

## **ABSTRACT**

This project is an attempt to understand the nature and impact of Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA), a targeted intervention to promote better education, in the schools of Thiruvvarur district in Tamil Nadu over a twelve-year period. Activity based learning (ABL) is a new methodology implemented through SSA. ABL with its multi grade class room and child – centric activity oriented teaching has brought vast improvement in the teaching and learning atmosphere. ABL has played a vital role in bringing out desirable changes in primary education. The children in the age group of 3-5 are covered under the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). These children are brought to the Integrated Child development Scheme (ICDS) centres. They are supplied with learning materials and mid day meals. Separate teachers and helpers are appointed to look after these children. The approach was to understand the impact through secondary data and also to gauge the impressions of students, teachers, school administrators and the parents through a primary survey. Overall, there seems to have been a positive impact.