CHAPTER - IV

DESIGN OF THE STUDY
4.1 Introduction:

The present study aims to appraise the existing infrastructural facilities in primary schools, to study the situation related to school attendance and the factors related to children’s non-attendance of the school and also aims to study the levels of learning achievements in rural areas of the West Garo Hills District of Meghalaya. Keeping in mind the need of the study a survey is designed to explore the various aspects of the situation of primary schooling in rural areas with special reference to the above mentioned issues. The present chapter gives the details of method of the study that includes population and sample, tools used for the purpose of collection of required data, data collection and analysis and statistical technique used.

4.2 Method:

Keeping in mind the nature of work it is decided to follow a survey method to meet the objectives set in the study.

4.3 Population and Sample:

The present study seeks to understand the situation with regards to primary education in rural areas of the West Garo Hills district in the state of Meghalaya. Therefore, the population or the universe of the study is the rural areas of the district. As per the records of Office of Inspector of Schools, West
Garo Hills District of Meghalaya, there are 1469 primary schools in the District. Out of this total number of schools, 1393 are located in rural areas.

The study purposefully selected the Dadengre block taking into account the lowest literacy of the block in entire district as well the state. The study has selected ten villages at random.

Following is the list of ten villages identified at random from the Dadengre Block:

1. Dodanggre
2. Dalbenggre
3. Rongjigre
4. Baljek Aduma
5. Upper kalsingre
6. Ampanggre
7. Aminggokgre
8. Dechinggre
9. Anogre
10. Saldolpara

As per the need of the study and to fulfill the objectives set in the study, it is required to select the schools in the identified villages and the household. For this purpose, the primary schools in each of the villages amounting to a total of ten are selected as the identified villages had only one school each at village level. For the purpose for identifying the households a detailed household list is prepared and survey is conducted in all the households in each of the identified villages. As the villages identified are small in terms of number of households, full enumeration method is followed in case of
identifying the households as well in selecting the schools as only one school was available in each of the sample villages.

4.4 Tools Used:

As per the need of the study following tools are used for the purpose of data collection. They are as follows:

1. **School Questionnaire:** The School questionnaire is a structured questionnaire contains various items pertaining to school infrastructure and basic amenities in the school. The school questionnaire has been provided in Appendix 2.

2. **Household Questionnaire:** The household questionnaire is again a structured questionnaire contains various items pertaining to socio-economic background of the household, family structure, member composition, education status of each family members, parents opinion about the children’s education and their opinion about the teacher and school etc. The detail of the household questionnaire is provided in Appendix 3.

3. **Achievement Test in Mathematics:** Achievement test in mathematics for IV class is a teacher made achievement test prepared by the researcher as the present study is looking at achievement levels of children studying only in class IV during the time of survey. The items
in the achievement test were selected on the basis of expert opinion and content analysis of the class IV mathematics text book. The achievement test so constructed is tried out for its usability and viability with class IV students before its actual usage in the sample schools. The achievement test in mathematics is given in appendix 4.

4. **Achievement Test in Garo:** Achievement test in Garo (Language) for IV class is a teacher made achievement test prepared by the researcher as the present study is looking at achievement levels of children studying only in class IV during the time of survey. The items in the achievement test were selected on the basis of expert opinion and content analysis of the class IV Garo text book. The achievement test so constructed is tried out for its usability and viability with class IV students before its actual usage in the sample schools. The achievement test in Garo is given in appendix 4.

4.5 **Data Collection and Analysis:**

The present study is using the questionnaires as mentioned above. For the purpose of the field study, identified villages are at first stage done with household listing and then with the help of household available in the family the household questionnaire is filled up. Next with the help of teacher the information required as per the school questionnaire is collected. Further, achievement tests in Mathematics and Garo are administered to children
currently studying in class IV. All the children belonging to class IV present on
the day of school visit are considered for the administration of these tests. The
data collected is tabulated and analysed as per the requirements of the study.

4.6 Statistical Technique Used:

Taking into account the type of data that has been collected and as per
the requirement of the analysis, the statistical technique mostly applied in this
study is of the content analysis and percentage analysis.