ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I express my deep sense of gratitude and sincere feelings to Dr. Nanasaheb R. Kapadnis, Principal, Arts and Commerce College, Taharabad, Tal. : - Baglan, Dist.: - Nashik for his constant encouragement and guidance during the completion of this work. I am indebted to him for his valuable help during all the field visits.

I take this opportunity to thank for Arts and Commerce College, Taharabad, Tal. : - Baglan, Dist.: - Nashik providing necessary laboratory, library facilities.

I am grateful to Dr. S. N. Karlekar (Dean, moral and Social Sciences Faculty, Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune), Dr. Umesh Keskar, Registrar, Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Mr. Ganesh Dendale (Head, Dept. of Geography) for their co-operation during the research work.

It is a great pleasure to thank Prof. Abhinav Kurkute gave many references and reports which have helped in improving the quality of map work. It gives me a great pleasure in acknowledging the help by Mrs. Sarika Pawar in GIS map work in my field work and Prof. Suhas Pawar in photographic reproduction.

I wish to thank my supportive Family members, My Wife Anjali and My Brother Bhagwan, My daughter Sayali and My son Vivek for strong support.

I am enormously thankful to Dr. Subhsh Patil, Mr. Narayan K. Devare and his family, Mr. Satyawan B. Mane and his family who have helped me in ways too numerous to mention.

I am also thankful to all non-teaching staff of the Arts and Commerce College, Taharabad, Tal. : - Baglan, Dist.: - Nashik.

This work is an outcome of sincere help and cooperation from many other people. I express my deep sense of gratitude and sincere feelings to all of them.

Date: Mr. Pandurang Dnyanadev Yadav

III