First and foremost, I would like to acknowledge my sincere regards and gratitude to my supervisors, Prof. Bijan Sarkar and Prof. Subir Kumar Sanyal of Production Engineering Department, Jadavpur University, for their able guidance, invaluable advice, and constant inspiration during the entire span of my research work. They are embodiment of knowledge and wisdom, sincerity and integrity, ingenuity and hard work and yet, humble and very much down to earth. Their contributions to academic fraternity need no special mention. Whenever I have approached them, they have never disappointed me and always responded in affirmative. I am fortunate and privileged enough for getting the opportunity to work under such personalities so as to enrich myself. I owe a lot to them for my transformation to present state from where I was. Their credentials and work have instilled an attitude that would always encourage me to thrive for excellence.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey my sincere regards and reverence to internationally renowned Professor of Production Engineering Department, Jadavpur University, Late Amitabha Bhattacharyya, professor of our professors, for his heavenly blessings during my work.

I would also like to take this opportunity to convey my sincere regards and reverence to Prof. Debamalya Banerjee, HOD, Production Engineering Department, Prof. Jyotirmoy Saha and Prof. Balendra Nath Lahiri of Production Engineering Department, Jadavpur University, for their blessings and encouragement during my work.

I thankfully acknowledge the support and help provided by Prof. A. Bandyopadhyya, Director, other former Directors, Prof. Prithviraj Purkait, Principal, and Dr. Anjan Mishra, Registrar – all from my present institution Haldia Institute of Technology (HIT), Haldia. The work could not be materialized without their permission and positive nod.

I am greatly indebted to Prof. Bikash Bepari, Head, Production Engineering, HIT, Haldia, for his constant support and encouragement throughout my work.

I extend my sincere gratitude and special thanks to my colleague Bipradas Bairagi, Assistant Prof., for his constant company, valuable advice and suggestions
during my entire course of journey. He had also provided me with lot of pertinent literatures, which has enriched my work.

I took this opportunity to convey my sincere appreciation to Prof. Tarun Kanti Jana, Head, Mechanical Engineering, HIT, Haldia, for his constant support and encouragement throughout my work.

I also take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Harihar Dutta, Senior Manager, TATA Chemicals Ltd., and other officials of different industries for their sincere effort to make me understand the different aspects of warehouse performance evaluation in their esteemed organization. Without their assistance, it would not have been possible to realize the work in its present form.

I thankfully acknowledge the help and services rendered by my colleagues Prof. S. Banerjee, Prof. Gautam Bose of Mechanical Engineering department, Prof P.K. Sengupta of School of Applied sciences, HIT during the different stages of my work.

I am also very keen to mention the name of Shri Atul Kumar Biswas for his constant encouragement and meaningful suggestions in my present endeavor.

It would be extremely unfair if I don’t acknowledge the constant help and support provided in different dimensions by the faculty members and staffs of Production Engineering and Mechanical Engineering, HIT, Haldia.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude and respects to my parents and parent-in-laws (who had left for their heavenly abode), my all family members for their affection, constant inspiration, good wishes and the lessons they had inculcated in me about the importance of education, values, and morals in life.

I am also very much indebted to my wife Sagarika, who has been continuously by my side during my present work. The cooperation, tolerance and perseverance exhibited by my family members including my daughter Swaralipi and son Swarajit during the crucial periods of this work are really commendable.

And finally, it is the Almighty, who has been kind and generous enough to bless me in my present attempt, without which perhaps it was never possible to steer the life in the right direction.

Jadavpur University
Date: ___________________________

(Balaram Dey)