ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I feel indebted for the kind support rendered by various institutions, Business houses, colleagues and family for their encouragement.

I am grateful to Dr. Vinod Tibrewala, the Chancellor of our esteemed Shri Jagdishprasad Jhabarmal Tibrewala University, Vidhyanagri, Jhunjhunu (Raj.) for giving me an opportunity to get introduced with my able guide Dr. D.K. Tripathi and Prof. Dr. Anil Subba Rao, my co-supervisor for conducting research through this University.

I take the opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude and regards to Prof. Dr. Anil Subba Rao and my mentor Dr. P.S. Rao. Without their combined able guidance this research would not have been possible. Their constant encouragement, keen interest, and well thought out comments have inspired me towards completion of this research project. They guided me with stimulating discussions throughout the period of my research project. Prof. Dr. Anil Subba Rao’s painstaking efforts in reading the manuscript and valuable suggestions for the improvement of the text and statistical analysis are gratefully acknowledged. I am thankful to them for allowing me the privilege to use the best facilities available at the Welingkar Research Center to successfully complete my thesis.

My thanks are due to my Professors at Shri JJT University who helped me all through my period of research in the university.

I am thankful to my beloved wife, JALPA for her help in analyzing the data and typing and constantly guiding me towards achieving the completion of the thesis. A special thanks to my star daughter SAANVI for being my guiding star from the inception of the thought to apply for the degree of Doctorate of Philosophy.

My vocabulary falls short to express my gratitude towards my beloved Parents & Family.

Nirav C. Thakker
Research Scholar