

A LONGITUDINAL STUDY OF THE DEVELOPMENTAL
DYNAMISMS OF LOW BIRTH WEIGHT (LBW) FROM
8 TO 10 YEARS OF AGE

BY

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SUBMITTED

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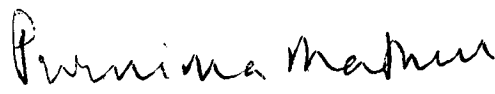
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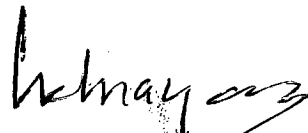
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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled, "A longitudinal study of the developmental dynamism of low birth weight children from 8 - 10 years of age" being submitted by Mrs. Ira Datta for the award of Doctor of Philosophy to the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi. It is a record of bonafide research work carried out by her during July, 1975 to July, 1982 under our supervision. The result obtained in this thesis have not been submitted to any other University for award of any degree or diploma.


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This thesis is dedicated to my friend-
philosopher loving son Master Arko Datta
but for whom I could not have survived
my struggle for existence.

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Abstract

This is a longitudinal study of low birth weight children between 8 to 10 years of age, who were found to be intellectually 'deficit' in an earlier follow-up programme, between 0 - 6 years of age. The major objective of the study was to gauge the impact of low birth weight per se, in terms of developmental reversibility.

The population of sample consisted of children who have born at Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, between 1969-71. These children were registered at birth for their follow-up in survival, growth and development.

The present study was designed to include 'personality' variable alongwith 'intellectual'. The findings were further related to SES factors to delineate the impact of low birth weight as an independent single variable. An 'alternative' model rather than 'traditional' model of development was envisaged, to capitalise the non-cognitive 'strengths' in the low birth weight children.

The findings confirmed the hypothesis while a significant difference in intellectual development and academic attainment was noted between the study and control groups; the 'level of adjustment', 'ego-integrity' and 'behavioural syndrome' showed no statistical significance in the difference between the two groups. By and large, the low birth weight children could be labeled as "Functioning Child".

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