SECTION : VI
CHAPTER : XVII

CONCLUSION
Agriculture plays an important role in Assam in the form of livelihood of more than 70 percent of the population in the state and in study area which covers nearly 90 percent of the population. Despite this fact, the growth rate of agricultural production is not satisfactory and erratic in different years. The main reason behind this is due to practices of traditional cultivation and dependent on vagaries of monsoons. Natural calamities like flood and erosion, drought, erratic rainfall caused serious setback in the state's agricultural activities.

Apart from general concept, the study is carried out in the study area at Barpeta and Nagaon district and found variation of production, income, spending on micro study among the sample villages of ethnic group of Boro-Rabha, immigrant Muslim people, Rajbanshi and mixed population. This variation happens because of their own social development, social habit, culture and way of life including economic factors like low investment etc.
These practices in the form of cropping pattern, processing of raw crops, spending habit are different according to group, regions and locality.

Generation of income is less due to low productivity and as a result of low income low spending on investment. New investment activities were not altogether lacking in the study area though they were mostly of rudimentary type and did not present a bright prospect.

In course of study at the study area between the period 1985 and 1993 no significant change is observed, however small change is observed at immigrant Muslim villages at Nagaon district and at a few mixed populated villages of Barpeta district.

Generation of income did not influence to invest at agriculture especially at mixed populated villages and these sample households treat agriculture as secondary and unattractive business. They lease out the land to the tenants and investment is rare from the landowner of large size group of holding. Sample households of small size group of holding has less capacity
to invest rather these classes are forced on distress sale. New investment cannot be expected in such a situation and prosperity cannot be expected.

This situation is related throughout Assam and it is the general concept that the problem of growth is not only the problem of income alone rather other socio-economic factors are involved which are development of rural-based industry, development of infrastructure, development of favourable markets, change of standard of living, spread of education, land reform, viable rural co-operative.

Though it is the aims of Agriculture University, research institutions to disseminate the knowledge, ideas and findings to the farmers, yet the farmers are deprived from agriculture extension authority, very often officials and village level extension worker (V.L.E.W.) are not available, they contact some influential and rich persons only.

The Agro-eco system has not been understood from a scientific point of view and the overall farming environment has not been viewed as a
complex in which production take place.

The scientists have to interact with small farmers so that they are able to identify and popularise the technology generated by farmers through their informal research.

New Socio-economic environment in the form of development of rural based industries either small or medium sectors with short gestation period and small initial investment run by rural co-operative will create employment and income at the same time it will create the market of the agricultural produce. Thus change of socio-economic structure will help to change the investment in agriculture sector as well as agriculture becomes the attractive business which will be idea and philosophy of life.