This work is a pioneering attempt to study the agricultural resources of the Brahmaputra valley, based on the principles of planning and its concomitant management. This work is expected to give a comprehensive picture of the possibilities of agricultural transformation in the valley. The materials used for this study was obtained from secondary sources, and partly from field observations and interview method. The collected data have been thoroughly analysed by using standard quantitative methods, cartographic techniques and qualitative description of the results.

The Thesis contains eight chapters. Chapter one deals with the physical background. It gives a vivid picture of the physical characteristics of the Brahmaputra valley and establishes its homogeneity as a distinct region.

In the second chapter, a thorough discussion of the demographic characteristics is presented. It gives us an interesting insight into the effects of immigration, mainly international, on the valley's economy. A functional classification of towns is also incorporated in this chapter.

An outline of the basic economy of the valley is presented in Chapter three. It reveals briefly the salient features of the agricultural economy and throws interesting light on the present situation in respect of infrastructural facilities.

Chapter four deals at length on the land resources and land use pattern in the valley. The ordeals of floods
has also been elaborated. The agricultural land use pattern and the importance of irrigation is thoroughly discussed. The land tenure system in the valley has also been dealt with.

The agricultural resource base of the valley is diverse. This has been intensively discussed in Chapter five. Several contemporary techniques in agricultural studies, have been used to probe into the agricultural base of the valley. This comprises intensity of cropping, crop concentration pattern, agricultural productivity, relative yield index, relative spread index and crop combination regions.

Chapter six deals with the potentials of land, water and human resources of the valley. The potentialities of agricultural transformation vis-a-vis farm mechanisation have also been pinpointed in this chapter. The progress of agriculture during the Five Year Plan periods have been critically reviewed. Side by side, the organisation of agricultural marketing and prospects of development of agro-industries and agri-business sectors is dealt with comprehensively.

Farm management decisions at the village, or household level affect agricultural operations and production levels. Different aspects of farm management in the valley embracing holding size and their organisation, family size per farm, input-output pattern, per capita income and crop production in different farm sizes has been analysed in Chapter seven.

In the concluding Chapter a brief resume of the findings and pertinent guidelines for agricultural development have been suggested.