ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Really, it is a matter of pleasure to place on records deep sense of gratitude towards my Research Guide Dr. V.H. Bajaj, Head, Department of Statistics, Dr. B.A. Marathwada University, Aurangabad-431 004 for his inspiring guidance, sincere exhortation, keen interest, genuine encouragement, constructive criticism and active assistance at all the stages of entire course of this investigation right up to completion of the manuscript.

It is my profound privilege to express my deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to Dr. B.R. Ulmek, Head, Department of Animal Science and Dairy Science, Prof. T.R.V. Naidu, Head, Deptt. of Statistics, Dr. V.D. Deshmukh, Ex. Head, Deptt. of Statistics, MPKV, Rahuri for their competent and uninterrupted guidance, keen interest, warm and generous treatment throughout the progress of may research work.

I feel highly indebted to Dr. D.K. Deokar, Jr.Res. Asstt. Department of Animal Science, M.P.K.V. Rahuri for his valuable suggestions, helpful comments and providing the necessary facilities and cooperation. The discussion with him proved to be quite useful in conceptualizing the frame work of the present study. I owe them a lot for his help. I extend my sincer thanks to Dr. D.P. Kaledhonkar, Asstt. Prof. of Statistics, Department of Statistics, MPKV, Rahuri for help and cooperation, constant, inspiration sympathetic attitude and talent.
Supporting encouragement and guidance always has to be appreciated and I sincerely acknowledge the same received from Dr. S.M. Kareppa, Dr. B.H. Khan and Mrs. Sharmangath Department of Statistics, MPKV, Rahuri.

My research task would not have been superfine and super finished without the assistance and co-operation extended by Shri. Parkhe and Shri. Ohal.

What is appropriately coined as the 'Life line' or the friends in need are the friends indeed. I am fortunate enough to have the pleasant company of friends who always genuinely pushed me a head on the path of progress to whom I owe a great deal of thanks. They are Dr. Dada Yadav, Dr. Sharad Gadhakh, Dr L.L. Mane, Dr. N.L. Mahse, Dr. U.Y. Bhrite, Dr.A.V. Gavali, Dr. Musmade and all my friends and colleagues and those who helped me directly or indirectly in completing my research work and preparation of the thesis.

The greatness of parents is obscure to their offsprings. This is true even for the God and Goddess and no wonder for me too. I am unable to express my over whelming feeling for all kinds of sacrifices and blessings conferred upon me by my father Late Dada and my mother whom I call Bai. I am equally thankful and indebted to my wife Sou. Pramila, Sister Sou. Mangala, Sou. Kalpana and brothers Anna and Kaka for their constant and instant loving support and encouragement. I would like to rejoice this precious moment with my loving and dearest children's Mahesh and Manjusha.
I am deeply obliged to all the authors past and present whose literature has been cited.

I sincerely thanks to Shri. Avinash Gaikwad for meticulous typing of this manuscript.

And at last, I bow my head before Lord Datta Guru and Sadguru Saibaba for giving me wisdom and strength required to successfully complete of my Research programme.

( Vilas S. Wani )