Preface

A number of scholarly works have already been done on the land revenue administration of the Brahmaputra valley or Assam proper, but no attempt has so far been made to produce a critical study of the land revenue administration of Cachar or the Barak valley. Dr. J.B. Bhattacharjee in his Cachar under British Rule in North East India and Dr. H.K. Barujari in his work Assam in the Days of the Company have dealt with the land revenue system in Cachar, in a sketchy manner and therefore, their works cannot claim to be critical and analytical studies of the subject as such.

The object of the present work is to provide a critical and analytical study of the land revenue administration under the British rule in Cachar during the period 1832 to 1900 and the consequences of the land revenue policy in the social and economic life of the valley. The study is mainly based on documents, both published and unpublished preserved at the State Archives of West Bengal in Calcutta and of Assam at Dispur (Guwahati) and in some libraries and District Record Rooms of the region. Contemporary and semi-contemporary reports, journals and accounts have been utilised, besides, a large number of secondary works have also been consulted. Full references to primary and secondary sources have been given in the selected bibliography.