

*This thesis is dedicated to the memory of my parents, Shri. Ph. Kameshwar Singh and Smt. N. Ibempishak Devi. I am blessed to have the honour of being their son. This work is also dedicated to my wife, Ms. H. Dayapati Devi, and my angel daughter, Jodalin Pheiorijam for their patience, love, and understanding throughout the journey, which have been a constant source of motivation for me.*