

**Candidate Name:** Laishram Mirana Devi

**Department:** Geography

**Supervisor:** Masood Ahsan Siddiqui

**Title:** Common Property Resources in Manipur: A Geographical Analysis

## **ABSTRACT**

**Keywords:** Common Property Resources, Land Use Land Cover, Income, Sustainable Development, Manipur

The study deals with status of CPRs and its contribution in the economy of Manipur from geographers perspectives. The study finds that though the decline in CPRs is only about 1.21 per cent during the study period in the state of Manipur yet there is significant change in the share of different classes. In the valley, the area under forest, shifting cultivation increased but settlement, wet land and water bodies decreased. Whereas a reverse trend is observed in the hills where area under forest declined but area under shifting cultivation and settlements increased manifold. The study finds that forest and water bodies have reduced in extent giving space to settlement and agriculture.

The findings show that on an average about 61 per cent of the income come from the land CPRs and the remaining 39 per cent from water CPRs. The average household income from CPRs is Rs.31391.5. The villages close to urban centre thrive on fish catch whereas distant one largely depends on forest product.

The villages close to the hills are still relying upon land CPRs (forest and pastures) for their survival. Further about 27.56 per cent household of the selected villages are directly or indirectly dependent on CPRs. However nature and extent of dependency changes over the space. The most important conclusion is that there is an inverse relationship between the distance of village from urban center and income. Greater is the distance higher is income and dependency.

One solution lies in the creation of village level institutions that can take care of the rehabilitation of the common property resources. Local institutional arrangements including customs and social conventions designed to induce cooperative solutions can overcome the collective action problem and help achieve efficiency in the use of such resources.