PREFACE

The thesis entitled "History of Higher Secondary Education in Modern Assam (1968 - 1990) - A Perspective" is based on an empirical study of this important issue with which the present and prospective generations are concerned. The work deals with the terminal stage of education and thereby viewed on the prospective status of students in diversification and higher education. During the period undertaken for the study, the Government of India laid out perspective plans and formulated landmark policies on education and the State Governments implemented several programmes on the basis of educational plan and policies. Through the plan and policies, the Government had been conducting experiments on education at all stages particularly at the +2 stage. This resulted in deviation of the purpose of education. I feel it is high time to analyse and review the development of Higher Secondary education in historical perspectives and expose the inadequacies of the system and policy formulations.

The repeated change in the system and pattern of Higher Secondary education during last two decades did not yield any fruitful results and instead some ridiculous problems have created. The education with the changing systems expanded considerably. But, the importance on the creation of required facilities and development of
connected sectors were not given. The programme of diversification of Higher Secondary education had been implemented a long back. But, the achievement of this programme is quite unsatisfactory due to absence of an effective link with the relevant sectors. So, the entire system is to be re-examined to work out its problems and solutions. The success of higher education specially in science and technology is dependent on the existence of a co-ordinated system of Higher Secondary education which not only can locate special abilities, but also provide basic knowledge for going up for higher education. An earnest attempt has been made to do some original works by undertaking the present topic of educational importance.

If this thesis can contribute in a small way to the improvement of the system of Higher Secondary education, the time and efforts that have been truly fruitful.

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(Mrs Leena Dutta Bharali)