Acknowledgement
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I do take this opportunity to express my profound thanks to prominent personalities for their contributions, co-operation, good wishes and blessing for the successful completion of this dissertation.

I feel very fortunate for having got Dr. T.R. Gurumoorthy M.Com, M.Phil, PGDCA, Ph.D Professor, Department of International Business, Alagappa University, Karaikudi as my Guide and Research Supervisor. He is mighty source of inspiration to me. I should say that this research work would not have been possible without his able guidance and encouragement. My supervisor's insightful guidance is so profound in depth and range that words are insufficient to record my debt of gratitude and thanks to him. During the course of research work, I did find him a real taskmaster and that attitude kept me attentive all through the venture. I am extremely thankful to him.

I express my sincere thanks to the PSG & Sons Charities Trust for all the help extended to me to carry out the research programme. I express my gratitude to Dr. B. Sampath Kumar, M.A., Ph.D Secretary, PSG College of Arts and Science for permitting me to undertake the research in International Business. My sincere thanks & gratitude to Dr. Sheela Ramachandran, M.Sc, PGFS&P, Ph.D Principal, Prof. M. Viswanathan, MA, M.Phil Principal In-charge, Dr. K. M. Chinnadorai, M.Com, MBA, MFC, MFT, MS, M.Phil, Ph.D, Professor in-charge, PSG college of Arts and Science, Coimbatore for his encouragement, help and patronage throughout the research period.

I am grateful to Dr. M. Arumugham, M.Com, Ph.D, DIM Director, Department of International Business, PSG College of Arts and Science for his kind encouragement and support. My profound thanks and gratitude are due to Dr. J. Sekkizhar, M.Sc., M.Phil., Ph.D, PGDCA Senior Lecturer in Statistics, PSG Institute of Management for his valuable suggestions and comments at analysis stages of this research work. I thank the members of Department of Commerce, PSG College of Arts and Science for their continuous assistance and co-operation.

I extend my gratitude to the Librarians of PSG College of Arts and Science, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Indian Institute of Port Management, World
Trade Center Mumbai, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi, Tuticorin port, Tuticorin, Chennai port, Chennai, Indian Port Association New Delhi, for their assistance in providing ample research materials. I take pride in conveying my thanks to each every one of the respondents who extended their fullest cooperation in all respects and I am grateful to them. I extended my thanks to all the officials in Government and Private sector Organization who readily provided necessary information and allowed me to meet the respondents at their work places.

I am extremely grateful to my colleagues Mrs.Deena Roy MFT., and Mrs.Reena Louis MIB, M.Phil Lecturers in International Business, PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore for sharing my academic workload.

My heartfelt thanks are due to Dr.M.Selvam M.Com, MBA, Ph.D Professor and Head of the Department and Dr.Sathiyamoorthy M.Com, Ph.D Professor, Department of International Business and Commerce, Alagappa University, Karaikudi.

I express my sincere thanks to Dr.R.Natarajan, M.Com, M.Phil, Ph.D Former Reader and Assistant Controller of Examination, Alagappa University, Karaikudi for his effervescent suggestions to complete the study.

I express my gratitude to Dr.Amilan, MCom, MBA, M.Phil, Ph.D, Dr.Muthusamy, M.Com, M.Phil, Ph.D, Dr.Ganapathy, M.Com, M.Phil, Ph.D, Dr. Mathiraj, M.Com, M.Phil, Ph.D Senior lecturers of Department of International Business and Commerce, Alagappa University, Karaikudi who gave me incessant support to complete the research work. I am grateful to Miss. Prabha, M.A, M.Phil for her timely assistance in correcting the manuscript.

A note of appreciation and gratitude is due to all the respondents who were issued questionnaire for this research.

My hearty thanks and sense of gratitude to my parents Thiru.V.K.Gurusamy, Mrs.G.Sivagami who made all out sacrifice on their pursuit to support morally. My special thanks to due to my brother Mr.V.G.Veerakumar M.Com and his wife Mrs.Revathi.M.Sc,B.Ed, my uncle Mr. Ravichandran and his
wife Mrs. Jegadeeswari and my cousin Mr. Karthick M.Sc (Floriculture) who had showered profuse help in variety of ways enabling me to complete this work.

I am specially indebted to my wife Mrs. R. Vanitha B.A who constantly boosted my morale and helped in various ways to make this work a success. My special appreciations are due to my son C.V. Krishanth who has patiently borne the inconvenience caused by my absence during the period of study. I am grateful to mummy Mrs. Pounammal for her unsagging encouragement and support throughout.

My earnest thanks are due to the students of Department of International Business, PSG College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore.

I acknowledge all others who helped me in one way or other during the course of the research.

I thank god Almighty for the kind bliss on making this happen.

G. CHANDRASEKARAN