

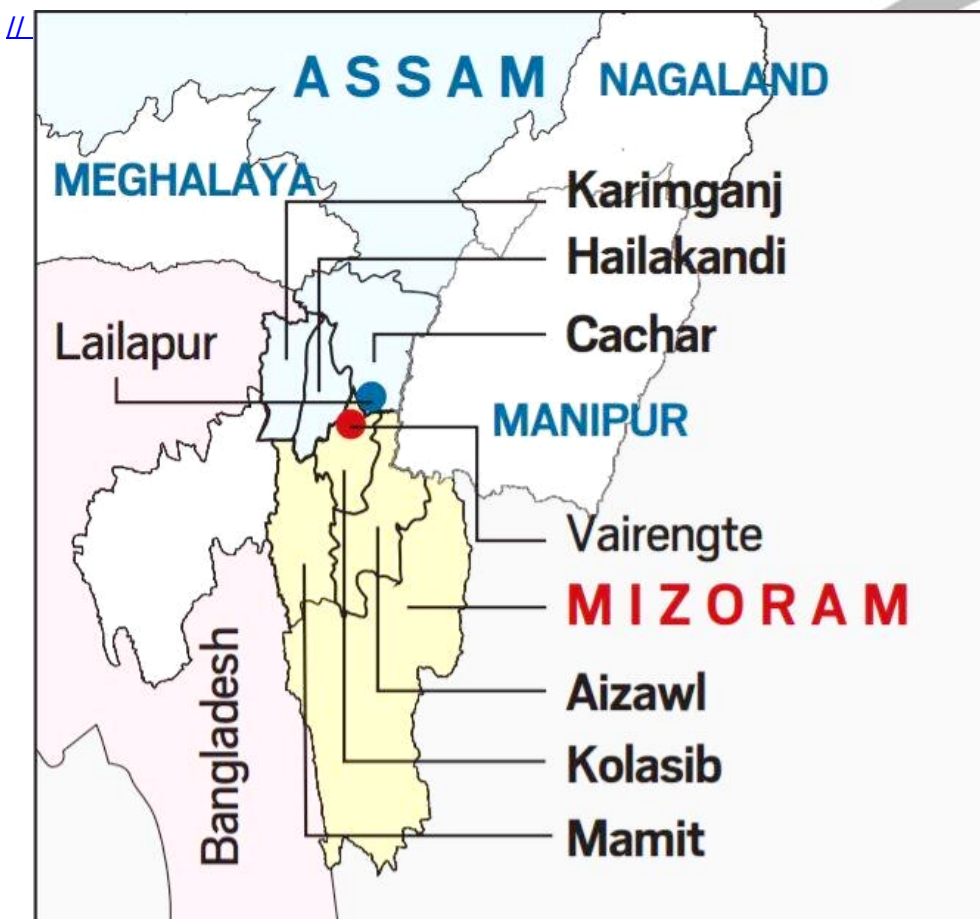


Statehood Day of Mizoram

Why in News?

Recently, the Prime Minister of India extended his wishes to the people of **Mizoram** on its **36th Statehood Day** (20th February).

- The formalization of Mizoram State took place on 20th February, 1987 after the 53rd Amendment of the Indian Constitution, 1986.



What do we know about Mizoram?

- **Historical background:** The Mizo hills area became the **Lushai Hills district** within Assam at the time of independence. Further, in 1954 it was renamed the Mizo Hills District of Assam.
 - Mizoram was granted the **status of a Union Territory in 1972** after signing an accord with the moderates of the **Mizo National Front (MNF)**.
 - The Union Territory of Mizoram was conferred the status of a full state in 1986 after signing of a memorandum of settlement (**Mizoram Peace Accord**) between the Central

government and the MNF.

- **Geographical Location:**
 - **International Border:** Myanmar and Bangladesh
 - **State Border:** Tripura (northwest), Assam (north) and Manipur (northeast).
- **Demography:** Mizoram population in 2022 is estimated to be **1.27 Million** and is the **second least populous state in India after Sikkim**.
 - The Sex Ratio is **975 female per 1000 male** (National: 943).
 - The Literacy rate of the state is **91.58 %** (National: 74.04%).
- **Biodiversity:** According to [India State of Forest Report \(ISFR\), 2021](#) Mizoram has the **maximum forest cover as a percentage** of their own geographical area at (84.53%) from the **North eastern region of the country**.
 - **State Animal:** Saza (serow)
 - **State Bird:** Vavu (Hume Bartailed Pheasant).
- **Protected Areas:**
 - [Dampa Tiger Reserve](#)
 - Murlen National Park
 - Phawngpui National Park
 - Ngengpui Wildlife Sanctuary
 - Tawi Wildlife Sanctuary
- **Tribals:** It has the **highest concentration (percentage) of tribal population** among all states of India.
 - Mizos consist of 5 major and 11 minor tribes known as Awzia. The 5 major tribes include: **Lushei, Raite, Hmar, Paihte and Pawi**.
 - The Mizos are a close- knit society with no class distinction and discrimination on grounds of sex, status or religion.
 - Mizos are agriculturists, practise “Jhum Cultivation” or slash- and- burn system of cultivation.
- **Festivals and Dance:** The Mizos have two main festivals- **Mim Kut and Chapchar Kut**.
 - **Mim Kut:** It is a Maize festival that is celebrated during the months of August and September, after the harvest of maize.
 - **Chapchar Kut:** It is a Spring Festival, most popular and celebrated after completion of the task of jungle clearing for “jhum” operations.
 - The most colourful and distinctive dance of the Mizo is called **Cheraw**. Long bamboo staves are used for this dance, therefore many people call it ‘Bamboo Dance’.

[Source: PIB](#)

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