At the outset, I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude to my guide, Dr. Indranee Dutta, Director, Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati, for her keen interest, active guidance and valuable suggestions throughout the course of my present study.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Devadutta Barkataky, Director, State Resource Centre, Assam for his kind help and suggestion. I am also thankful to the staffs of State Resource Centre, Assam for their cooperation in carrying out my work.

I am thankful to the staffs of K. K. Handique Library, Gauhati University, the library of the Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development, Guwahati, the library of State Resource Centre, Assam and the library of Govt. Banikanta College of Teacher Education for their help and co-operation in providing me books, journals and other materials which were very essentials to complete this work.

I am thankful to Mr. Ghanashyam Saikia of Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Assam for his sincere co-operation in this work. I would also like to thank Mr. Sobhan Bora, Mr. Phunu Sarma, Mr. Prabin Kr. Nath, Mr. Deba Kr. Nath of Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Assam for their useful co-operation.

I also express my sincere gratitude to my parent Mr. D. C. Barman and Mrs. Kusum Barman who has always been a source of great inspiration to me.

My sincere thanks go to Medha Documentation Centre, Guwahati for accurately typing and printing of the Thesis.

Finally, I express my humble gratitude to my husband without whose support and co-operation the work would not have taken the final shape.

Kabita Barman