SYNOPSIS OF THE SUBJECT.

A STUDY IN ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY OF LAKHIMPUR.

The definition of Economic Geography itself explains that it searches for the true relationship that exists between man and his environment. It further shows explicitly the influence exerted by the physical environment upon the economic activities of man. The researcher in this field of study is to work with dual aims. In the first place, to give a correct account of the existing economic resources of the region concerned and in the second, to suggest ways and means in which the latter may be utilised for the benefit of mankind. In order to do so, the researcher has to ponder over all the branches of Geography, such as Physical, Mathematical, Political Geography, Meteorology and Urban Geography, besides it necessitates an extensive study in Geology, and Economics of the region in question. Such work obviously uncovers the hidden treasures and suggests ways for economic progress of the country.

Though our country is a late comer to the field of industry yet she is moving very fast in her industrial growth and economic developments. The stability of the industrial achievements rest upon the successful integration of various regional developments into the economic fabric of India. So the regional units must be developed in-to-an equal footing, while the country marches forward in these field of activities. Regional developments on the other hand depend
upon the successful planning and the planning has to be made on the basis of the up-to-date knowledge of the resources both man and material. Therefore, investigation in the field of Economic Geography of any part of the State obviously throws new light on the potential resources, their use, misuse, re-use and non-use and thus make up the existing deficit of the up-to-date knowledge of geographical informations for successful economic planning. Moreover, in the educational curricula, the paucity of the local geographic data, imbibe immature knowledge in the growing intellectuals. Hence, an attempt to make explicit which remained implicit in geography of any part of the State bears immense educative value.

Lakhipur, being one of the richest part of the State of Assam, needs intensive investigation in Economic Geography to substantiate the rapid development in its various fields. The vast mineral resources, water power potential, the new prospective of industrialisation, the agricultural richness in spite of innumerable natural problems of Lakhipur, obviously create interests and necessitates investigation in this field.

The present work is an attempt to make a proper Economic Survey of the potential natural resources of Lakhipur district and their utilisation in relation to the regional needs, both present and future, based on first-hand investigations. A geographical analysis of the potentialities and an assessment for the rapid and all round development of the district in future is the main contention of this thesis.