TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | PAGE NO. |
|---|----------|
| TITLE PAGE | i |
| DEDICATION | ii |
| DECLARATION | iii |
| CERTIFICATE | iv |
| PLAGIARISM CERTIFICATE | v |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENT | vi-vii |
| TABLE OF CONTENTS | viii-x |
| LIST OF TABLES | xi-xiii |
| ABSTRACT | xiv-xvi |
| CHAPTER- I INTRODUCTION | 1-51 |
| 1.1. Introduction | 1-4 |
| 1.2.Statement of the Problem | 4-6 |
| 1.3. Review of Literature | 6-23 |
| 1.4. Defining the Concepts of Labour and Labourer | 23-26 |
| 1.5. Concept and Definition of Unorganized Sector | 26-30 |
| 1.6. Unorganized Sector and Women | 30-33 |
| 1.7. Concept of Ethnicity and Defining Ethnic Group | 34-35 |
| 1.8. Conceptualizing Women's labour | 36-37 |
| 1.9. Significance of the study | 37-38 |
| 1.10. Objective of the study | 38 |
| 1.11. Research Questions | 38-39 |
| 1.12. Research Methodology | 39-41 |
| 1.13 Operational Definitions | 41-42 |

| 1.14. Delimitation of the Study | 42 |
|--|---------|
| 1.15. Justification of the Study | 42 |
| 1.16. Limitations of the Study | 43 |
| 1.17. Organization of the Thesis | 43-44 |
| References | 45-51 |
| CHAPTER- II THE STUDY AREA AND HISTORICAL | |
| BACKGROUND | 52-79 |
| 2.1. Origin of the Name and the District | 52-53 |
| 2.2. Historical Background of Goalpara District | 53-54 |
| 2.3. Administration | 55-58 |
| 2.4. Economic Condition of the District | 58-60 |
| 2.5. Occupations | 61-62 |
| 2.6. Human Development Index | 62-64 |
| 2.7. Literacy Rate | 64-65 |
| 2.8. The People of Goalpara | 65-68 |
| 2.9. Muslim Community in the District | 68-74 |
| 2.10. The Muslim Ethnic Groups | 74-78 |
| References | 78-79 |
| CHAPTER- III SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF | |
| UNORGANIZED WOMEN LABOURERS | 80-119 |
| 3.1. Socio-Economic Background of Women Labourers | 81-87 |
| 3.2. Women as Construction Labourer | 87-89 |
| 3.3. Working Condition of Women Construction Labourers | 89-93 |
| 3.4. Women as Domestic Worker | 93-96 |
| 3.5. Working Condition of Women Domestic Workers | 96-101 |
| 3.6. Double Burden of Women Labourers | 101-106 |
| 3.7. Social Security Measures for Women Labourers | 106-112 |
| 3.8. Findings of the Study | 112-118 |
| References | 118-119 |

| CHAPTER- IV ASPECTS OF ETHNIC DIFFERENTIATION | 120-146 |
|--|---------|
| 4.1. Backwardness of the Ethnic Group | 120-124 |
| 4.2. Socio-cultural Stigmas faced by Women Labourers | 124-135 |
| 4.3. The Attitude of Employers | 135-140 |
| 4.4. Findings of the Study | 140-142 |
| 4.5. Case Studies | 142-146 |
| References | 146 |
| CHAPTER- V SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION | 147-159 |
| 5.1. Summary of the Findings | 148-155 |
| 5.2. Conclusion and Suggestions | 156-158 |
| References | 158-159 |
| BIBLIOGRAPHY | 160-171 |
| APPENDIX-I | 172-179 |
| Reprints of Published Papers | |
| APPENDIX-II | 180-183 |
| Interview Schedule | |
| APPENDIX-III | 184-187 |
| Photographs | |
| APPENDIX-IV | 188 |
| Map of the Goalpara District | |