

## **Abstract**

Geography of education is an important instrument to measure a region's progress and all inclusive development. This is the fundamental stimulus and context which have motivated the researcher to carry out the present research on "Geographical Perspectives on Educational Attainment Differentials by Ethnic Groups in Manipur". It is interesting that Manipur is reported as one of the highly educationally developed states of India. All these reports are based on NSS reports which could not be highly reliable due to insurgency and difficult terrain. However, the researcher from personal experience knows that ground reality is quite different from what is portrayed in the government reports and research papers by scholars in India and abroad. Even, census data on literacy and education are enough to demolish this notion about Manipur. In fact, education level of Manipur, as a whole, is not only low but there also exist spatial and inter-social group inequalities in educational attainment. There is needed a strong political will to evolve a suitable education policy for the state and to implement it. A dynamic and suitable educational policy is required for Manipur, so that its human resources are developed into human capital to gain the competitive edge. However, any planning needs to know where we stand to set goals and from where we have come to the present level and which are priority regions and target social groups. This research is a humble attempt in this direction.

The main objective of this research is to find out levels of educational attainment by total population and its rural and urban segments as well as its different ethnic/social groups in Manipur to know spatial inequalities over space of the state.

**Keywords:** educational attainments, social groups, rural-urban, drop-out, regional pattern.