## MIZORAM DATA HIGHLIGHTS: THE SCHEDULED CASTES Census of India 2001

Mizoram has very small Scheduled Caste (SC) population of 272 persons as per 2001 Census. This constitutes 0.03 per cent of the state's population. It may be relevant to state that there are no indigenous SCs in Mizoram. The list of SCs of Assam is applicable to Mizoram, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh. As such, sixteen communities are notified as SCs in the state.

In 1961 Census, there were only five individuals in the state's total SC population, which increased to 82 in 1971 Census, 135 in 1981 Census, and 691 in 1991 Census. In 2001 SC population has recorded decline in absolute number from the previous Census figure. This may be due to the fact that SCs in the state has no permanent residence and they move from one place to another within and outside the state resulting in fluctuation in their number.

In 2001 Census, of the total 272 SC population, Namasudra have return with the highest population (38), followed by Patni (28), Bhuinmali (19), Dhupi (12), Hira (11), Muchi (10). The rest of the SCs have less than 10 persons each.

Majority of the SCs (76%) are residing in urban areas and mainly concentrated in Aizwal district (66.9%). The sex composition of the SC population of the state is predominantly masculine with sex ratio 283 females per thousand males. The population is distinct by high literacy rate of 89.2 per cent and high work participation rate of 68.8 per cent. Majority of the SC workers (90.9%) are main workers and engaged in non-agricultural pursuits (96.8%).

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