ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The investigator expresses her respectful thanks to (Late) Thiru. T.K. Shanmuganandam, B.A., B.L, Former Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for providing the amenities to carry out this study in this esteemed institution.

The investigator wishes to express her heartfelt thanks to Dr. (Tmt) Saroja Prabhakaran, M.A., Dip. Ed. (Madras), Ph.D. (Mother Teresa), Former Vice-Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for her valuable suggestions and inspiring motivation to undertake research work.

The investigator is grateful to the Dr. T. S. K Meenkashi Sundaram, M.A., M.Phil, Ph.D. Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for providing the opportunity to conduct her investigation in this esteemed university.

The investigator expresses her gratitude to Dr. (Tmt) Sheela Ramachandran, M.Sc., Dip.Ed. M.Phil. (Madras), Ph.D. (Avinashilingam), Vice-Chancellor, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for providing facilities to carry out the study.

The investigator records her profound and deepest thanks to Dr. (Tmt) Gowri Ramakrishnan, M.Sc. (Madras), M.Phil., Ph.D. (Avinashilingam), Registrar, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for extending all possible administrative help towards the completion of the study.

The investigator is grateful and deeply indebted to Dr. (Tmt) A. Rajeswari, M.A., Dip. Ed., M.Phil. (Madras), Ph.D. (Avinashilingam), Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Professor and Head, Department of Economics, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for her inspiring and scholarly guidance.
The investigator would like to express a deep gratitude to her guide Dr. (Tmt) K. Arul Selvam, M.A., M.Phil. Dip. Ed., Ph.D. Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, who had tirelessly kept on motivating and encouraging her. The investigator expresses her heartfelt gratitude to her guide for the valuable guidance, advice and encouragement that she received throughout the course of her work.

The investigator's special thanks to all the Faculty Members of Economics Department, who were kind enough to help her on several occasions during her research work through their valuable suggestions.

The investigator owe her deep sense of gratitude to Dr. (Mr) M. Manoharan, Associate Professor, C.P.A College, Bodinayakanur, for his help in all possible manner. The investigator has the privilege to place on record her deep sense of gratitude to Dr. (Mr) R. Jayabalan, Professor and Head, Department of Commerce, C.P.A College, Bodinayakanur, Dr.(Mr) M. Maria John Kennedy, Associate Professor, Arul Anandar College, Karumathur, for proof reading and checking typographical errors.

On a more personal note, the investigator owes a special debt and gratitude to Dr. (Mr) A. Ramachandran, Associate Professor, and Mrs. A. Rajalakshmi, Associate Professor, C.P.A College, Bodinayakanur for their support and encouragement, throughout the period of study.

The investigator's sincere thanks go to all the Library Staff and Office Staffs of Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for women, Coimbatore, who had willingly and unreservedly extended all the support she needed to complete this work.

The investigator is grateful to her parents Mr. K.Marichetty and Tmt. M.Thenmozhi and for their prayers and blessings. Their wish and blessings has motivated the investigator throughout her life. She also wishes to express her gratitude to her sisters Mrs. M.Geetha, Mrs. M.Shoba and their family members.
The investigator's son Master. R. Mukil deserves a special word of appreciation for his unstinted co-operation right from the beginning of her research work.

The investigator expresses her heartfelt thanks to her Friends, Relatives, Colleagues and Respondents for their co-operation and sharing information during the course of the study.

Above all, the investigator thanks God Almighty for being with her to bring this study to its completion and taking care of her during this time.