Under the University regulations one has to elect for a title to one's thesis even before it is written. Not surprisingly, therefore, the title "Allocation of Resources Over the Sectors of Different Regions in a Planned Federal Economy", fits the present work somewhat loosely. Originally all my abstractions were expected to be from a federal planned economy like India. The Indian economy is multiregional in structure, the regional units being the federating states. These regions have autonomy in certain types of decision making, while the country has a centralised planning agency which solves the problem of regional allocation of resources consistently with the decisions of the regions.

The work that follows presents an analysis of the problem of regional allocation of resources in general. The models are constructed to take into account the problems where the locational factors of transportation and of agglomeration economies are involved in an essential way.

In Part I the economy has been assumed to be federal in its regional structure. We use the term federal to describe an economy which is divided into a number of regions, the criterion of regional demarcation being arbitrary from the economic point of view. In the main body of the thesis we have in fact used the term 'multiregional' instead of 'federal' in order to ensure uniformity with the later models. In any case, the regions of any model of Part I, like the federal states of India, enjoy autonomy in certain respects. It is assumed that they decide the sites of production within
their respective boundaries by some unspecified mechanism of choice. The economy, on the other hand, has got a Central Planning Authority (C. P. A.) which allocates resources on the basis of the given locational decisions of the regions.

Subsequently, in the discussions of Part II and Part III the enquiry leads one to consider the problems of regional allocation of resources with locations as continuous variables in space and as such, objects of simultaneous choice before the Central Planning Authority. The explicit description of the economy as consisting of a number of demarcated regions will therefore no longer be interesting for Parts II and III. The title of the present work however remains.

The organisation of the present work has been described elaborately in the introductory chapter (Chapter One). The chapter classifies the models, defines the basic concepts and states the alternative assumptions that have been used in the different models. Chapter Two gives an outline of the history of location economies. Chapters Three to Nine discuss Models I - V. The concluding chapter (Chapter Ten) gives a resume of results of the models.