

Justification against Sl. No. ii - Evaluation of 3 sites undertaken in 2011 & 2012

Three sites were identified by the Government of Mizoram at **Lengpui, Thenzawl and Sialsuk**. The Technical Evaluation of the 3 sites was submitted by the Prof. S.S. Gokhale, Mentor Director, NIT Mizoram vide letter dated **3rd September, 2011**. The Technical evaluation report identified that Lengpui was acceptable, Thenzawl was far away from Airport, city and proposed railway station and Sialsuk was unacceptable. The copy of the Letter dated 03.11.2011 along with the Technical Evaluation report is enclosed as **Annexure-(ii)-I**.

Later, the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Government of India constituted a Site Selection Committee vide Order dated **25th November, 2011**. The Site Selection Committee evaluated the sites at Thenzawl and Lengpui and submitted their report vide letter dated **11th April, 2012**. The Committee gave detailed justification for recommending the land at Lengpui. Copy of Order dated 25.11.2011 and letter dated 11.04.2012 are enclosed as **Annexure-(ii)-II**.

The major location factors were identified by the Committee were - **Faculty** (Good students, educational facility to their wards, good social life beyond campus, good market around, medical facility, accessibility to interact with other Institutes in the country), **Student** (Accessibility, Supplementary Learning, Faculty, Campus Placement), **Interaction of Experts from outside**.

The Committee found the land at Thenzawl was far away from the capital city Aizawl (108 kms) and the Airport (142 kms), national highways and proposed railway station. Attracting good faculty is Mizoram is a major issue which is critical for the functioning and growth of an institute.

The Site Selection Committee found Lengpui to satisfy the essential criteria for setting up an Institute of National Importance as NIT Mizoram.

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Under Secretary to the Govt. of Mizoram
Department of Higher & Technical Education

Under Secretary
Higher & Technical Education Deptt.
Govt. of Mizoram



Dr. S. S. Gokhale
Director

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No. D/01
September 3, 2011

To

Mr. Lal Thanhawla
Chief Minister,
Government of Mizoram,
AIZAWL 796 001

Sir,

Last week I had an occasion to visit Mizoram in connection with the official work in University of Mizoram. I had also visited the students as well as faculty of NIT Mizoram in the capacity as Mentor Director. The first year classes of approximately 50 students have started smoothly and first sessional examinations are also over. We have recruited teaching faculty as well non-teaching staff in the month of July, who have also joined and started taking care of NIT Mizoram. A brief report is sent along with this note in the form of Information Brochure.

On earlier occasions I had visited the two sites and submitted a technical evaluation report, both to MHRD as well as Ms. Esther Lal Ruatkimi, Secretary to the Government of Mizoram, Higher & Technical Education Department, Aizawl. Copy of technical evaluation report is enclosed herewith for your ready reference. In order that NIT Mizoram becomes a preferred institute both for the students as well as for the teaching faculty, it is necessary to have easy access. At the end of the academic programme students' placement becomes extremely important. It is from this point of view that in my humble opinion a site closes to the Lengpui Airport would be much preferred one. If we fail to attract the students the whole project of setting up of NIT in Mizoram would be in difficulties. These are my suggestions only as the final decision with regard to the selection of the permanent sites solely rest with the official of the State Government and MHRD.

Thanking you and with regards.

Your sincerely,

S.S. Gokhale

Encls: 1) Information Brochure
2) Technical Evaluation Report

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Under Secretary
Higher & Technical Education Deptt.
Govt. of Mizoram

NIT Mizoram: Permanent Site Evaluation

Preamble: NIT at Mizoram would be the first of its kind in terms of full fledged technical institute imparting state of the art UG and PG education, set up in the state of Mizoram. Even though primary beneficiaries would be the students from the state of Mizoram, 50% of the student population is expected to be from outside the state. Thus it is necessary to make this residential institute stakeholder friendly. With merely 5 UG programs with student intake of 60 each, the student population would be 1200 and with faculty and non-faculty and their families this township could easily be 2000+. Movement of the students twice a year in and out of campus would have to be given a serious thought in the N-E region with challenging geographic terrain. Apart from the check-list format provided by the MHRD, following points need to be kept in mind while deciding about the permanent site. Student expectations and requirements continue to be high.

Accessibility: With one airport in Lengpui, the population in Mizoram depend largely on road transport. State transport buses are few and infrequent. Private taxi operators run Tata Sumo or Scorpio type vans. Connectivity in multiple directions to larger towns is desirable. Under ideal conditions as many transportation modes out of rail, road, air, train, as well as water transport should be available. Easier access is important even from the point of construction at the site.

Basic Infrastructure Necessities to start at new place: Reasonable flat terrain would definitely be beneficial for quicker construction at the permanent site. Though this is nearly impossible in Mizoram, gentle slope would be the next best option. Reliable and adequate supply of electricity and water is required initially for construction and then for sustained continuous operations.

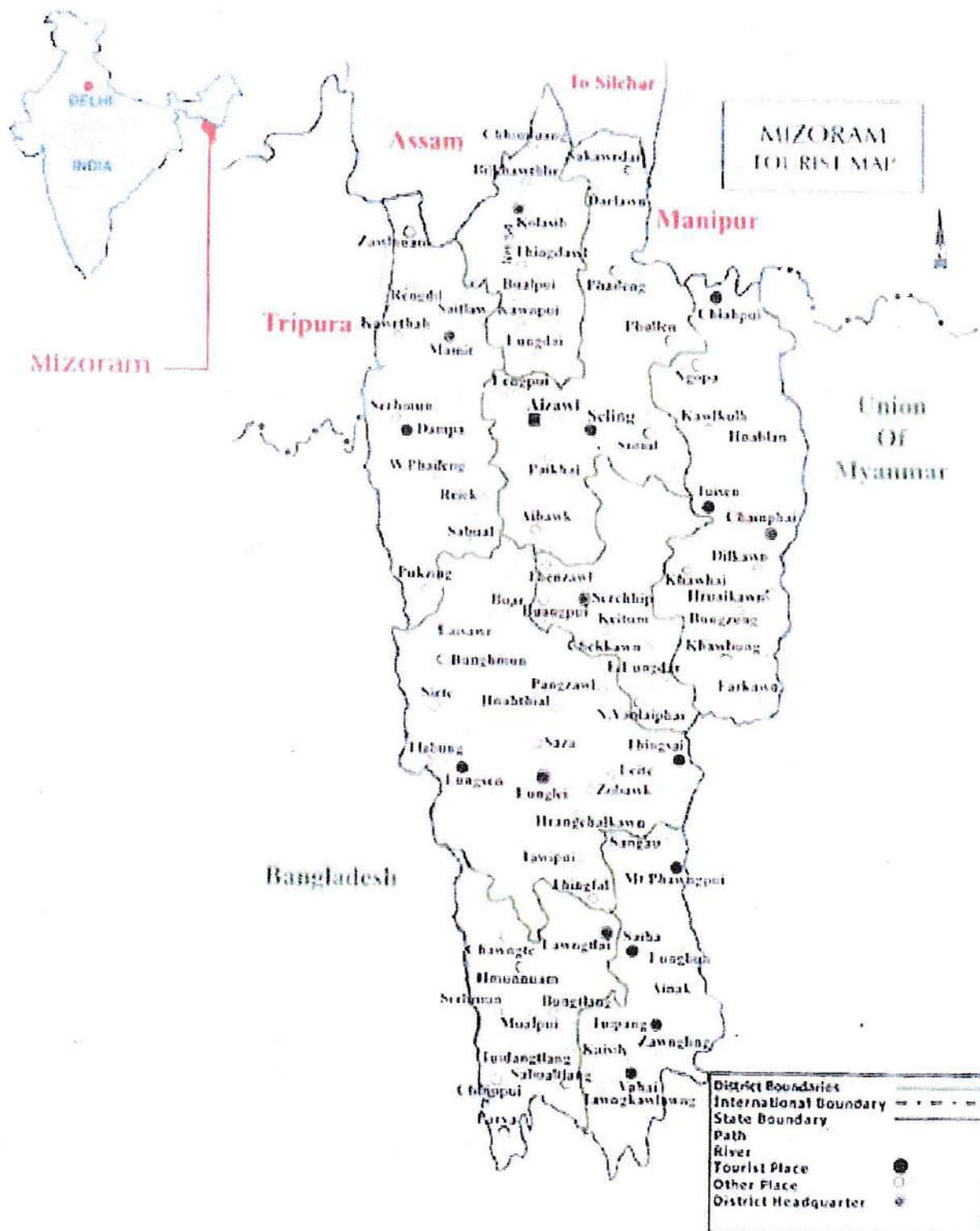
Continued Support Systems: Apart from hospitals or health care facilities, other relevant systems such as pharmacy, book shop, small eateries, petrol bunk, movie theatre, cyber cafe etc. need to be in place. The campus population can not be expected to be living in isolation in the 21st century. Even though in the wireless and technology enabled world commerce, trade and communication is possible in remote sense, one also needs access to real physical world.

Interface with External World: On an academic campus there will be movement of other academicians, researchers or experts for various activities. Towards the end of academic program, job placement is the most important activity from student's point of view. Companies would be reluctant to go in the deep interior requiring long distance travel and more time to reach there. This would hamper student's chances resulting in student dissatisfaction and disillusionment.

During all visits members of Village Council were present. They were all willing to offer land belonging to Village Council for the Institute. They were also ready to spare as much land as required for the Institute. It is presumed that the land mentioned will be made available. Village council does not have exact land record or survey details. Village Council will pass the resolution and then Revenue Department shall make the measurement and then only exact area will be known. The terrain being hilly and land measurement is along the surface which is at inclination, actual horizontal space available is lesser. If hills are steeper, land requirement is higher. Land requirement is suitably altered, depending upon type of terrain to obtain around 300 Acres of plain land.

Mizoram does not have railway, but it is planned till village Sairang which should be functional in 4-5 years and upto Lunglei in next phase, as informed by locals. Presently last railhead is taken as Silchar. Distances mentioned are from the proposed site.

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Village / Visit Date	Thenzawl 5/7/2011	Lengpui 6/7/2011	Sialsuk 12/2/2011
District	Sirchip	Aizawl	Aizawl
Road Distance of site from Aizawl, km	95 (Hill road, State Highway), 3 Hours	35 (Hill Road, National Highway), 1 Hour	60 (Hill road, State Highway), 2 Hours
Distance from Silchar, railhead	235 km, 7.5 Hours	120 km, 3.5 Hours	200 km, 6 Hours
Distance from Airport	130 km, 4 Hours	4 km, 10 Minutes	95 km, 3 Hours
Distance from Proposed Railhead at Sairang	130 km, 4 Hours	10 km, 30 minutes	95 km, 3 Hours
Distance from Village	6 km (Including 3 km dirt road)	2.5 km (Including 0.5 Km dirt road)	3 km
Strategic location	Central to Mizoram, away from entry to Mizoram by Road, Rail and Air. Location suitable to all students from state. State is planning lot of developments around Thenzawl	Northern part of Mizoram, best for other state students, guest lectures, experts, campus interview. Suitable for interaction with people outside Mizoram. Close to Aizawl.	Central to Mizoram, away from entry to Mizoram by Road, Rail and Air. Location suitable to all students from state.
Village Population	10,000	5,000	2,000
School	Navodaya Vidyalaya (10+2), 4 km Other Educational Facilities at Aizawl - 95 km, Lunglei - 75 km	State School (10) functioning, +2 under construction - 2 km Other Educational facilities at Aizawl - 35 km	State School upto 10th Other Educational facilities at Aizawl - 60 km
Hospital	30 Bedded Community Health Center - functional - 7 km Referral Hospital - 85 km City Hospitals - 95 bed	30 Bedded Community Health Center - Ready - 2 km Referral Hospital - 45 km City Hospitals - 35 bed	No Hospital in Village Referral Hospital - 50 km City Hospitals - 60 bed
Bank	SBI, ATM - 6 km	SBI, ATM - 3 km	--
Other Establishments around	Police Training Institute, - 4 km Forest Colony - 4 km	Airport - 4 km Military / Police establishment coming up near by. Railway station coming up nearby.	--
Guest House	Tourist Guest House	Tourist Guest House	--
Single Piece	Yes	Yes	Yes
Road Passing Through	No	No	No
Forest Land	No	No	No


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Water Availability	Yes, Small River, Ground Water Available, State shall provide water.	Yes, Perennial River, State shall provide water. Three water streams within the land that can be converted into large pond	State is expected to provide water.
Security	Road and River act as two boundaries	River makes the hill as end of available land in the direction	Road on one side, nearly vertical slope on other side
Industries around	--	Small wood industry	--
Type of land	Terrain made of small hillocks, most suitable location to do construct in the state. If land identified for Golf Club is given this shall be the best construction site possible in the state.	Two / Three Large Hills, decent slope. Construction is common in similar locations in the state.	Two / Large Hills. Heavy slope, Difficult to construct
Trees	Very few small trees, only Grass in major area, Trees in some part. Land does not belong to forest department	Land is covered by tall grass, small trees. Land does not belong to forest department.	Land is covered by dense forest, old large trees. Land does not belong to forest department
Land requirement for the terrain	400-500 Acres	500-600 Acres	1000 acres (2.5 km x 1.5 km offered)
Summary	<p>Site is acceptable subject to availability of land but not desirable</p> <p><u>Pros</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central to Mizoram • Most Easy to construct • Larger village is around <p><u>Cons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult to access for students and other visitors coming from other states, • Away from city (Aizawl) 	<p>Site is acceptable subject to availability of land</p> <p><u>Pros</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy to access for students and other visitors coming from other states, • Closer to city (Aizawl) <p><u>Cons</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not in the centre of Mizoram 	Site is not acceptable as forest is required to cut, large slopes hence difficult to construct, isolated place

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 Higher & Technical Education Deptt.
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Thenzawl



Lengpui



Sialsuk

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NIT-Mizoram, Aizawl
 Serial No. 345
 Date of Receipt: 5/1/2012

Most Immediate

No.F. 23-13/2009-TS.III
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

New Delhi, the 25th November, 2011

ORDER


Subject : Site Selection Committee for establishment of NIT – regarding.

In continuation of this Ministry's Order of even number dated 30-10-2009 regarding setting up of new NITs, it has been decided to constitute a committee to ascertain the suitability of sites recommended by the respective State Governments / Mentor Directors for the purpose of setting up of permanent campus of NIT. The Site Selection Committee would be comprised of the following:-

i)	Special Secretary / Joint Secretary, MHRD	Convener
ii)	Principal Secretary, Higher and Technical Education of the concerned State Government	Member
iii)	Director / Director designated of the concerned NIT	Member
iv)	Mentor Director of the concerned NIT	Member
v)	Superintendent / Executive Engineering (Civil), CPWD in the concerned State	Member

2. The Committee will visit sites to ascertain their suitability and give recommendations thereon.

3. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.


 (Rajesh Singh)
 Deputy Secretary (NITs)
 Tel: 23073687

- i) Shri Ashok Thakur, Special Secretary, MHRD, New Delhi.
- ii) Directors/ Mentor Directors of 10 new NITs.
- iii) Principal Secretaries, Higher and Technical Education as per list attached.

Copy to :

- i) Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, Ministry of Human Resource Development, New Delhi.
- ii) PSO to Secretary (HE)
- iii) PA to Joint Secretary (DL/T)/ DS (NITs)

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 1/3/22
 Under Secretary
 Higher & Technical Education Deptt.
 Govt. of Mizoram

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राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, मिजोरम
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, MIZORAM
(An Autonomous Institute under MHRD, Govt. of India)

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Prof.U.C Ray
Director, NIT-Mizoram
Mb-09431750841

NIT-M/C-46 /2011/ 506

Date: 11 APR 2012

To

Smt.Esther Lalruatkimi
Secretary
Higher & Technical Education
Govt.of Mizoram

Subject: Report of the Site Selection Committee (SSC) constituted by
MHRD for the Selection of permanent site for National
Institute of Technology-Mizoram.


Madam,

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of duly signed Report of the
Site Selection Committee (SSC) for the above mentioned purpose.

The same is sent to you for favour of your kind information and
immediate action please.

Thanking you

Encl.: As above


11.04.2012
(PROF.U.C RAY)


13/22
Under Secretary
Higher & Technical Education Deptt.
Govt. of Mizoram

Report of the Site Selection Committee (SSC) constituted by MHRD for the Selection of permanent site for National Institute of Technology Mizoram under Chairmanship of Shri Ashok Thakur, Special Secretary to GOI on 17th and 18th Jan, 2012

National Institute of Technology (NIT), Mizoram is presently functioning from its temporary site at Aizawl, Mizoram. The Institute admitted students of first and second batch in July 2010 and July 2011 respectively. The first batch who were in the campus of NIT Nagpur till recently have shifted to the campus in Aizawl and now all the students admitted to the Institute including the second batch are pursuing their studies from temporary campus at Aizawl.

In pursuance of the order of Department of Higher Education, MHRD, No. F.23 - 13/2009 - TS. III, dated 25th November 2011, the Committee visited the sites for Permanent Campus on 17th and 18th January 2012. Members of the committee were:

1. Shri. Ashok Thakur, Special Secretary, MHRD, New Delhi - Chairman
2. Ms. Esther Lalruatkimi, Secretary, Higher & Tech. Education, Govt. of Mizoram - Member
3. Dr. U C Ray, Director NIT Mizoram - Member
4. Dr. H T Thorat, Director NIT Uttarakhand (Representative of Mentor Director) - Member

The SSC met the Chief Minister of Mizoram, Shri Lal Thanhawla on 17th Jan 2012 and indicated their preference for a site near to Aizawl which is the only major urban centre in the State having good social, educational and medical infrastructure. After discussions it was agreed that it was important to select a site near to Aizawl as it will be less difficult to attract good faculty which is central to the success or otherwise of an institute. It was agreed that selection of a good site is crucial not only for the long term interest of the Institute and the students but also for the State as this is the first Institute of National Importance being set up in the State and one cannot take chances on this account. The Chief Minister ordered the District Administration and Revenue Department to offer sites closer to Aizawl including the one at Lengpui in addition to the one proposed at Thenzawl. He also asked the concerned depts to verify the piece of land at Lengpui with regard to the title of the land and the offer of the local community so that this could also be considered.

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The committee visited two sites as detailed below.

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1. Thenzawl

The State Government had initially proposed only this site. The site is about 108 km. away from Aizawl and 143 Km from the Airport, Highways and proposed Railway Station in Mizoram. The site as shown to the SSC is not a forest land and was also found suitable for construction of a large campus. Bank, school and basic hospital facilities are also available in a township nearby.

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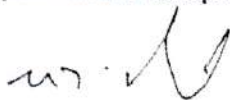
However this site has a major drawback in that it is far away from the capital city of Aizawl and still farther from airport, national highways and proposed railway station. Faculty which is critical for the functioning and growth of an institute would be reluctant to join in such a far off place. Attracting good faculty to Mizoram itself is a major issue as the temporary campus in Aizawl is experiencing and if it is further taken to a distant place within the State then the institute is destined to remain mediocre *ab initio*. Also experts from other part of the country and abroad would hesitate to come for lectures. Accessibility and a modicum of social infrastructure is very crucial /essential for retaining good faculty which alone can ensure the survival and growth of Institute of National Importance where the Govt of India would be investing around Rs 500 Crores in the next 5/8 years. The committee therefore does not recommend this site for the permanent campus of NIT Mizoram.

2. Lengpui

Members of the Village Council of Lengpui had met the Chairman of the Committee on 17th Jan 2012 and offered land in their village for NIT. A part of the SSC along with the Pr Secy TE, Govt. of Mizoram also met the Members of the Village Council at Lengpui on 18th Jan 2012 after the above decision of the Hon. Chief Minister and it was confirmed that the village community was infact willing to give land free of cost for the NIT.

The site is close to the Airport, proposed Railway Station and Highways entering the State. The site is not far from Aizawl, the capital of Mizoram which has all the modern amenities including schooling, medical and social infrastructure and therefore ideally suited for setting up an Institute of National Importance. There is no habitation on the piece land shown to the Committee and also the Revenue Deptt confirmed that it is not a Forest Land and the provisions of Forest Conservation Act are not attracted. The proximity to the Airport, railway station, highways also make it an attractive place for setting up such a large institute.

This committee therefore recommends this site at Lengpui for the establishment of permanent campus of NIT Mizoram.



Dr. H T Thorat

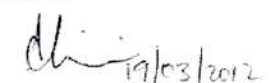


Dr. U C Ray



Shri Ashok Thakur

As the verification report is yet to be received from Revenue Department, the land at Lengpui cannot be said to be free of all encumbrances. Subject to this.


19/03/2012
Ms. Esther Lalruatkimi Under Secretary
Higher & Technical Education Deptt.
Govt. of Mizoram

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Major locational factors to be taken into consideration before deciding about permanent location of an Institution of national importance:

Faculty

Any Institute will always be known for its faculty. Quality of education imparted will depend upon the competence of faculty. Attracting good faculty is most important. The state at the moment has very few persons (with PHD in Engineering) who are eligible to join as Faculty. NIT has to attract good faculty from outside the state. The NIT which can attract best faculty from the country shall become the best Institute. Majority of the qualified and competent individuals have tendency to move upward (location wise) to have better / affluent life style. Good faculty / students are competent to go anywhere they wish to go. The parameters (related to location) which attract best faculty are as under.

Good students

Educational facility to their wards including University

Good social life beyond Institute campus

Good market around

Medical Facility (Better than the basic)

Accessibility to interact with other Institutes in the country

Student

Attracting good students is as important as attracting good faculty for any Institute which wants recognition as a good Institute. NIT Mizoram shall have 50% students from Mizoram (50% seats are reserved for the state of Mizoram). If Mizoram students need all-round development, it is essential to attract better (AIEEE rank wise) students from all over the country (50% seats are reserved for All India Quota). Students learn through their friends / company to become matured competent individuals ready to take on the world. Curriculum and faculty make them technically strong and campus life with fellow students make them strong as an individual. Attracting good students from all over the country is equally important. Issues which students consider while selecting the Institute are as under.

Accessibility

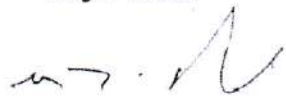

Any Institute needing large travel time to reach from /to home shall go on last priority. Travel time and travel mode can add sense of emotional insecurity in minds of students and their parents. For parents to meet their wards and for students to visit their parents, travel time will consume major component of total leave / vacation availed.

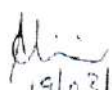
Supplementary Learning

Students while graduating also prepare for GATE, CAT, GRE etc. They need some facilities for training for these and similar competitive examinations. They wish to appear for these examinations locally. This is possible only in larger cities.

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Govt. of Mizoram


19/03/2012



Faculty

Campus Placement

Campus placement is a parameter by which many people judge the quality / level of the Institute. If officials of a company are required to waste more time travelling to conduct the interview, they will not visit the Institute at all. Remote location of the Institute shall be reflected in the number of companies visiting for campus interview. This is most crucial and cannot be ignored. Accessibility is the core issue for this. If campus placement is poor, it affects the state students more as most of the better opportunities of Industrial Placements are outside the state.

Interaction of Experts from outside

One of the important activities of Institute is to invite Experts from Industry, IITs other NITs and National level Institutes for expert lectures, joint projects, examination / evaluation, training program. The number of such experts visiting the Institute shall drastically reduce due to travel hardship.

All these issues are dependent upon accessibility of the Institute and closeness with a Major City. A remote place cannot offer these advantages irrespective of best possible infrastructure being made available. All the investment made to establish very good infrastructure shall be wasted if good teachers and students do not join this Institute.

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1/3/22

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Higher & Technical Education Deptt.
Govt. of Mizoram

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19/03/2012

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