ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At the outset, I would like to put on record my profound and deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to my revered teacher and guide Dr. Jyoti Prakash Pattnaik, Professor, P.G. Department of Economics, Sambalpur University, Burla for his scholastic and inspiring guidance, constant supervision and immediate response at all levels and all times of my research work, but for which this piece of work would not have seen the light of the day. He has gone through the manuscript meticulously and offered a number of suggestions for its modification. His guidance and direction exposed me to the vast world of academics and opened up new avenues in my life. Mere words can hardly express the height of his help, hardwork and sacrifice for my thesis. Indeed, I am extremely grateful to him.

I gratefully acknowledge the hospitality and affection of his (my esteemed guide's) family shown to me during the course of this research work. I owe a huge debt to Madam Late Tilottama Pattnaik, whose motherly affection will always occupy a front seat in my memory. Today she is not with us, nor does she know how much I owe her.

I am extremely grateful to the University Grants Commission for awarding me the Teacher Fellowship under salary protection scheme to complete this work.

It is indeed, memorable for me to receive encouragement and inspiration from my Principal, Dr. B.N. Pradhan for grating necessary leave at the right time.

I owe a deep sense of honour and gratitude to Prof. R.S. Deshpande, Professor and Dr. A. Chakravarti, Reader in Economics, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune for giving me some ideas on this work during my stay there while undergoing Refresher Course. I am also equally grateful to Dr. Ajit Kumar Mishra, Delhi School of Economics and Late Professor Krishna Bharadwaj, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi who renewed my thought on this topic.

Several discussions with Dr. S.N Dash, Principal, J.N. College, Patnagarh refined my ideas and knowledge on this work. I am highly grateful to Dr. Dash for his valuable co-operation.

I record my heartfelt indebtedness to the Staff of the Library of JNU, New Delhi, Ratan Tata Library, Delhi School of Economics; Institute of Economic Growth; NCERT, New Delhi; National Library, Utkal University; State Institute of Rural Development, Bhubaneswar; Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Bhubaneswar for their co-operation in the collection of study materials.
My special thanks are due to the Authorities, Nabakrushna Choudhuri Centre for Development Studies, Bhubaneswar for having permitted me to use their library. I wish to convey my warm thanks to Dr. R.K. Meher, Secretary/ Sr. reader, N.C.D.S., Bhubaneswar for providing me hostel accommodation there for easy library work. The hospitality of Mr. Haladhar Naik, Hostel Attendant, N. C.D.S. is highly acknowledged.

I record my sincere gratitude to Dr. K.C. Samal, Professor of Economics, N.C.D.S., Bhubaneswar for his valuable counseling and Dr. Shiblal Meher, Lecturer in Economics, N.C.D.S., Bhubaneswar for his co-operation in various statistical computations and computer works.

I am also sincerely thankful to Officers and Staff, DRDA, Balangir; D.I.C., Balangir; District Planning Unit, Balangir; Lead Bank, Balangir; District Statistical Office, Balangir; District Informatics Centre, Balangir; Asst. Director of Textiles, Sonepur; B.D.Os., I.P.Os.; W.E.Os; G.P.E.Os; V.L.Ws, P.As, Branch Managers and Staff of various banks of the three blocks-Saintala, Kharakhol and Loisingha, who helped me immensely by extending the necessary information, and free and frank discussion on the subject of research.

I remember with gratitude the co-operation extended by Dr.(Mrs) Shanti Rani dash, Ex- H.O.D. of our department and all my colleagues of Sonepur College, Sonepur.

Sincerely I am grateful to Dr. K. Sarap, Professor and Head, P.G. Department of Economics, Sambalpur University, Burla for his encouragement and suggestions. I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to my teacher Dr. S.S. Rath, Reader in Economics for his valuable advice and suggestions on this work.

I record my heartfelt thanks to Mr. R.C. Majhi for typing this thesis neatly and to Mr. C.P. Bej, Loisingha College, Loisingha for his assistance in the preparation of questionnaire for field study.

I express my deep regards to my parents whose blessings and good wishes have always been with my success. No language can express my respect and feeling towards them.

I will fail in my duty if I forget to express my indebtedness to my wife Jyotsna, who actually initiated the idea of a Ph.D. work and infused it in me; who suffered tremendous isolations and anxious moments and managed the household single handed for months when I was out of her sight for this thesis work. Her sincere support, dedication and encouragement made possible to finish this study.
It is really hard to express my feelings towards my loving little kids Pini, Reni and Spandan for bearing my absence during many occasions. I acknowledge my indebtedness to my relatives, particularly Nakula, Sheshadev and my friend uncle Ashok, for whose visible and invisible support helped me to complete the thesis.

Last but not the least, I thank all the entrepreneurs/ workers of the sample units for their unflinching help and co-operation in extending necessary information during my fieldwork.

While credit for this work is shared, the responsibility for errors and omissions, if any, is solely mine.

Date: 23.07.07
Place: Jyoti Vihar

(Ananda Chandra Tripathy)