhmasai Chuaungo in their paper investigated on the accessibility of colleges' ICT resources for college students in Mizoram and personal ICT resources possessed by the students in terms of stream of studies. They found that most of the ICT resources available in the colleges were accessible to the students. The percentages of students reporting the accessibility of various ICT resources were highest among science students, followed by arts students and then by commerce students. While majority of college students in Mizoram had cell phone as personal ICT resource, majority of them did not have important personal ICT resources such as desktop computer, laptop computer, and printer. The percentages of students reporting their possession of personal ICT resources was highest among science students.

The paper on "Environmental Education on Deforestation" contributed by Lalrinmawia, Lalzarmawii and Lalmuanzuali examined the environmental degradation caused by deforestation in Mizoram through a review of various reports, while also proposing mitigation measures. The extent of forest fires and the area affected by fire in Mizoram were explored through the study. According to the paper, implementing educational campaigns is of

paramount importance in combating deforestation through raising awareness among the public. The paper stresses the importance of environmental education to prevent the exploitation of natural resources. Teachers play a vital role in educating and training students on the importance of environmental protection and conservation, instilling environmental awareness and a sense of responsibility.

The Editorial Board of Mizoram Educational Journal wishes that the articles published in this journal would bring benefits to the readers in one way or the other.

Lalmmasai Chuaungo
Chief Editor