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Socio-economic Factors of Crime: An Analysis of Age, Education, and Income Level among the Prisoners of Central Jails in Manipur

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ABSTRACT: The crime rate in India, particularly in the Northeast, has recently increased, yet research remains limited. The current study examines the socio-economic factors of criminal activity in Manipur through surveys including 416 prisoners in two central jails. The findings show that interpersonal conflicts (120 prisoners) and economic weakness (117 prisoners) are the most common factors of criminal activity. Gender variations are also recorded, with men being most influenced by interpersonal conflicts (118 cases) and women by economic factors (26 cases). Chi-square statistical analysis shows significant associations between criminal activity and age ($\chi^2 = 17.338$, $p = 0.027$) and education level ($\chi^2 = 26.194$, $p = 0.01$). The study points to the role of socio-demographic determinants in criminal activity and highlights the need for policies to address the financial struggle, education gap, and social conflicts to reduce the crime rate in the region.

1. INTRODUCTION

Social harmony, peace, tranquillity and development of the communities are largely affected and disturbed by criminal activities from within and outside the region. Violating the legal code of conduct by an individual's behaviour or activity is considered a crime in society. The legal point of the definition of crime given by Hall Jerome (1947:8-18) in his book *General Principles of Criminal Law* is "legally forbidden and intentional action that harms social interests, which has a criminal intent, and which has legally prescribed punishment for it." It is also mentioned that crime will be considered only when it is committed; any perception or intention of causing harm to others is not a crime until it happens. In short, the social description of crime as an anti-social act by Mowrer (1959). In studying the crime trend in India from 1971 to 2011, no consistency was found between murder and other crimes, the murder rate (4.40) was highest in 1992 and declined later but a continuous raising in the rape up to 1.94 rates was found in 2011 (Ansari, S., Verma, A. and Dadkhak, K.M. 2015). In the report "Crime in India" published by NCB in 2023, the crime rate under IPC declined from 200.8 in 1981 to 160.7 in 2003 but rapidly increased to 314.3 in 2020 and reached its peak over 40 years. The overall IPC and SLL crime cases throughout the northeastern states decreased considerably between 2020 to 2022, from 1,39,295 to 89,494. However, this decline in crime cases was not evenly distributed throughout the region, with crime in Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland experiencing an upward trend, whereas Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura showed a consistent downward trend (NCB, 2022). It is important to note that Assam contributed significantly to the decreasing trend of crime across the region, with its crime rate reducing by a large margin between 2020 and 2022, from 1,21,609 to 68,937, due to enhanced efficiency of law enforcement, conviction rate, a faster pace of charge-sheeting, and the government priority to create a more law abiding a safe state. In contrast, crime incidents in Manipur rose from 2986 to 3914 cases between 2020 and 2022, which increase of approximately one-fourth within the three years.

Generally, it is not acceptable to attribute the causes of crime to a single factor, but treated as the consequence of combining personal and environmental factors. The determination of causing the crime varies with time, cases, individual situations, etc. Criminal theories from different perspectives such as biological, physiological, psychiatric and psychological interpretations of crime emphasize that any of the social characteristics including inherited and influenced by physical or mental factors, restraint experienced in childhood days etc contributed to crime and that criminal behaviour is learned under the circumstance of social environment claimed by the sociologists (Ahuja Ram, 2023). The mathematical formula for criminal behaviour developed by David Abrahamsen (1952) is $C = \frac{T+S}{R}$ where 'C' represents crime, T for Tendency, S for Situation and R for Resistance. Explaining the individual's behaviour related to crime will be raised when there are strong aggressive tendencies, good opportunities (situations) and low impulse of resistance to committing the crime.

Becker (1968) analyses crime and the economic relationship, then further argues that offenders are motivated to commit crimes with the expectation of obtaining benefits from it. According to the criminal motivation theory, economic benefit has insisted individuals to involve in illicit activities. Moreover, the overall crime level was not only affected by economic deprivation conditions of the regions, but other factors also significantly impacted it like the existence of gang members, the availability of weapons, the feasible level of potential targets, numbers of substance abuse and the capability of law enforcement activity to protect from criminality (Malby, S. et al., 2012). The disparity in socio-economic conditions, extending urbanization, lack of law enforcement agencies and infrastructure, and vulnerability in communities because of improper border fencing and demarcation are the factors that encourage criminal elements (Chakraborty, 2015). The studies of criminal activities and identifying their causes are left behind, especially in the regions of Northeastern India like Manipur, which has lots of hostile elements. Variations in socio-economic and demographic characteristics intensify crime in different places. In focusing on these problems, an analysis will be conducted to explore the correlation and significant contribution between the cause of crimes and the demographic characteristics of the prisoners. The distribution of inmates and their relationship to criminal behaviour and socio-economic determination will be studied using cross-sectional and descriptive data analysis.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

There is extensive criminological research that explores the relationship between socio-economic factors and crime. Becker (1968) developed an economic model of crime, implying that criminals are motivated by anticipated returns of committing a crime, with economic deprivation being a significant factor. According to Patterson (1991), the distribution of crime is also attributed to the levels of poverty in any region, meaning that poverty contributes to spatial crime rates. Groot and Brink (2010) and Hjalmarsson and Lochner (2012) cited research in which education was mentioned as a major influential feature, with a reduction of participation in violent and property offenses being the outcome of increased education level, despite some white-collar crimes rising with education.

Mario Coccia (2016) also focused on income inequality as a significant precondition of intentional homicides, incorporating the political, cultural, and environmental contexts into the study. Atems (2020) also supported this interpretation through structural vector autoregressive models, showing that income inequality has a positive relationship with violent crimes and a positive relationship with property crimes. The finding was also affirmed by Fajnzylber et al. (2002), but empirical studies do not show the same results across different contexts.

It has been cited that social factors, such as peer pressure and drug usage, are one of the most important criminogenic factors. South and Messner (2000) illustrated the influence of demographic factors (age, sex, race, etc.) on the perceptions of risk among offenders and victims. Mears, Ploeger, and Warr (1998) contended that offending should be distinguished by gender differences based on their different degree of criminogenic exposures.

Research on crime is still limited in the context of the Northeastern Indian population. The association between socio-economic disparities, poor law enforcement, and porous borders with high crime rates was found by Chakraborty (2015), whereas Chamroy et al. (2023) investigated unemployment-based youth delinquency in the hill districts of Manipur. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2023) has also indicated that drug trafficking, especially in cross-border areas with Myanmar, is a source of criminality.

Overall, the reviewed literature converges on the view that crime is multidimensional, shaped by economic status, education, demographic factors, and social environment. Nevertheless, the region-specific studies, especially in Northeast India, are limited

and therefore provide a strong rationale to conduct empirical research on socio-economic and demographic influences on crime in the vulnerable border states such as Manipur.

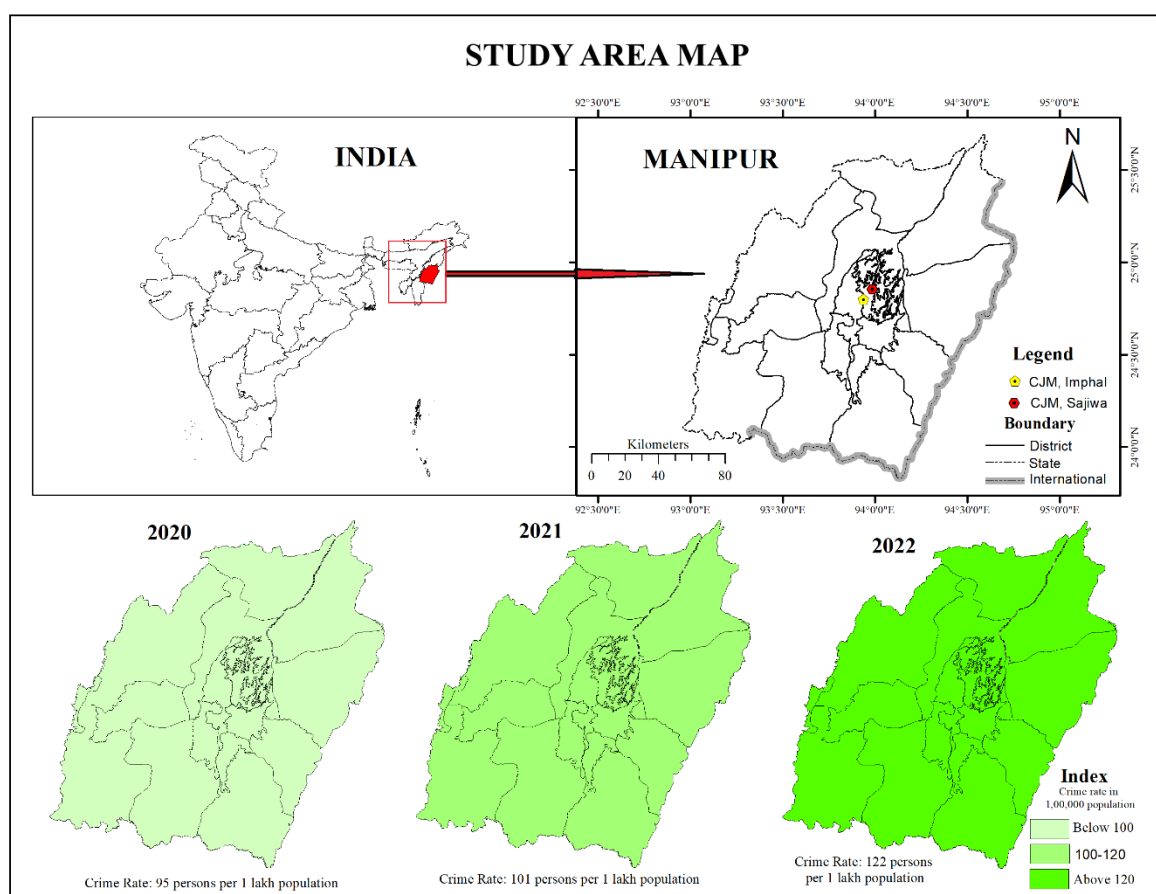
3. RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

The study will provide a distinct analysis and description of crimes influenced by several factors and their association with demographic characteristics. The following objectives will be considered in the study:

1. To analyze the main factors that contributed to the causes of crime within the state.
2. To study the significant relationship between gender, age, education and income level and the factors causing the crime.

4. STUDY AREA

Manipur, as per the 2011 Census, had a population of 2,721,756 persons and with an area of 22,327 sq.km. Physiographically, the state can be categorized into Hill and Valley regions. The majority of the population settled in the valley region. Administratively, the state is divided into 16 districts, with six located in the valley and the remaining ten occupying hilly parts of the state. This study focuses on two central jails in Manipur: Central Jail, Imphal, and Central Jail, Sajiwa. Central Jail, Imphal, located in Imphal West district, is exclusively for female prisoners. Meanwhile, Central Jail, Sajiwa, situated in the Sawombung subdivision of Imphal East district, accommodates male inmates.



Source: NCBR report on 2022.

Manipur has a long porous border with Myanmar on the eastern side, which has a high chance of facing transnational crimes and other. In the state, the crime rate has increased consistently from 95 in 2020 to 122 in 2022 per 1 lakh population.

5. DATA COLLECTION AND METHODOLOGY

The study is based on primary data collected through field surveys conducted from July to September 2022 in two central jails of Manipur. The data were collected following the population ratio among the social groups as per the 2011 census report. A total of 416 prisoners' relevant information was collected, including 356 male inmates, representing 50.50% of the total 705 inmates, and 60 female inmates, accounting for 100% of the female prison population. Data were gathered from Manipur Central Jail, Saijwa, which houses only male inmates, and Manipur Central Jail, Imphal, which is designated exclusively for female inmates. A descriptive analysis is conducted to determine the distribution of crime factors among gender, age group, educational level, and income group. The chi-square test is used to determine whether there is a statistically significant relationship between different socio-economic and demographic factors (such as age, education, and income) and crime.

6. ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

In recent decades, the crime rate in Manipur has been increasing due to several factors and social imbalances among the communities and society. Moreover, the state is considered one of the most vulnerable areas due to rough topographical conditions and it shares a long porous international boundary with Myanmar, about 354 km. The nature of crime and people's involvement in criminal activities have been recorded from regional to international regimes. As in other parts of the country, involvement in criminal activities varies among genders, age groups, educational levels, and income levels. Notably, the state of Manipur also has a significant variation in the ratio of incarcerated prisoners, observed in jail records.

Table 1 shows that, between the genders, the maximum number of crimes in the state is committed by the male population, accounting for 85.6% in the study period. This result matches with India's crime rate report, 2013, which highlights that 94% of crimes were committed by male offenders, highlighting the lower crime involvement of the females with only 6% (NCBR, 2013). While analysing the current ages of inmates, the highest percentage was found between the age group of 30 to 60, reflecting 55.3% of the total inmates, followed by the 18 to 30 age group with 40.5%. Possibly, these inmates had committed the crimes before the attainment of their current age during the time of the survey. This finding aligns with "The Age Crime Curve" by Nagin and Land (1993), which examined that the rate of crime rises in mid-adolescence and drastically decreases in early adulthood, and steadily reduces rates up to the late stage of life, criminal involvement reaches its peak at the age about 18 (Hirschi and Gottfredson, 1983). It is interesting to note that male youth in the state are more exposed to risk factors of anti-social behaviour, particularly in regions where a high percentage of the youth population does not have access to stable employment, financial security, or educational opportunities. The economic survey of Manipur shows 44.2% of youths were unemployed in the year 2020-21 (Chamroy Ngachonshon et al, 2023). Thus, a high percentage of the population is susceptible to adverse social environments like substance abuse, corruption, political instability, inadequate employment opportunities, etc, which could positively contribute to the involvement in crime.

Table 1: Profile of the prisoners of two Central Jails in Manipur.

Gender Classification			Age Group		
Sex	Prisoner	Percent(%)	Age group	Prisoner	Percent(%)
Male	356	85.6	18 to 30	167	40.1
Female	60	14.4	31 to 60	230	55.3
Total	416	100	Above 60	19	4.6
Educational Attainment			Total	416	100
			Income group		
Education level	Prisoner	Percent(%)		Prisoner	Percent(%)
Illiterate	39	9.4	Below 3000	42	10.1
BPPMS*	147	35.3	3000 to 24999	326	78.4
Sec. & Hr Sec.	175	42.1	25000 to 49999	27	6.5
Graduate & above	55	13.2	50000 and above	21	5
Total	416	100	Total	416	100

- a. *BPPMS level includes Below Primary, Primary and Middle school.
- b. Source: Primary field survey data from July to September 2022.

In a well-organised society, the contribution of education is immensely crucial and helpful in determining the improvement of society. Various studies indicate that higher education levels reduce criminal involvement because they provide people with better economic opportunities, along with increased awareness of legal risks. Table 1 shows that the highest (77.4%) percentage of inmates was recorded from those who attained up to BPPMS (35.3%) and Secondary & Hr. Sec. (42.1%) level. The common types of crime committed by these prisoners are violent crime, threats, vandalism, theft, etc. However, higher educated people are found to engage more in tax fraud, theft from workplaces, switching price tags in shops etc (Groot, W., & van den Brink, H. M., 2010).

Patterson E. Britt (1991) highlights the relationship between economic and criminal theories, emphasising that regional poverty levels influence the spatial distribution of crime. Consequently, 78.4% of prisoners earned between 3,000 and 24,999 per month before being sentenced to jail. Many of these individuals, particularly breadwinners and low-income workers, often face financial struggles. These economic constraints serve as a driving factor for engaging in illegal activities in pursuit of quick financial gain, often disregarding the consequences.

6.1 Factors causing the crimes in Manipur:

The study of crime factors among jail inmates revealed significant associations across various demographic characteristics. South Scott J. and Messner F. (2000) studies showed a strong relationship between demographic characteristics such as age, sex and race to the risk factors for criminal offenders and victimization. Existing literature suggests that most of the occurrence of crime is not influenced by a single factor, substantially several factors contribute to criminal behaviour (Ahuja Ram, 2023). From the survey report, it is found that interpersonal conflict was the leading factor for causing crime, sharing 120 inmates out of 416, followed by financial weakness and peer influence with 117 and 102 inmates, respectively. Moreover, drug addiction commonly termed substance abuse is also the root cause of crime, especially among male youths. Most of these youth are recorded from the districts that share a long porous international border with Myanmar, a key part of the Golden Triangle, known for the large production of drugs. UNODC (2023) report shows a significant rise of opium production of about 36% from 790 to 1080 metric tons in Myanmar alone between the years 2022 and 2023, extending the markets of opium and heroin mostly in Asia and Oceania regions.

Table 2: Frequency table of factors of crimes by gender, age, educational attainment and income.

Gender	Peer Influence		Financial weakness		Substance abuse		Interpersonal conflicts**		Others***		Total	
	Count	Exp. Count	Count	Exp. Count	Count	Exp. Count	Count	Exp. Count	Count	Exp. Count	Count	Exp. Count
Male	81	87.3	91	100.1	49	41.9	118	102.7	17	24	356	356
Female	21	14.7	26	16.9	0	7.1	2	17.3	11	4	60	60
Total	102	102	117	117	49	49	120	120	28	28	416	416
Age Group												
18 to 30	42	40.9	57	47	22	19.7	35	48.2	11	11.2	167	167
31 to 60	58	56.4	58	64.7	23	27.1	75	66.3	16	15.5	230	230
Above 60	2	4.7	2	5.3	4	2.2	10	5.5	1	1.3	19	19
Total	102	102	117	117	49	49	120	120	28	28	416	416
Educational Attainment												
Illiterate	11	9.6	11	11	5	4.6	8	11.2	4	2.6	39	39
BPPMS*	42	36	56	41.3	14	17.3	30	42.4	5	9.9	147	147
Sec & Hr.Sec.	38	42.9	38	49.2	20	20.6	65	50.5	14	11.8	175	175

Graduate & above	11	13.5	12	15.5	10	6.5	17	15.9	5	3.7	55	55
Total	102	102	117	117	49	49	120	120	28	28	416	416
Income Group												
Below 3000	8	10.3	12	11.8	7	4.9	13	12.1	2	2.8	42	42
3000 - 24999	80	79.9	99	91.7	33	38.4	92	94	22	21.9	326	326
25000 - 49999	12	6.6	3	7.6	6	3.2	4	7.8	2	1.8	27	27
50000 and above	2	5.1	3	5.9	3	2.5	11	6.1	2	1.4	21	21
Total	102	102	117	117	49	49	120	120	28	28	416	416

- *BPPMS stands for Below primary, Primary and Middle school.
- **Interpersonal conflicts included any conflicts with the victims or victims' families for committing domestic violence, sexual assault, revenge or striking back, kidnapping, eloping of a girl without proper consent etc.
- ***Criminal factors such as family member involvement, trespassing with inadequate documents, accident and unintentional crimes, and inmates who do not disclose their main reasons for committing the crime are under the other category.
- Source: Primary field survey data from July to September 2022.

From Table 2, the gender distribution showed that male inmates had more interpersonal conflicts (Count = 118, Expected Count = 102.7) and financial weakness (Count = 91, Expected Count = 100.1), while female inmates showed financial weakness (Count = 26, Expected Count = 16.9) and peer influence (Count = 21, Expected Count = 14.7). In the case of the female inmates, the crime occurrences are more than the expected count with financial weakness and peer influences which reveal the great influence of these two factors in considering the risk factors of committing the crime. The gender chi-square analysis revealed highly significant results ($X^2 = 47.009$, $df = 4$, $p < 0.001$), and the likelihood ratio was also strong (57.719, < 0.001), indicating a robust relationship between gender and factors of crime (Table 3). The state has a geographical disadvantage in many sections of development and its politically unstable characteristics are reflected in society leading to an increase in unemployment, economic insecurity and social instability, moreover, substance abuse is also a serious problem among male youths which degrades the mental health causing conflict, frustration, deviant behaviour and disorganised relationship with the surrounding people. This situation indulges in interpersonal conflicts, especially among the male population and follows the global trends of gender disparity in committing crime with a huge margin dominated by male offenders. The majority of the women are struggling due to economic instability, especially in the rural areas and the burden is more when they are separated or widowed or facing health problems and their families influence them to follow illicit activities for fast and easy earning. Some specific crimes have gender-centric characteristics, further claiming that gender disparities in offending the crime exist due to differential exposure or being affected differently by the same criminogenic conditions (Mears, Ploeger and Warr 1998).

Table 3: Chi-square test of gender and factors of crime.

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	47.009 ^a	4	0.000
Likelihood Ratio	57.719	4	0.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	6.110	1	0.013
N of Valid Cases	416		

a. 1 cells (10.0%) have an expected count of less than 5. The minimum expected count is 4.04. b. Source: Primary field survey data from July to September 2022.

The analysis by age group showed the variation of crime causes across the age groups. In Table 2, among the young (18-30 years), financial weakness (Count = 57, Expected Count = 47) and peer influence (Count = 42, Expected Count = 40.9) were more prominent crime patterns while middle-aged groups (31-60 years), interpersonal conflicts showed higher frequencies (Count = 75, Expected Count = 66.3). The chi-square test confirmed a significant association between age and crime types ($X^2 = 17.338$, $df = 8$, $p = 0.027$), supported by the likelihood ratio of 17.667 ($p = 0.024$) resulting in Table 4. Normally, during the early days of youth, they are financially unstable and depend on their family, it is more in regions like Manipur where there is a lack of development in industries, business opportunities and other sectors using modern tools and techniques, skill enhancement programs, education etc which have led to higher rates of unemployment among the youths, under this circumstance, they are easily influenced by peer group to follow or indulge in many peculiar strange things against the society. Adult criminality and early childhood behaviour are interconnected if an individual has bad behaviour in the early childhood stage, in the future the chance of committing the crime is high as reflected in childhood behaviours (Krohn et al 2001, Laub & Sampson 1993).

Table 4: Chi-square test of age and factors of crime.

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	17.338 ^a	8	0.027
Likelihood Ratio	17.667	8	0.024
Linear-by-Linear Association	4.292	1	0.038
N of Valid Cases	416		
a. 3 cells (20.0%) have an expected count of less than 5. The minimum expected count is 1.28.			

b. Source: Primary field survey data from July to September 2022.

According to Table 5, factors of crime in the state vary significantly across educational attainment levels as revealed by $X^2 = 26.194$, $df = 12$, $p = 0.01$. Further, the likelihood ratio (26.26, $p = 0.01$) supported a strong association between education level and factors of crime. Among the illiterate inmates, significant differences could be observed in the distribution of various crime categories, with peer influences and financial weakness being prominent (Count = 11 for both, Expected Counts is 9.6 and 11.0 respectively) (Table 2). Generally, it is acceptable for the concept of a close connection between education and crime. Crew Gordon A's (2009) studies found the inverse correlation between education and crime. The early dropout from educational institutions and lack of employment opportunities result from low educational attainment, making them more vulnerable and exposing them to potential criminal behaviour and involvement. In the state, obtaining viable employment is low, and the problem of underemployment among educated youths who experience it in society has contributed to the fact that illicit activities are a factor. Crime involvement is found to be high among those who have attained up to BPPMS, Sec. and Hr. Sec level. In the modern world, competition has become increasingly rigorous and complex. Situations such as a lack of educational qualifications, being unskilled, poverty, unfair treatment, or limited opportunities become the primary factors contributing to the failure to achieve life goals. These circumstances brought frustration and loss of control, especially among the youths, leading them to choose the wrong path in life.

However, an increase in job recruitment in both private and government sectors, imposing an effective education system and encouragement of entrepreneurship in society have great potential to reduce the occurrence of anti-social activities in crime-porn areas (Hjalmarsson, R., & Lochner, L., 2012).

Table 5: Chi-square test of educational attainment level and factors of crime.

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	26.194 ^a	12	0.010
Likelihood Ratio	26.260	12	0.010
Linear-by-Linear Association	6.010	1	0.014
N of Valid Cases	416		
a. 3 cells (15.0%) have an expected count of less than 5. The minimum expected count is 2.63.			
b. Source: Primary field survey data from July to September 2022.			

Income group analysis showed that criminal behaviour followed a significant pattern ($X^2 = 22.316$, $df = 12$, $p = 0.034$). In the lower-income population (Below 3000), interpersonal conflicts are more frequent than expected (Count = 13, Expected Count = 12.1), and financial weakness shows higher frequencies too (Count = 12, Expected Count = 11.18) (Table 2). The likelihood ratio was 22.252, $p = 0.035$, which supported these findings, although the linear-by-linear association was significant (2.252, $p = 0.133$), thus indicating a non-linear relation between income levels and factors of crime (Table 6). In general, a larger percentage of the population in the state still engages in agriculture, household industries, and daily labour, which contributes a small income to support their families. Whereas, in the hilly areas, the main source of income largely depends on forest products and practised jhum cultivation for their livelihood. The unemployment rate has significantly increased among the youth in recent years, as it is highly competitive and has fewer job opportunities. Aspirants are underemployed and it is becoming difficult day by day to get a secure permanent job in the government or private sectors, resulting in creating social classification between permanent employees and others. Moreover, commercial business networks are confined to urban regions, which creates income inequality among the citizens.

Table 6: Chi-square test of income level and factors of crime.

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	22.316 ^a	12	0.034
Likelihood Ratio	22.252	12	0.035
Linear-by-Linear Association	2.252	1	0.133
N of Valid Cases	416		
a. 6 cells (30.0%) have an expected count of less than 5. The minimum expected count is 1.41.			

b. Source: Primary field survey data from July to September 2022.

The income inequality fabricates the increase in crimes in society, supported by economic and sociological theories, however, empirical support for this relationship remains weak (Fajnzylber et al, 2002 and Atems Bebonchu, 2020). Unfortunately, trying to improve the lifestyle among the poor people has resulted in involvement in illicit activities (Gordon, 1973), driving them to engage in antisocial activities.

7. DISCUSSION

From the study, the influence of interpersonal conflict becomes the largest reason for inducing crime in the state, which leads to involvement in violent crimes related to murder, attempt to murder, domestic violence, sexual assault, revenge or striking back, kidnapping for ransom, eloping girls for marriage purposes etc. Underprivileged economic conditions influence the rate of violent crimes like homicide, and it also have a large impact on the legal sector as well as the cost of crime (Fajnzylber, P., Lederman, D., & Loayza, N., 2002). The involvement in crime due to the financial strain contributes to an immense number of incidents, accounting for 117 out of the 416 inmates. The interrelationship between socioeconomic status and violent crime

is highlighted in many cases (e.g., Pratt and Cullen, 2005; Sampson and Lauritsen, 1994; Lee, 2000). Recently, in Manipur, the rise of unlawful business has often occurred in both hilly and valley areas, including smuggling drugs, extortion, robbery etc. Among the youths, crime caused by peer influence and substance abuse is common and these two factors have a close, contiguous relationship to impel antisocial behaviour in society.

It is also highlighted that males are dominant in committing the crime covering 85.6% and significant numbers of young age groups are incarcerated in the jail presenting 55.3% from ages of 31 to 60 and 40.1 % are from 18 to 30 old, which supports the term that the effect of age on crime is unavoidable, occurring more crime in young ages (Gottfredson and Hirschi 1990). Moreover, 42.1% had a record of educational attainment upto Secondary & Higher Secondary and majority of the inmate (78.4%) has an earning income of 3000 to 24,000 per months before apprehended that shows lack of legitimate opportunities and exposure to the risk social experience of the poor and poverty life lead to commit the crime (Merton, 1938; Agnew, 1999).

Overall, the findings from the studies reveal that demographic factors significantly affect the causes of crime for jail inmates; each has varied associations. The statistical significance observed for all demographic variables highlights how complex criminal behaviour is and that socio-demographics play a role. The risks of becoming offenders and victims are enormously high among young males and disadvantaged minority people, even if they are not much involved in serious crimes; however, street crimes are still common (Messner & Rosenfeld, 1999; Sampson & Lauritsen, 1994; Steffensmeier & Allen, 1996).

8. CONCLUSION

The study concludes that the root causes of crime were interrelated with the internal conflict between offenders and victims, but the tendency varies with the demographic characteristics of the prisoners. This factor leads to antisocial behaviour influencing the commitment of crimes related to domestic violence, sexual assault, kidnapping and other violent crimes like physical assault in revenge or striking back, etc. Moreover, financial weakness, peer influence and substance abuse also largely contributed to the favouring of criminal activities. Social disadvantages and underdeveloped conditions in the state affect the socio-economic status of the society, which leads to it becoming a hub of illegal activities.

According to the study, criminality among the genders has followed the global pattern, emerging as a tendency of criminal behaviour, male offenders dominate the crime involvement in the state. Among the prisoners, the young people age group from 18 to 30 occupied 40.1%, indicating a higher risk of young individuals in the state being exposed to committing the crime as compared to older age groups. Resilience from the crimes is higher with higher educational attainment and income level of the individuals.

Income inequality is somehow becoming one of the factors that causes crime. The higher-income group has lower numbers of imprisonment in the state, with only 5 per cent of inmates having an income of 50,000 and above per month, and it shows that poorer people are more likely to commit crimes. The financial drawbacks of the individuals or their families are likely to trigger illegal work for up to 117 prisoners in anti-social activities out of the 416 prisoners. As the anti-social behaviour increases in society, the demographic characteristics such as gender, age, educational attainment level, and income level are found to be highly associated and significant.

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