

## Preface

Universalisation of Elementary Education (UEE) in India provides an opportunity to get an education to all children in the age group 6 to 14. Education is the fundamental right of every child. In this context, State shall make an effort to provide elementary education to all children irrespective of religion, sex, caste and economic status. A well-planned education programme was implemented to build internal, mental strength of the children through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. It is a flagship programme with time clear time-bound initiatives of Government of India for developing and strengthening the formal primary education system to achieve the goal of universalisation of elementary education. It is a joint venture programme of the state, Central Govt. and the local Govt to fulfil the demand for appropriate and constructive primary education for all children. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has also acknowledged as the Education for All or 'Each one teaches one'. Since its beginning, Jalpaiguri district has been playing a significant role to expand universalisation of elementary education through Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The present study is an attempt to analyse the role of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in rural and urban areas of Jalpaiguri district.

The thesis has been divided into eight chapters. The **First chapter** deals with the present context of the study, the scope of the study, the importance of the study, statement of the problem, research area, research problems. It also includes the preliminary idea about the midday meal and limitation of the study. The **Second Chapter** covers a review of related studies which was already carried out by different academicians, educationalists, researchers, and policymakers in India and West Bengal. The **Third Chapter** discusses the theoretical orientation of the study. The **Fourth Chapter** explains the research methodology used for the study. The **Fifth Chapter** covers aspects such as historical perspective of MDM in India and Jalpaiguri district. The **Sixth Chapter** describes data analysis and interpretations. The **Chapter Seventh** discusses the impact of infrastructure facility in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in the Jalpaiguri district. The last or **Chapter Eighth** deals with the outcome of the present research work will be discussed along with the suggestions and conclusions.