ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am deeply indebted to Dr. D.P. Pattnaik, Reader in Commerce and former Head of P.G. Department of Commerce, M.P.C. College, Baripada for his scholarly guidance, affectionate encouragement and constant help. In spite of his multifarious engagements he took keen interest in going through the manuscript meticulously and offered many valuable suggestions from time to time. Words are inadequate to express my deep sense of gratitude to him for his invaluable help.

I am equally indebted to Dr. B.P. Nanda, Reader in Commerce, Government College, Angul for co-supervising the dissertation. He has been more than a guide to me - the main source of inspiration. His friendly advice and guidance have been of highest value.

I express my sincere gratitude to Dr. R.K. Jena, Professor and former Head and Dean of faculty of Commerce, Utkal University for his affectionate and encouraging advice.

I am greatly thankful to my teachers, Prof. B.N. Pattnaik, Dr. P.C. Tripathy, Professor and other faculty members of Department of Commerce, Utkal University for their constant help in the completion of my work successfully.

I have immensely benefited from the discussions with Dr. S.C. Sahoo, Professor and former Head, Department of Business Administration, Utkal University and Dr. D. Naik, Director, Planning and Monitoring, Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar for which I shall remain thankful to them.

I am thankful to Dr. T. Satyanarayana, Secretary, Indian Society of Agricultural Marketing, Nagpur, Mr B.K. Pani and other staff members of Orissa State Agricultural Marketing Board, Bhubaneswar, members of staff of the Directorate of Agricultural Marketing, Bhubaneswar and the Secretaries of Angul RMC, Bargarh RMC, Kendupatna RMC and Sakhigopal RMC for allowing me to collect data from their official records.
I shall be failing in my duty if I do not thank the Librarians and their staff of National Library, Calcutta, State Library, Bhubaneswar, Parija Library, Utkal University, Kanika Library, Ravenshaw College, Cuttack, Co-operative Training College Library, Bhubaneswar, Central Library, Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhdrak College Library, Bhdrak and Directorate of Statistics and Economics, Bhubaneswar for providing me access to their libraries.

Thanks are also due to Mr. N.K. Puhan, Dr. G.K. Sharma, Dr. A.K. Mahapatra, Dr. S.K. Sahoo and Mr A.K. Das and the faculty members of the Department of Commerce, Bhdrak College, Bhdrak for their continuous encouragement to complete my work.

I am grateful to the Principal, Bhdrak College, Bhdrak and Higher Education Department, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar for the official help I have received from them in completing the dissertation.

My sincere thanks are due to Mr N. Jena who has done the entire computer work.

I am thankful to the large number of authors whose works have been of invaluable assistance to me in this study.

A special word of thanks are due to my wife Shanti, daughter Ami and son Babuni without whose inspiration and co-operation this work would have been a difficult task.

Jayadev Sahu
1.5. 2001.
(Jayadev Sahu)