PREFACE

The importance of scientific study of bureaucracy is widely recognized with the emergence of large scale organisation and expansion of the area of state activities. Though some notable contributions have been made in the fields of public administration, political science and other related disciplines, much remains to be probed into.

One such significant but neglected aspect is the study of informal structures and processes of interaction among bureaucratic functionaries. The necessity to examine this aspect emerges from the basic premise that interaction patterns have a very close relationship with organisational functioning and its efficiency. In view of this gap in the existing literature, our focus of enquiry has been to understand the actual nature of the processes of bureaucratic functioning in as much depth as possible in a Divisional headquarters of Madhya Pradesh.

The work presented here is a product of immense encouragement, cooperation and guidance of many people. My first and foremost acknowledgements are due to Dr. Indra Deva not only for his valuable guidance but also for the encouragement given to me from time to time which spirited me at hours of dejection; and these were not too infrequent.

I am equally indebted to Professor S.L. Shrivastava, Dr. S.K. Shrivastava and Dr. Shashi Aggrawal, who have
provided valuable suggestion and have helped me in giving final shape to my work.

I also extend my gratitude to Dr. Bhupat Rai, Dr. Neelam Bhatnagar, and Dr. Sharma who have helped me throughout in completion of this work. My sincere thanks are also due to Mr. Saran, Professor Tiwari and Mr. Haruray who took a keen interest in my work.

Words fail to express my gratefulness to Mr. Tiwari (Asstt. Superintendent, Collectorate), Mr. S.K. Shrivastava (Deputy Director, Statistics) without whose cooperation the work could not have progressed.

A special word of thanks also goes to Shri P.S. Shivan for typing out the earlier drafts of this dissertation and to Shri Divakaran for typing the final copy.

Most of all I convey my thanks to all my respondents who inspite of inconvenience caused to them by repeated interviews, cooperated whole-heartedly in giving the necessary information for the work presented here.

DAMYANTI BHATANAGAR