ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This work would not have been possible but for the encouragement and whole hearted support of a number of people to whom I owe my thanks:

Dr. Sushama A. Keskar, Ex-Principal and Professor, SNDT College of Arts and Commerce for Women, Pune, my research mentor and guide whose valuable guidance, critical suggestions and crucial support saw me through my research work. No words would express my gratitude and thanks towards her.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Shri Arvind Kumar, IAS, Joint Secretary, Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, Government of India and Director, National Insurance Academy for his kind words of encouragement and allowing me to avail of the academic resources

This thesis would never have taken shape without the motivating force of Prof. Dr. Rajas Parchure, Director, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, whose special care and constant guidance was of invaluable help at every stage in my study is sincerely acknowledged.

I would profusely thank Shri S.P. Subhedar, Actuary, for his continuous support and encouragement throughout the development of my thesis.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Shri S.B. Mainak, Managing Director, Life Insurance Corporation of India & Ms. Sadhana Dhamane, Chief (Investments), Life Insurance Corporation of India who went out of their way to help me in whatever way possible and I am profoundly indebted to them.

I would also like to sincerely thank the Experts who have expressed their views through questionnaires which helped me to arrive at the conclusion. I also thank all the respondents who helped me in patiently filling up the questionnaire of my survey.

My heartfelt gratitude to my parents and my siblings, who have supported, encouraged and blessed me throughout. I am particularly indebted to Shri Anand Bhambure, my husband and my two daughters Ms. Janhavi and Ms. Aayooshree for their unstinted support, patience and encouragement especially during the most trying times of my research.

There are many among my friends, colleagues, relatives and well wishers who have been constantly encouraging me for completion of the study. I express my sincere thanks to one and all who have contributed directly or indirectly their expertise and cooperation to the realization of this research, without whose wholehearted support it would not have been possible for me to complete the study.

Vaishali Bhambure
Research Student