ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

From various persons and agencies, I have received immense help in conducting my research work. To all those persons and agencies I would like to extend my sincere gratitude.

At the outset, I owe my gratefulness to my research supervisor Prof. Priyam Goswami, Department of History, Gauhati University as from the moment of choosing my topic she has been extending her helpful hand. Her valuable guidance and encouragement immensely helped me in smoothly carrying out my research work.

I am very grateful to all the faculty members of the Department of History, Gauhati University for their valuable suggestions which not only greatly motivated me but also extended my mental horizon which contributed a lot in enriching my research work.

I would also like to convey my thanks to my colleagues in the Department of History, Dudhnoi College where I work and also to Samar Medhi, my colleague from the Department of Geography for helping me in drawing the map of Assam. I am greatly thankful to the Principal of Dudhnoi College, Dr. Gopal Phukan for providing me all kind of support in smoothly conducting my research work.

To all the respondents and the persons who helped me during the case study, I offer my gratitude.

I also offer my thanks to Hemanga Kumar for his valuable help in the printing of my research work.

I am immensely thankful to the staff members of the Assam State Archives,

Dispur; West Bengal State Archives, Kolkata; ICHR Library, Guwahati; K.K.

Handique Library, Gauhati University; NEDFI Library, Guwahati; District Library,

Guwahati; Assam Legislative Assembly Library, Dispur; Library of the Department

of Planning and Development, Dispur; Library of the Directorate of Economics and

Statistics, Guwahati; IIE Library, Guwahati; Lakshminath Bezbaroa Central Library,

Dibrugarh University; Dudhnoi College Library, Dudhnoi; ICSSR Library, Shillong;

NEHU Central Library, Shillong; National Library, Kolkata; Library of the Asiatic

Society of Bengal, Kolkata; DHAS, Guwahati; ASTEC, Guwahati; Central Silk

Board, Guwahati; Directorate of Sericulture, Guwahati; Directorate of Handloom and

Textile, Guwahati and the Assam Co-operative Bell Metal Utensils Manufacturing

Society Ltd., Sarthebari.

I convey my gratitude to my parents, in-laws and family members for their

constant support and encouragement.

At last I offer my heartiest gratitude to my wife Mitali Kalita as she stood

behind me with all kinds of possible help.

Date: 04/05/2018

Place: Guwahati

Mridutpal Goswami

(MRIDUTPAL GOSWAMI)