Acknowledgments

The present study of distributive shares is an outgrowth of my M.Phil dissertation, "Rates of Return and Production Functions in Manufacturing Industry in Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and West Bengal — A Comparative Study", which was prepared under the supervision of my teacher, Prof. Boudhayan Chattopadhyay, at the Centre for the Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University and was submitted to the same University in the winter of 1972.

One of the most important findings of this dissertation was the large variations in the rates of return across industries, and the inadequacy of the neo-classical production function approach to explain these variations. These findings were, it was then decided, to be probed further using neo-classical production function approach in all its dimensions — using time series data relating to the manufacturing sector as a whole and to as many industries for which comparable data were available.

For clearing most of the ticklish issues of the neo-classical approach, which finally confirmed our initial findings of the M.Phil dissertation, and formulating the
present framework for this study, I am indebted to Prof. Boudhayan Chattopadhyay, who supervised this work in the true tradition of a teacher by giving me his otherwise valuable time at any hour of the day. The framework for this study ultimately culminated in exploring the alternative theoretical apparatus, namely, the degree of monopoly approach of late Professor Kalecki and our own approach, which looks at the problem of monopoly in India as "conglomerate bigness" rather than monopoly arising out of

Most of the data collection relevant for the present study was done when Prof. Boudhayan Chattopadhyay associated me with one of his research projects, "The Economics of the Wage Structure", he was directing for the National Labour Institute, New Delhi. The opportunity to process the huge data and to write this thesis was once again provided by Prof. Boudhayan Chattopadhyay, who associated me with the other research project he has been directing for UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), Geneva, at the Centre for Regional Ecological and Science Studies in Development Alternatives (CRESSIDA), Calcutta. I am indebted to Prof. Boudhayan Chattopadhyay and to CRESSIDA for also providing me with the necessary infrastructure for research.

The Centre for the Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, where I was first exposed to the regional dimensions of various problems afflicting the Indian
economy, its Chairman and my teacher, Prof. Moonis Raza, deserve my sincere respect and gratitude.

I have derived benefit from discussions that I have had with Dr. Ashok Mathur at the Centre for the Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University at various stages of this work. I am also grateful to Dr. Mathur for having so painstakingly gone through the entire draft of this thesis.

The results of the work were presented in a faculty Seminar of the Centre for the Study of Regional Development and the comments of the participants helped a good deal in clarifying my ideas.

The necessary resources for carrying out the computational work without which this work would have never been completed were provided by CRISSIDA. I am grateful to the authorities of this Centre.

My sincere respect and gratefulness is also to my teacher and now colleague, Shri S.C. Hashmi, Zakir Hussain College, ( University of Delhi ), who always kept encouraging me.

Mr. N. A. Kazmi of the Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, helped me in writing most of the computer programmes for this study. I wish to express my sincere appreciation of his help.

I am also thankful to the Librarians of the National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi, Rattan Tata
Library, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi and the Library of the Jawaharlal Nehru University. I wish to record my particular thanks to Shri Kamlesh Kumar of National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi.

Last but not least I wish to record my thanks to Shri Jatinder Singh of Public Enterprises Centre for Continuing Education, New Delhi, who typed the final draft of this thesis making it worthy of presentation.

Needless to say, however, I am solely responsible for the errors and omissions that this work may contain.

S. C. Sharma