A. INTRODUCTORY ACCOUNT
1. PREFACE :

The thesis entitled "Medico-Ethnobotanical aspects among select tribes of Subansiri District, Arunachal Pradesh: A study" has been presented for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Botany under the Faculty of Science of the Gauhati University, Assam. The investigation on the problem has been suggested by Dr. Sudhangshu Chowdhury, Reader in Botany and now Professor & Head of the Department of Botany, Gauhati University. This work has been started since January 1989 and carried out collections explorations based on continued attachment with the aboriginals, making repeated queries for authenticity of remedies till November 1994. I am deeply indebted to my respected teacher Prof. Dr. S. Chowdhury who has so kindly given me the opportunity to work under his supervision and direct guidance. His continued guidance throughout the period of work has made me to present the thesis in its present form. I am fortunate enough for his kind consent and constant supervision, skillful guidance, great encouragement and valuable help offered to, without which it would have been impossible to complete the study. With profound pleasure and deep sense of gratitude I record my heartfelt gratefulness to Prof. Dr. S. Chowdhury. I am also indebted to Mrs. Nandita Chowdhury for her inspiration and encouragement and also help rendered by their children during investigation.

The investigator wishes to express his sincere thanks to the Director, Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha, Govt. of India, New Delhi, for granting permission for doing Ph.D. and encouragement and also to the Dr. O. P. Gupta, Assistant Director, Pharmacognosy, C.C.R.A.S. New Delhi and Dr. V. K. Singh, Officer-in-charge, Dr. Rama Shankar, A.R.O. Botany, of Regional Research Centre, (Ayurveda), Itanagar for valuable suggestions. The help rendered by local employees, Late Pura Payang, Shri Hage Tada.
some valuable information on local utilisation of some plants in Medicine. I am also thankful to the Deputy Director, Botanical Survey of India, Eastern circle, Shillong; Officer-in-charge, Botanical survey of India, Itanagar and Director, State Forest Research Institute, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh for the free access in utilising the resources available in Kanjilal Herbarium, Shillong, Meghalaya (ASSAM), Botanical Survey of India, Itanagar and Library of state Forest Research Institute, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh. My sincere thanks are due to Dr. K. Haridasan, Scientist “D”, State Forest Research Institute, Itanagar for his valuable advice and suggestion during the course of investigation.

I express my sincere thanks to the Vice-Chancellor, Gauhati University and the Head of the Department of Botany, Prof. Dr. S. Chowdhury for facilities provided for carrying out Research in the Department.

I am also thankful to the people belonging to the tribe “Nishi” and the “Apatani” for exchange of their valuable information, unless their help and co-operation the investigation would not have been possible.

I wish to express thanks to Dr. Ranjit Singh, Superintendent, Botanical Garden, Gauhati University, Dr. S. K. Borthakur, Reader, Deptt. of Botany, Gauhati University, Dr. R. Majumdar, Research officer, Botany, Regional Research Centre (Ayu.), Guwahati for their advice and suggestions. The help rendered by my fellow Research Scholars of the Department of Botany Viz. Miss Snigdha Sarkar, M.Sc. and Sri Surendra Mohan Nath, M.Sc., Dr. Sanjay Sharma, Department of Physics, Gauhati University and scientific and Herbarium Assistants particularly by Sri Shankar Das of B.S.I. E.C., Shillong has been of great help to me in some way or other during the investigation. I thank them all.

I would like to express my indebtedness to my Grand mother, Parents, Father-in-law, Mother-in-law for their inspiration. I am also indebted to my wife “Indu” and my baby “Aradhana” for keeping me free from house hold
duties and providing me leisure for taking up this research work.

My appreciation goes to my neighbour and friends Sri V. K. Joseph, Sri K. N. Thakuria, for their help and Shri Naren Choudhury for typing out the thesis.

Gopinath Bordoloi Nagar
11th : August 1995

(RESEARCH ASSISTANT, BOTANY)
REGIONAL RESEARCH CENTRE
(AYURVEDA) ITANAGAR - 791111
ARUNACHAL PRADESH, INDIA