



NGOs IN NAMSAI DISTRICT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH: A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY

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INTRODUCTION:

The role played by NGOs is very significant in socio-economic development of any society and same is the case for Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh. This sort of study in Arunachal Pradesh region particularly in Namsai district will be an important area of the study in the context of development of society in Namsai district. From sociological point of view this study is important for three reasons. First it will help us in understanding role of NGOs in socio-economic development of Namsai society at large in terms of their upliftment and empowerment. Secondly, this study will be a new initiative as not much research work is done in this line. Finally, the Findings of the study may help the policy makers, govt. agencies, NGOs and researchers for further research, planning and development.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The study will focus on the following objective:

- I. To examine the social structure of the NGOs in Namsai District.
- II. To explore the social background of the respondents.

Methodology:

The research problem under investigation is entitled as “NGOs IN NAMSAI DISTRICT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH: A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY”

The universe of the study is the area of Namsai district in Arunachal Pradesh. Namsai district consists of 3 (Three) Assembly Constituencies 46- Chowkham (ST), 47-Namsai and 48-Lekang (ST). There are sixty seven of voluntary organisations or NGOs or civil societies functioning since 2014 and are wide spread across the district. There are some NGOs which work for the betterment or development of the people, irrespective of their caste, class, region and religion.

In this study we will take 5 NGOs out of 67 NGOs of Namsai district in Arunachal Pradesh. The name of the five NGOs chosen for the study are Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Society, Chonkham, Socio-economic Welfare Association, Tai Khampti Development Society, Women Welfare Society, Mahabodhi Moitri Mandala, Arunachal Branch,.

The respondents of the study will be the president, secretary, treasurer, office bearers, staff of respective five NGOs chosen for the study. For this study we will at least take seven (7) officials and staff, for each selected five NGOs. So the total sample of the study will be consist of 35 respondents [(2+ 5) x 5= 35)].

The distribution of the respondents is depicted in the table 1.1:

Table 1.1 Distribution of the Respondents

Sl. No	Name of the NGOs	Respondents		
		President & Secretary	Officials & Staff	Total
1	Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Society	2	5	7

2	Socio-economic Welfare Association	2	5	7
3	Tai Khampti Development Society	2	5	7
4	Women Welfare Society	2	5	7
5	Mahabodhi Moitri Mandala, Arunachal Branch	2	5	7
			Total	35

This study will be an exploratory study. Purposive sampling method will be adopted while selecting the respondents.

Technique of DATA collection:

Data for the present study is collected from both primary and secondary sources. The primary data consists data collected from the respondents in the field by observation and interview method. The secondary data will consist of official documents, annual reports, books journals, magazines etc.

DATA ANALYSIS:

The collected data are classified and tabulated. Finally it is analyzed through statistical method.

The social structure of the NGOs in Namsai District.

In this paper, an attempt is made to present the profiles of five Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) namely,

1. Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Society
2. Socio-economic Welfare Association
3. Tai Khampti Development Society
4. Women Welfare Society
5. Mahabodhi Moitri Mandala, Arunachal Branch.

These organizations are located in Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh. The study deals with the social structure of the NGOs in Namsai District and the social background of the respondents and analyzes their activities in the fields of education, health-care, agriculture, social-forestry, horticulture, culture and arts. The NGOs have been working to improve socio-economic condition and alleviate poverty by availing of better opportunities for the local community with particular emphasis on the improvement of the position of women, children and common people to contribute to employment generation. The nature of the contribution made by the NGOs in different sectors in development processes in the target area becomes obvious.

NGOs play an important role in providing humanitarian assistance and in offering a range of services to promote development. They have also contributed to promote awareness by disseminating information. Instead of remaining at the level of individuals, NGOs have started adopting strategic approaches, not only towards short term solutions but solutions that could solve problems on a long term strategy.

NGOs in Namsai District of Arunachal Pradesh

NGOs were set up in Namsai as functional devices for practical reasons. The state was regarded as the planner as well as implementer of development programmes. One of the lessons of five year plans was that the state agencies are too inflexible to adapt themselves to local needs which are essential for grassroots development. Indisputably, the state policies of welfare programmes, Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-1990) and Rajiv Gandhi's call to NGOs in 1980s have enhanced and created a fertile ground for the NGOs to emerge prominently.

The State does not implement welfare programmes effectively in Namsai as it is a remote area or lacks a strong political will. The State Government of Arunachal Pradesh tried to compensate by promoting and encouraging NGOs to seek assistance from various funding agencies for working with the marginalized

communities. Consequently, the State acknowledged the role of NGOs in maintaining tribal welfare programmes in tribal areas and allowed them greater autonomy to raise funds from funding agencies and from Government agencies. Unquestionably, the State encourages institutional set up for NGOs to organize and mobilize resources at different levels.

The NGOs in Namsai do not directly challenge or threaten the State but they have become significant participants in facilitating the process of democratization in Namsai. Therefore, they have recognized NGOs as the partners of development. NGOs in Namsai are found working at the grass roots level which represents voluntarism.

The most significant factors for the growth and expansion of the NGOs in Namsai sub-division is due to the failure of the State in promoting rural development programmes and its inability to reach the poor effectively. Frustration with the government programmes led the local community to look at NGOs as an alternative to the State and expect them to implement various development programmes in the area.

Regarding health conditions in the area, it is found that malaria; typhoid and tuberculosis are common ailments in the district. Malarial deaths are more common as several parts of the district encounter malaria epidemic in the past years. The District Hospital in Namsai has only a few doctors with nurses and there is no sufficient specialist available. Paramedic and support staff is nominal. The basic infrastructures such as ultra sound system, X-Ray facility and operation theatre and are also not available at the moment.

Patients have to travel to Dibrugarh, Itanagar and Guwahati (Assam) for the more serious ailments, many having to travel on foot for long distances. Immunization programmes are poorly implemented and there are incidents of infant or child mortality. A huge area deprived of regular medical and health care facilities. In such a scenario, NGOs with different backgrounds have slowly risen in number as people began to repose faith in them more than in the government sector.

The Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Society, Chonkham was formed as a organization to work among the marginalized people as well as empower local ethnic people. Basically, this NGO tries to follow Gandhian ideology of discipline, non-violence, truth and self-sufficiency.

Another NGO, **The Socio-economic Welfare Association** was formed to promote holistic development to the community with a Reformist ideology with reference to promotion of socio economic development.

The Tai Khampti Development Society came into existence with the sole motive of reviving the lost cultural heritage of the tribe. It has revivalism and reformism as the basis of their ideology.

The Women Welfare Society, which was the only women's organization and it remains defunct today was established with the aim to empower women, introduce adult education and help children.

Finally, Mahabodhi Moitri Mandala, Arunachal Branch emerged from a religious movement with a Buddhism ideology to provide charity to the poor and the needy. It was established by religious leaders who found that adopting the label of an NGO has facilitated the raising of funds and the scopes to operate in development works has more better chance in the spiritual growth for the people.

1. Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Society, Chonkham:

It was established in 1978 as a secular non-profit organization by Rev Prajnashil Bhikkhu , Chow Thanin Mansai along with a group of humanitarian motivated friends.

The organization owes its existence to a grave-concern for the poor and the suffering humanity dubbed with conviction. It has been rendering various welfare services not only in Namsai, but even in other districts like Lohit Chanlang district. It functions without any discrimination based on caste, creed, tribe, religion, race, nationality or place of origin. In order to achieve its goals, Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Society attempts integrated development of agriculture, empowerment of tribal people, afforestation, healthcare, conservation and regeneration of the environment and ecosystem.

The vision of Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Society is to assist the poor through holistic development programmes. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is the baseline of this organization. This organization endorsed that economic development has to be initiated by the people for their own economic sustainability. Poor people as subjects of economic development should play a key role in this search for alternative development process. The NGO translated the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) into programmes such as eradication of

poverty, empowering tribal people, combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other disease besides ensuring environmental sustainability. The emerging search for alternative economic pattern will avoid the process of pauperization of the rural masses. The NGO visualizes itself as an organization that seeks to improve the economic prospects of the rural poor by providing them with skills, food, clothing and medical care. In other words, it means a life that allows each individual to achieve his/her potential to grow fully and they can be without being suppressed or exploited. The health-care programmes are continuously implementing in favour of the local community on preventive and curative measures.

The annual reports, files and documents were maintained by the staff and made available to any interested researchers during their office hours. The head office is situated at Chonkham and the branch office as well as mailing office is located in Tezu, Lathao, etc.

Relative poverty is an integral part of the life of substantial segment of the population. However, the works of Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Society in their midst has provided them a helping hand to a certain extent.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Society, Chonkham reveals the way the organization operates their functions in every project that they undertake.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Society:

GOVERNING BODY

PRESIDENT

GENERAL SECRETARY

JOINT SECRETARY

EXECUTIVE MEMBER

TREASURER

2. The Socio-economic Welfare Association:

It was established in 2013 to promote holistic development to the community with a Reformist ideology with reference to promotion of socio economic development, work for the upliftment of socio-economic status of the people of Namsai Sub-Division (Lohit District), create general mass awareness and target intervention of social evil practices in the society, uplift the poor social status of the general people of Namsai Sub-Division, the deteriorating economic and financial status of the poor economically backward people of the area, improve the moral, educational, health, hygienic, socio-cultural of the people living within the area of operation, create awareness for preservation of variegated cultures and social values in the area, promote unity and fraternity understanding among the people, irrespective of caste, creed, religion etc., eradicate social evils such as intoxications like Opium & contraband drugs & its trafficking in the society, bring the misguided youths such as intoxicant to drugs, opium, wine, ganja and any other bad addictions to the mainstream of the society for the peaceful coexistence, work with other big organizations, both governmental and non-governmental anywhere for the developmental works of the society and the mankind, organize recreational activities like cultural and sports programmes to divert the youths of the society from the evil practices.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF The Socio-economic Welfare Association:

GOVERNING BODY

PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT

GENERAL SECRETARY

JOINT SECRETARY

FINANCE SECRETARY

CHIEF AUDITOR

AUDITOR

CO-ORDINATOR

ADVISOR

3. The Tai Khampti Development Society

The **Tai Khampti Development Society** came into existence with the sole motive of reviving the lost cultural heritage of the tribe. It has revivalism and reformism as the basis of their ideology. It was formed with a view to provide helping hand to the Premier organization of the Society i.e “TAI KHAMPTI DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL”, a common platform for the Tai Khampti people for preservation, protection, revival, promotion and development of age old culture, tradition, Language, custom and Heritage etc., promote tourism in Tai Khampti area in particular and Arunachal Pradesh in general, develop socio-economic status of the society, conduct competition among the Tai Khampti. People in the field of culture , Games, Literacy, Handicraft, Handlooms etc., make documentation of the history & culture of Tai-Khampti people in written form, provide a venue for exhibition/Sale of Handicraft, Handlooms, Medicines, Agricultural products, Khampti Martial Arts etc., give an opportunity for the khampti people to know & meet each other, provide a platform for discussion of social, Traditional, Economical, Cultural, customary problems etc., safeguard the interest of the Tai-Khampti people and their rights over land and natural resources, provide a platform for exhibition of Talent & Knowledge of the Khampti people among themselves, provide scholarship to Tai-Khampti students, print the age old Tai- Khampti religious books and its translation, encourage the upcoming younger generations in the field of Art, Culture, Sports, Singings, Educations, etc., provide a platform for the Younger generations to know and learn the age old Tradition, Custom, Language , Culture , History etc., conduct food festivals, Provide an opportunity to the younger generation for extending respect and regard to the elders (Kantoe, Poo-mey, Pathaw), install academic excellence awards in cash to toppers in class X & XII of the community, extend financial help to the talented students of the Society for higher studies by providing long term loans with low interest rate, conduct census of the Tai Khampti people, conduct Miss & Mr. Tai Khampti Society, eradicate social evils, protect the unity and integrity of the Society, protect and safeguard the rich flora & fauna of the area, stop infiltration of outsiders, keep vigils on the activities of the public servants, maintain peace and harmony among the people and help administration in preventing unlawful activities, protect traditional monuments, scripts, literatures etc., help the people during Flood, Draughts, Famine, Fire Accidents etc., stop un-authorized settlement in Tai Khampti Area by outsiders and people from other districts, check illegal issue of ST certificate to the non-khampti, check illegal migration of outsiders, conduct AIDS awareness campaign, initiate for anti Drugs campaign, teach khampti script to its members by organizing adult education training programme and night schools for adults and by introducing the Tai Khampti script in schools to the younger generation.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF Arunachal Pali Vidyapith Society:

GOVERNING BODY

PRESIDENT

GENERAL SECRETARY

JOINT SECRETARY

EXECUTIVE MEMBER

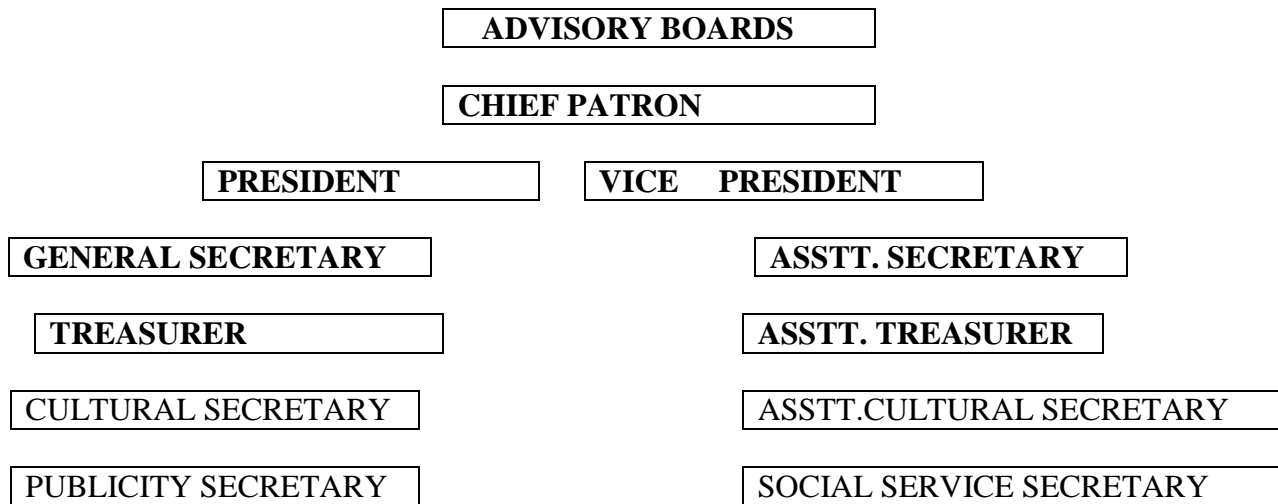
TREASURER

4. The Women Welfare Society:

The Women Welfare Society was formed as a women's organization in Namsai district. This organization was registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 but it did not have Foreign Contributions Regulation Act (FCRA).

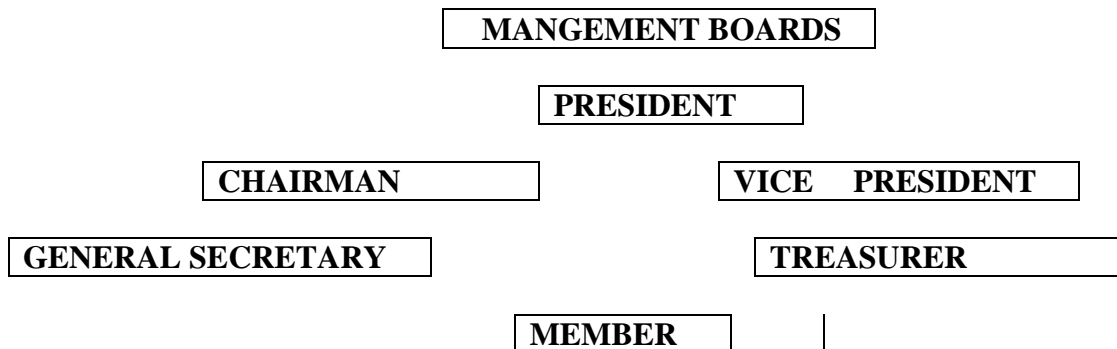
The organization started its works with enthusiasm to promote the socio-economic condition of the society as a whole with particular regards for the down trodden section of the societies. This organization is manly associated with all kinds of social services and to influence & eradicate the social evils practices like opium and other drug addiction.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF The Women Welfare Society:



5. Mahabodhi Moitri Mandala, Arunachal Branch.

It was formed as a faith-based organization by a handful of religious leaders. It is primarily committed to the values, principles and philosophy of Buddhism. It is branch of Mahabodhi Maitri Mandala , Bangalore. Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru, is a Buddhist Charitable Organization established in 1956 by the Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita with the main objective of putting into practice the teachings of Bhagawan Buddha through meditation, selfless service, imparting education, serving the sick and needy people. Moral upliftment (SILA), mental purity (SAMADHI) and deeper wisdom (PANYA) are the basis for all these noble causes. Ultimately a healthy society is defined by how peaceful and happy the people are. The MBS strives to achieve that goal collectively in collaboration with likeminded people, organizations and government.

Management Structure of the Organization**Social Background of the respondents.**

This paper focuses social background of the respondents. To collect the information of the President & Secretary, official staff and beneficiaries the questions were asked to the existing President/Secretary about their age, education, occupation, founder of the organization, Profile of the founder of the organization , Educational qualification of the founder , Developmental activities to which he/she was associated with, prior to establishment of the organization , Professional expertise of the founder, Brief history of the organization , Mission, vision and objectives of the organization , Expertise of the organization , Total number of programmes run by the organization, Themes and issues covered by the organization , Staffing pattern of the organization , Major donors to the organization , Important milestones achieved by the organization and Financial Information, age, marital status, religion, occupation, type of family .

Male and Female-wise Distribution of President and Secretary in NGOs:

The data in respect of sex-wise distribution of the President and Secretary are presented in the table 1.1

Table 1.1
Sex-wise distribution of the President & Secretary in NGOs

Sr. No	Sex	Frequency	Percentage
1	Male	8	80
2	Female	2	20
Total		10	100

The data collated in the table 1.1 show that, there are 8 (80 percent) male members out of 10 members, who are working in 5 selected NGOs for socio-economic development in Namsai district of Arunachal Pradesh, while remaining 2 (20 Percent) are female members. There are less female members in the organization because they are busy in domestic work, housekeeping work and they could not get time to participate in organizational activities.

Age of the President and Secretary of NGOs:

The data regarding age of the President and Secretary of selected NGOs are presented in the table 1.2

Table 1.2
Age-wise Distribution of President and Secretary

Sl. No	Age of the executive body member	No. of Members	Percentage
1	11 to 20	0	0
2	21 to 30	0	0
3	31 to 40	1	10
4	41 to 50	6	60
5	51 to 60	2	20
6	61 and above	1	10

The data presented in the table 1.2 reveal that, (1 or 10 percent) of the President and Secretary were belonging to the age category of 31 to 40 years, 6 (60 percent) those belonging to the age category 41 to 50 years and those belonging to 21 to 30 years (0 and 0 percent respectively). Out of remaining President and Secretary 2 (20 percent) belonged to the age category 51 to 60 years and the rest were belonged to the age category having 61 or more age. From the above data it is reflected that, majority of the president and secretary belonged to the age group of 41 to 50 years.

Educational Status of the President and Secretary of NGOs:

The data regarding the educational status of the president and secretary are presented in the table 1.3

Table 1.3
Educational Status of the President and Secretary

Sr. No.	Education of the executive body member	No. of Members	Percentage
1	8th to 10th Standard	0	0
2	11th to 12th Standard	0	0
3	Graduate	8	80
4	Post Graduate	1	10
5	Diploma, [Diploma Course]	0	
6	D. Ed., B.Ed., M.Ed.	0	

7	M. Phil. and Ph. D.	0	
8	L.L.B	0	
9	M.S.W		
10	M.B.B.S	1	10
	Total	10	100

The data collated in the table 1.3 reveals that, all the President and Secretary working in the NGOs were literate. The presented data indicate that, there is highest number of educational status of graduates is 8 (80 percent) followed by, post-graduate level education has been taken by 1 member. Few President and Secretary, who are having professional courses like D.Ed., B.Ed., M.Ed., and M. Phil., are working at various places; they only participate in organizational activities in holidays. Some of the President and Secretary are graduates and postgraduates are having their own business and they can participate in organizational activities so their number is more than others. The number of President and Secretary who are having 7th Std. to 12th Std. education is 0 (0 percent) and Two of the President and Secretary 2 (20 percent) are doctors, lawyers, engineers, social workers and Ph.D. holders. Though they are from different occupations they are working in various organizations for societal development in Namsai District. It is noticed that, persons who are working in teaching profession, their number is less in comparison to other professions.

Occupational Structure of the President and Secretary of NGOs:

The data regarding occupational structure of the President and Secretary of selected NGOs are presented in the table 1.4

Table 1.4
Occupational Structure of the President and Secretary

Sr. No	Occupation	No. of Members	Percentage
1	Service in Govt./Private Sector	4	40
2	Own Business	1	10
3	Agriculture	0	0
4	House Wife	0	0
5	Student	0	0
6	Professionals, Physician, Lawyer, Reporter, Engineer1	2	20
7	Teacher	1	10
8	Retired Person	0	0
9	Researcher/Scientist	0	0
10	Social workers	2	20
	Total	10	100

The data presented in the table 1.4 reflected that, 4 (40 percent) President and Secretary who are working in government, semi-government and private sectors are more in number than other occupations because they are economically sound and stable so they can participate in organizational activities constituted single largest category. The members who are having their own business 1 (10 percent) are at the last position. The President and Secretary who are farmers and house wives are in minimum in number because there is less social awareness among them. It is also significantly noticed that, teachers are in more number working in environmental organization. The physician, lawyer and reporters are two in number because they are engaged in socio economic development and the respondents said that they could not get spare time. The engineers and scientists are well qualified and they have desire to work for society.

Position of the Executive Body Members in the NGOs:

The data regarding the position held by different executive body members in the organization are presented in table 1.5

Table 1.5 Position of the Executive Body Members

Sr. No	Position in Organization	No. of Members	Percentage
1	President	5	14.26
2	Vice-President	5	14.26
3	Secretary	5	14.26
4	Treasure	5	14.26
5	Member	10	28.56
	Total	35	100

The data carefully collated in the table 1.5 reveal that, a majority 10 (or 28.56 percent) of the executive body members of the different NGOs were having members, followed by, 5 (or 14.26 percent) of the executive body members were presidents, 5 (or 14.26 percent) were Secretary, 5 (14.26 percent) were vice-president and 5 (or 14.26 percent) were Treasures of the executive body members of the different NGOs in Namsai District.

Fulltime Volunteers working in selected NGOs in Namsai District:

The data regarding full time volunteers/officers in NGOs are presented in the table 1.6

Table 1.6
Fulltime Volunteers in the NGOs

Sl. No	Full Time Volunteers	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	4	80
2	No	1	20
	Total	5	100

The data collated in the table 1.6 clearly shows that, the majority 4 (or 80 percent) organizations were not having full time volunteers in their NGOs and the remaining 1 (or 20) organizations were having full time volunteers.

Generally the performance of NGOs are assessed by their powerful stakeholders such as regulatory bodies and the donors instead of being assessed by the weak but directly influenced stakeholders like employees and the beneficiaries (Unerman and O'Dwyer, 2006; Hyndman and McDonnell, 2009; Ebrahim, 2003). This situation brings imbalances of power in the mechanism of NGO accountability (de Montclos, 2012). Because, by using their influence over the NGOs, donors may structure a coercive system of accountability by demanding specific measurable results and beneficiary information (Mir & Bala, 2015). If the unbalanced accountability sustains for longer period it may challenge the achievement of NGOs' target of providing social welfare to the beneficiaries (O'Dowyer and Unerman, 2008; Murtaza, 2012). However, if the donors work with the aim of helping the NGOs to perform better in achieving their missions through ensuring tighter upward accountability, this will encourage the NGOs to discharge effective accountability to the beneficiaries (Nicholls, 2009). On the contrary, Mir and Bala (2015) from their study discourages and encourages accountability to beneficiaries (Benjamin, 2012; Christensen and Ebrahim, 2006). Moreover, Jacobs and Wilford (2010) found two factors that motivate implementation of accountability towards the beneficiaries. Firstly, commitment of the management of the NGOs to support the functions of the staff working in the field; and secondly, the attitude of the field staff to make the beneficiaries confident about solving their own problems by themselves through releasing some powers to the beneficiaries. Ospina et al., (2002) voiced in the same way as Jacobs and Wilford (2010). They argued that the moral obligation of the management of the NGOs to help the beneficiaries is a factor that motivates NGOs to discharge beneficiary accountability.

Ospina et al. (2002) and Schmitz et al. (2012) opined that the NGOs can reduce irregularities in accountability due to the power gap between the upward and downward stakeholders through proactive and engaging

communication with the beneficiaries. Therefore Banks et al. (2015) Baruah, (2015) argue that personnel with higher degree of beneficiary understanding are more required than higher educated and knowledgeable ones to address the issue of beneficiary accountability more properly. Moreover Romzek et al. (2012) depict that accountability towards the beneficiaries is mainly discharged through nonprocedural methods and it is determined by the facilitative actions (e.g. frequent and easy communication) and shared norms (e.g. faith) of the relationships among different NGOs and the beneficiaries.

Beneficiaries are the raison d'être of NGOs. It is because of them that the NGOs exist. A knowledge of beneficiaries in terms of various indicators helps the NGOs to get a better understanding of its target group.

Age composition:

In the present study age is an important factor in understanding the socio-economic status of an individual. The biological age determines the physical and mental maturity of an individual. Sociologically, denotes the status of an individual in an age group be that her family, kinship or other larger and organized groups of society. The age of the beneficiary is an important independent variable which affects their participation and role in the process of development.

The distribution of respondents (beneficiary) according to age is shown in Table 1.7

Table - 1.7

Age composition of respondents

Age group	Frequency	Percentage
20-30	3	8.57
31-40	6	17.14
41 above	26	74.29
	35	100

Table 1.7 indicates that 3 (8.57 per cent) of the respondents are in the age group of 20 - 30 years and 6 (17.14 per cent) belong to the age group of 31 - 40 years and 26 (74.29 per cent) respondents belong to the age groups of 41 and above age groups.

Education of the respondents:

Education plays a major part in the formation of human capital of a society and hence provides a strong foundation for the socio-economic development of the country by raising the efficiency and productivity of the individual members and turns them as skilled manpower, ensuring a sustainable economy (Memon, 2007). Education provides for none other than the skills, knowledge and capabilities through which the individuals have to be nurtured and developed in order "to produce the required manpower in adequate quality and quantity", which signifies a key objective of the educational institutions at all level such as schools, colleges, universities (Fasasi, 2011).

Education is one of most important variables that play a key role in the advancement of human capitals across the world. Numerous research studies provide it that "the pace of economic growth of the developed countries could not be achieved without the stock of human capital" (Javed et al, 2008). In addition, education provides other noneconomic benefits, such as nation building and socialization (World Bank, 2012).

Education is the key that opens the door in life, which is essentially social in character (Chandrakala, 1969). The level of education of respondents is an important indicator for the understanding of the present and future status of respondents in selected NGOs.

The educational profile of the respondents is shown in Table 1.8

Table – 1.8

Educational level of the staff

Sr. No.	Education of the executive body member	No. of Members	Percentage
1	8th to 10th Standard	0	0

2	11th to 12th Standard	1	2.86
3	Graduate	23	65.71
4	Post Graduate	3	8.57
5	Diploma, [Diploma Course	5	14.29
6	D. Ed., B.Ed., M.Ed.	1	2.86
7	M. Phil. and Ph. D.	0	0
8	L.L.B	0	0
9	M.S.W	1	2.86
10	M.B.B.S	1	2.86
11	Total	35	

Table 1.8 shows that the respondents of staff 1 (2.86 per cent) are 11th to 12th Standard, 23 (65.71 per cent) have graduation, Respondents 3 (8.57 per cent) 8.57 have post graduate and 1(2.86 percent) D. Ed., B.Ed., M.Ed. One (2.86 percent) has M.S.W and another remaining one has M.B.B.S. The data clearly indicate that the all of the respondents are literate.

Religious composition of the respondents:

In the present study information is collected about the religion of the respondents. In Namsai District Buddhism constitute a majority. This is also evident in the present study. Table 1.9 explains religious composition of the respondents.

Table – 1.9
Religious composition of the respondents

Religion	Frequency	Percentage
Buddhism	33	94.29
Hindu	2	5.71
Muslim	0	0
Jain	0	0
Christian	0	0

Table 1.9 indicates that 33 (94.29 per cent) respondents are Buddhism, 2 (5.71 per cent) respondents are Hindu. In the present study there were no Jain, Muslim and Christian respondents.

Occupation of the respondents:

In order to know the economic background of the respondents data were collected in regard to their occupation. Table 1.10 represents occupation of the respondents.

Table 1.10
Occupation of the respondents.

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Agriculture	2	5.71
Service	32	91.43
Business	1	2.86
Family occupation	0	0

Table 1.10 indicates that 2 (5.71 per cent) out of 35 respondents of staff are engaged in agriculture, 32 (91.43 per cent) are service holder, 1 (2.86 percent) respondents said that their main occupation is in business, and There are no respondents are engaged in family occupation.

Marital status of the respondents:

Marriage is an important determinant of an individual status in society. Marriage gives social prestige and involves performance of social roles. In traditional Indian society marriage is considered as an important sacrament of life and without it many religious, social obligations can not be fulfilled. Westermarck (1926) observes, "Marriage is a more or less durable connection between male and female, lasting beyond the mere act of procreation". According to Kapadia (1966) "marriage is a source of personal gratification as well as extension of social relations, and responsibility". As a social institution, it is a union regulated by custom and law. In every society sex has two aspects-. The mating aspect and their productive aspect. Marriage covers both these aspects. It satisfies the individual desire for mating as also his or her desire for having off springs. The data collected on this aspect is presented in table 1.12

Table 1.12

Marital status of the respondents:

Marital status	Frequency	Percentage
Married	5	14.29
Un married	30	85.71
Total	35	100

The following pattern emerges from table 1.12 The largest proportion of 30 (85.71 per cent) respondents of staff out of 35 are married. Only 5 (14.29 per cent) are un-married.

Type of family of respondents:

Family structure is another expected area of change due to the ongoing development processes. The data on type of respondents family and their parents' family is indicative of change at the inter generational level. Information has been collected regarding the type of family of the respondents.

In the present study two types of families are identified. They are joint family and nuclear family. For the purpose of the study accepted definitions are given below.

According to Mendlebaum (1960) "The Joint family in India consists typically a set of men related as father and son or brothers together with their wives and children. It is generally a unique consumption and a unit of production where property is held in common under the trustship of the eldest male member, usually all the members of joint-family feed from a common kitchen and have a single purse".

Murdock (1967) observes, "The term nuclear family refers to group consisting of men and women and their socially recognized children. "It is needless to say that the children refers to un-married children. Table 1.13 gives information about type of family of the respondents.

Table-1.13

Type of family of the respondents

Type of family	Frequency	Percentage
Nuclear family	33	94.29
Joint family	2	5.71
	35	100

An examination of data indicates that, 33 (94.29 per cent) of the respondents have nuclear family system and 2 (5.71 per cent) have joint family system. The sample, therefore, represents two major types of families in the study area. However, the data evince variations when viewed comparatively at micro levels.

It is quite interesting to note that a majority of respondents are from nuclear families. Actually joint family system is the representative family type in rural areas since centuries, but they are slowly disappearing. An

eager desire to lead independent life with personal assets for proper accommodation would have led to the formation of nuclear families, which permits them to spend their earnings as they like.

STRENGTH, PROBLEMS AND WEAKNESSES OF THE NGOs

One problem confronting the NGOs in Namsai district is the dependence on development assistance from the State and the Central government. Besides, some of the NGOs are also dependent on international funding agencies. The constant dependency of the NGOs cause a problem since they lost their autonomy to a certain extent as the funding agencies often promulgate their views and approaches in the implementation of various programmes to ensure the guarantee of success. The partial dependence on foreign donors diverted them away from opportunities that are easily available at the local level. It is a universal phenomenon that NGOs are always accountable to the foreign donors overseas.

The strength of NGOs is that they have achieved results when the State has failed especially where local community participation and self-help schemes are needed. The economic crisis calls for creative approaches that only NGOs are likely to provide. On several occasions, NGOs are well aware of the local needs and demands. They are informal, less bureaucratic, speedy and close to the grass-root. They have the potential to reach rural poor where government programmes either are limited, non-existent or ineffective. They have the advantages of flexibility in NGOs not only work to meet the basic needs of the economically backward communities of people in Namsai district but also assist them to achieve self reliance and help them to explore and articulate their developmental needs and priorities.

The basic problems faced by NGOs and their weaknesses include poor maintenance of proper records of their performances, not very effective infrastructure and operation. Moreover, they adopt innovative and experimental approaches encompassing institutional, structural and attitudinal changes. They are also known for their active role in emergencies and organizing relief activities by implementing various programmes, dealing with the local community and government officials. Another problem is the fact that only a few of the NGOs have experienced and devoted social workers for effective implementation of developmental projects.

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