ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The work embodied in this thesis is the outcome of my research spanning more than three years, and has not been submitted to any other University or Institute for a degree. Some of the results contained in this thesis have already been communicated for publication and presented in national and international conferences. In course of investigation, I greatly indebted to many persons inside and outside of Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur.

At the outset, I would like to express my profound sense of respect and deepest gratitude to my esteemed guide Dr. Gauri Shankar, Prof. and Head, School of Studies in Statistics, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur, for the immense pain he has gladly taken in supervising this investigation. I have no words to express for his inspiration, constant encouragement and precise guidance though useful discussion in carrying out this thesis work to its completion

My gratitude goes to Dr. S. K. Singh, Professor, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur, for his best wishes. I wish to offer my sincere thanks to Faculty members Dr. (Smt.) P. Rohtagi and Dr. V. Dubey for their encouragement.

I express grateful thanks to my seniors Dr. S. P. Singh, Dr. A. K. Sahu, Dr. T. K. Chandrakar, Dr. K. K. Singh and Dr. R. K. Dubey for their ardent co-operation and generous help. I also wish to express grateful thanks to my colleagues Mr. P. K. Rai, Miss M. Uprety, Mr. D. Rathore.
and Mr. R. Banjare for their sincere and generous help provided at the time of need.

I am very much thankful to Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur, for providing me financial assistance for three years. I am also thankful to Mr. Imtiaz Khan, Assistant Librarian, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur, for kind help during library work.

My warm thanks and appreciation goes to Yadav Computer, Raipur, for their expert printing of the manuscript. I am also indebted to Prof. V. Rai, Warden, Gandhi hostel for his encouragement.

It is my pleasure to express my heartfelt sentiments for my parents and loving sisters Yogesh, Gopesh, and Punesh, whose blessings, sense of sacrifice, patience and encouragement during the course of accomplishment this work.

Lastly, I thank God, the almighty for helping me in all my endeavors.

Place: Raipur
Date: 28.12.04
(Dharmendra Kumar Gangeswher)