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EXPLANATORY NOTES: ON CERTAIN TERMS

Ahu: It is summer rice generally sown by the broadcasting method in the months of February, March and early part of April and harvested during May and July.

Bao: It is a winter variety of rice as it is harvested in the months of November and December. Its seeds are sown by the broadcasting method in the low-lying areas in the months of February and March. Bao paddy requires about 10 months for its maturing and ripening.

Bari: A kind of garden, covered by bamboo, battle-nut, various type of fruit-trees and other trees, remaining inside the greater house complex.

Bara Bhuyan: The chiefs are well remember is Assam legends as the 'Bara' (twelve) 'Bhuyan' a title which was formerly supposed to indicate a connection with the aboriginal tribe of the same designation in Chota Nagpur. The word 'Bhuiyan' is merely the Sanskrit equivalent of the persian word "Zamindar". The number twelve associates
with the word 'Bhuiyans' just as in the case of Mohammadan "Panch Pur". It seems in this part of India for kings to appoint twelve advisors or governors. The number may thus have become connected in the minds of the people with all dignatories ranking next to Raja and so have come to be used in a purely conventional sense.

Beel : Shallow pool of water which forms in a depressed area generally situated along abandoned river courses.

Beja : The people, who practise indigenous system of medicine.

Boa-Kata : It Means indigenous system of weaving and spinning.

Bonfire : The insects like 'Gandhi' (Leptorisaacta) and 'charaha' (Hispaacusceus) found destroying the paddy fields and other crops. The peasants use fire to attract such insect to kill them. This is known as 'bonfire'.

Bordoichila : The norwesters, is locally called Bordoichila. It moves to the north-east by the second week of April and by the first week of May it takes western
movement. The month of April and early May is characterised by disappearance of morning fogs and occasional thunderstorms. With the migration of the depression over Bay of Bengal and incursion of the air masses over the North East India, the frequency of storms increases. This is Bordoi chila.

**Chapati** : Cake, produce out of flour.

**Chars or Chaparis** : Sandy riverine islands situated along river beds.

**Charaghar** : A separate house in a family which is used for guests only with minimum sitting arrangement.

**Charaighar** : A public house, made for unknown travellers for taking rest during their travels. After independence in Assam, the maintainance of charaighar is taken by public works department and is converted to Inspection Bunglow.

**Dhai** : A women, who practises indigenous natal treatment.

**Dhari** : A bamboo mat.
Dols or Maths: A foundation, made of soil to worship God.

Drawing room: A drawing room is a part of a fullfledged house, where sitting arrangements, are provided for visitors.

Dūaţ : It means a door, an Assamese word.

Dwanam : It means a door, a sanskrit word.

Haat : A market place.

Jan : A brook.

Janak : It is a high-yielding variety of paddy crop, which is cultivated by transplantation method during summer season and harvested in the months of late November and December.

Kaviraj : They practise indigenous system of Ayurvedic medicine.

Oja : Ojas are also persons, who attend to the ailments of the people particularly in the pre-independence period. They also practise indigenous system of medicine.

Pati : A kind of fine mate made of a kind of grass.
Rash : An instrument of the Assamese handloom made of iron and bamboo.

Sali : It is one of the winter variety of paddy crops. The crop is sown by the transplantation method in the month of July, August or September and harvested in the months of late November and December.

Satra : A Vaishnavite religious institution.

Sonalike : It is one of the winter variety of paddy crops. It is a recent high yielding variety of crop. The crop is sown by the transplantation method in the month of July and August and harvested in the late November and December.

Tols : These are educational institutions, where only Sanskrit is taught.