A Note on Methodology

1. In preparing the present dissertation the analytical method is generally adopted.

2. To move forward, the concerned Sanskrit texts related to our subject in print are carefully studied and taken note of. In this respect various editions of the *Mahābhārata*, particularly those sections which concerns our subjects of study are carefully examined. In the course of our study, we have taken help of different editions of English-Sanskrit Dictionary and Thesauruses also. Modern works on ancient Indian polity and administration are consulted and freely utilized with due acknowledgement in appropriate place. In the course of our study, we have visited the libraries in and around Guwahati where rare and important works of different established authors are consulted to good effect. In this respect special mention may be made of the K. K. Handique Library, Gauhati University, Library of the Department of Historical and Antiquarian Studies, Guwahati, The Central Library, Guwahati,
the Library of the Kāmarūpa Anusandhāna Samiti (the Assam Research Society) etc.

3. In the matter of execution, Roman phonetic script (popularly called Time Special with diacritical marks) is used throughout for the sake of convenience particularly in respect of Devanāgerī and vernacular-language script.

4. In respect of pronunciation of non-English Sanskrit and vernacular words/terms/expressions are normally italicized. Similarly, technical terms beginning with capital letters are not italicized.

5. The names and titles of books, journals etc. which finds mention in the present work are invariably italicized.

6. Chapter heads and secondary titles/sub-titles are put in bold letters.

7. In case of the names of modern authors, diacritical marks are not used. In such cases, sur-name comes first, the first name followed it, eg. Altekar, A S; Kane, P V. etc.
8. The names and titles of works referred to in this dissertation are normally put in the foot-notes.

9. Frequently used names of books and authors are normally put in abbreviated forms, e.g. *Mbh* for *Mahābhārata*; Kane, *HDS* for Kane, P.V., *History of Dharmaśāstra* etc.

10. Lists of abbreviations, scheme of transliteration and Bibliography of books and titles are put in appropriate place. List of the contents is put before the beginning of the main text.

Here above we have outlined the overall method we have adopted in the execution of the present work.