THE MAP OF ASSAM AND THE DISTRICT PROFILE UNDER SURVEY.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

For more than the simple reason of being agreed to act as guide and supervisor in my research work I pay my indebtedness and gratitude to Dr. Archana Sarma, Professor, Department of Economics of Gauhati University.

Dr. Sarma's impellent and stimulating advices which helped me to tide over some pressing problems and ease difficult situations involving in my research work, in fact, are acknowledged with a deep sense of gratitude.

The empirical study is mainly an outcome of field investigations carried out at the household level of rural area of the district of Kamrup and also the Metropolitan city area of Guwahati. In the process of investigation I contacted as many as 183 numbers of heads of household of rural area, 18 households of city and another 89 samples were taken up from the metropolitan city. In dealing with the illiterate heads of households of rural area and interrogating the illiterate migrant child workers of urban area I was overwhelmed with their offers to help me in furnishing the necessary information required as per questionnaires adopted for, none-the less, they were the illiterate lots, by and large. I owe them for their positive response and pay my sincerest gratitude to all alike.

In collection of relevant data from secondary sources and discussing the problem I contacted a number of functionaries of Central and State Government such as Commissioner / Assistant Commissioner (Regional), Ministry of Labour, Govt. of India; Commissioner / Assistant Commissioner, Labour Department, Govt. of Assam; Secretary, ICCW; Coordinator, Child Line; Director, Donbosco Society for Child Rehabilitation Centres etc. But for their ungrudging response and help rendered to me in supplying the information, the work, a portion of it, would have remained unfinished. I record here a note of appreciation for their coopertaion and helping attitudes.
In a bid to supplement to my little stock of knowledge on the issue I had to run to various libraries of the State and outside. I utilised the library of G.U.: State Central Library, Shillong, Meghalaya; Library of O.K.D. Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati; Library of Assam Administrative Staff College, Guwahati; District and Central Library, Assam; Cotton College Library, Guwahati etc. I express my sincerest thanks and gratitude to the staff of those libraries.

The finance constrained me heavily in carrying out the project. Nevertheless, a sum of Rs. 55,000/- sanctioned by UGC gave me tremendous help and relief to tide over the pecuniary problem. This minor research grant of UGC, a benevolent and noble institution of the nation, acted as a stimuli in my project work. I owe to that noble institution in that without its help it would not have been possible to initiate the work and transform my dream into reality.

I would be failing in my duty if I donot put in record my gratitude to the G.U. authority for permitting me to submit the thesis ahead of scheduled time.

A number of people, many more than I can mention, have helped me directly and indirectly in this process. I owe a debt of gratitude to them for encouraging me to undertake the task.

In fine, I endorse a note of gratitude to my husband, Dr. S.K. Choudhury for his inspiration and intellectual support to persevere in trying circumstances.

Guwahati
20.9.05

(Amiya Choudhury)
SGL cum H.O.D., Economics
Cotton College, Guwahati-1
Assam