

FOREWORD

It is with great pleasure that I introduce to the esteemed public this District Gazetteer of the composite District of Khasi Hills which is the first of three to be published.

As a repository of information on all matters of importance relating to a District - on its people with their history and culture, on administration and developmental activities, on communication or places of interest, the value of the District Gazetteer is undeniable.

With the passage of time, the facts that it portrays will naturally assume greater significance, providing a handy yardstick whereby the nature and degree of every change that will have taken place in the socio-economic field can be assessed.

The Government of Meghalaya took up the task of revising the District Gazetteers, first brought out in 1905, within a few years of its own establishment as a State of the Indian Union. It made a start with creating a nuclear staff under the direction of experienced officers of the Education, as an additional duty. It was only in 1979-80 that the posts of Compilers were created, followed in the following year by that of the State Editor.

The revision of the present Gazetteer was the first to be taken up, and this is thus the first of three District Gazetteers to be brought out, each dealing with one of the original districts of the State.

It is hoped that this present publication will meet a long-felt need of the public and it is accordingly offered with this objective to them, including research scholars and students of socio-economic changes that have taken place over the years in these hills.

R. P. Sinha
Commissioner,
Arts & Culture,
Government of Meghalaya.

Dated Shillong, 24th October 1990