

## THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM OF TLAWNG RIVER, MIZORAM: LINKAGE WITH BARAK-MEGHNA-BRAHMPUTRA SYSTEM

Rahul Verma

Assistant Professor, Department of Geology, PUC, Mizoram University  
vrahul24@gmail.com

Mizoram is one of the Seven Sister States in North Eastern India. It shares land borders with the states of Tripura, Assam, Manipur and countries Bangladesh and Myanmar. Mizoram is a land of rolling hills, valleys, rivers and lakes. As many as 21 major hills ranges or peaks of different heights run through the length and breadth of the state, with plains scattered here and there. Largest planes are found in Champai District with a dimension of 11.27 kms x 4.83 kms. The highest peak in Mizoram is Phawngpui (Blue Mountain) with a height of 2164 mts, in Saiha District.

Owing to this major strike of Mizoram Hills being North-South, most of the rivers flow either to the north or south creating deep gorges between the hill ranges. Most of the rivers in Mizoram originate in the Central part and flow either towards south or north. The northerly flowing rivers mostly drain into the Barak River and constitute a part of "Barak Basin". Barak River, in due course drains into "Brahmaputra" as its left bank tributary. The southerly flowing rivers of Mizoram constitute part of "Kolodoyne Basin". The southerly flowing rivers ultimately drain in the Bay of Bengal, either through Myanmar or through Bangladesh. The main northerly flowing rivers of Mizoram are, Tlawng, Tut, Tian, Tuichawng, Tuirial, Tuipui, Tuivawl, Teirei, Tuirini and Salui. The largest of these is the Tlawng (Dhaleshwari) with a length of 185.15 kms. Tlawng and Tut Rivers drain into the Barak River directly. All other rivers meet the Barak River through indirect and subsidiary channels either via Tripura-Bangladesh or via Manipur.

This explains the fact that northern half of Mizoram constitutes a part of Barak Valley Drainage System. The Barak Drainage System is interlinked with Brahmaputra-Ganga Drainage System in Bangladesh.