This thesis traces the origin and growth of the P.W.D. during the period 1874-1983 chronologically. The period of 1874-1983 has been chosen because in 1874 a new era begun in Assam which was called an era of provincial administration. It was in 1874 when Assam was separated from Bengal and constituted into a Chief Commissionership. Since then P.W.D. in Assam functioned as a provincial department. Although Assam was amalgamated with Eastern Bengal in 1905 yet after a short period of seven years it was again restored to her former position in 1912. During this period a good number of rules and regulations were made concerning P.W.D. administration. In this study, an attempt has been made to survey critically the executions of these rules and regulations and the working of the department.

This thesis is divided into nine chapters. The first chapter deals with introduction containing the purpose and methodology of this study. Besides, it contains origin and growth, the award of title, diary system, financial and staff position of the department.

The second chapter describes the organisational development which is divided into two: secretariat organisation and field organisation.

In chapter three, the functions of the P.W.D. and its method of execution is analysed. An attempt has been made to show whether the method of execution is efficient.
The fourth and fifth chapters deal with personnel administration. Here emphasis is laid only on the engineering and accounts staff of the department.

Chapter sixth deals with the financial administration. In it, an attempt has been made to analyse the budget making procedure, accounting and audit system of the department.

Chapter seven deals with corruption of P.W.D. and the measures adopted so far by the Government of Assam for its prevention.

In chapter eight the various means of the control of P.W.D. is analysed.

The final chapter contains conclusion arrived at different places in the text of the thesis.

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