PREFACE

The Sixth Schedule to the Constitution of India is a new experiment in the political history of the north east. The Karbi Anglong District Council is one of those councils which was created under the provisions of the said Schedule.

Having served in Karbi Anglong District for more than a decade and a half I had the inquisitiveness for a long time to study the working of the council. My revered Professor Dr. V. Venkata Rao suggested me to do the work when he visited Diphu, the district head-quarters sometime in 1977 in connection with a seminar on the 'Problem and Prospect of Research in the North East' organised by the Historical Association of Diphu Government College. Although all formalities in connection with the project were started in 1977, my normal duties as a lecturer in the college prevented me to complete the work within a short period.

So far I know no one worked on the subject. The working of the Sixth Schedule was undertaken by Dr. P. S. Reddy of the Department of Political Science, Gauhati University sometime in 1976. Another work of similar nature was taken into hand by Dr. Rao entitled 'A Century of Tribal Politics in North-East India'. But no one worked on the Karbi Anglong District Council.
The present thesis is divided into fourteen chapters. The first chapter deals with the profile of the district. The second chapter deals with the administrative areas of the council. The third chapter is connected with the constitutional structure of the council. The fourth chapter deals with membership of the council. The fifth chapter deals with the powers and functions of the council. The sixth chapter refers to the sessions of the council. The seventh chapter deals with the committee system of the council. The eighth chapter deals with the election of members of the council. The ninth chapter contains the role of the Chairman - his powers and functions. The tenth chapter deals with the political executive of the council. The eleventh chapter is concerned with the personnel administration of the council.
The twelfth chapter deals with the financial administration of the council.

The thirteenth deals with the relations of the District Council with the State Government.

The last chapter contains the conclusions arrived at at different places of the study.

The present work is based on original sources, such as, District Council records, proceedings of the District Council, various Acts, Regulations, Rules passed by the District Council, census reports, District Gazetters and the proceedings of the Assam Legislative Assembly. The investigator found some difficulties in collecting some materials as some of them were completely untraceable either in the Council's office or in the Hill Areas Department. Some materials were not made available by the District Council authorities for some reasons of their own.

The secondary sources had, however, been collected from the K.K. Handique Library, Gauhati University and the Assam State Library, Gauhati.

The methodology adopted are mainly historical, analytical and empirical. A large number of persons were interviewed in connection with the preparation of some important chapters of the thesis.
I have been obliged to a large number of persons who helped me in preparing the thesis in various ways. I am thankful to the authorities of Karbi Anglong District Council for ungrudgingly permitting me to consult most of the records relevant to my study. I am specially thankful to my friend Sri Atul Ch. Katoky of the Legislative Wing of the council for the immense pain he took in connection with my project. Thanks are also due to Sri Tandon Terang who always came forward to help me in all possible ways. I am also thankful to the Librarian, Krishna Kanta Handique Library, Gauhati University; Librarian, Assam Legislative Assembly Library and the Librarian Assam State Library for the facilities they provided in connection with my present work.

I particularly refer to my friend Dr.(Miss) Niru Hazarika, Reader in the Deptt. of Political Science, Gauhati University and Dr.Gopal Ch.Medhi, Lecturer in the Deptt. of Education, Cotton College, Gauhati for the valuable advice in preparing the thesis.

But my greatest debt is due to my Professor Dr.V.Venkata Rao, M.A,(And), M.A,(Alld),M.Litt, Ph.D, D.Litt, Professor Emeritus, Political Science, Gauhati University without whose invaluable guidance and encouragement this work would not have seen the light of the day.
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