

P R E F A C E

The present thesis submitted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Science) of the University of North Bengal embodies the work carried out by the candidate in the Department of Chemistry, University of North Bengal. It includes some useful information on the hill soils of Eastern Himalayan Region. The investigation also deals with the physico-chemical characteristics of humic and fulvic acids isolated from two of the above hill soils as well as from other sources. It may be mentioned that the matter presented in Chapter IV has been accepted for publication in the "Journal of the Indian Society of Soil Science".