ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am deeply indebted to my supervisor Dr R.K. Sharma for his invaluable guidance and encouragement at various stages of this study. I thank him for going through the draft thesis and offering useful suggestions. During my visits to his house, Mrs R.K. Sharma extended warm hospitality for which I am grateful to her.

I owe a profound sense of gratitude to Professor G.K. Chadha but for whose interest in this study since its inception and his constant encouragement, it would have been impossible to complete this work. He has been a source of inspiration and strength to me.

My deep sense of indebtedness to Professor G.S. Bhalla for providing me an opportunity to take up this study. His erudite views on various themes of agricultural economics have always stimulated me.

My sincerest thanks to Dr Ashok Gulati with whom I have had the benefit of useful discussions on various issues contained in this study. I thank him for his invaluable comments on the draft thesis. Late Dr D.S. Tyagi was extremely encouraging and helpful in this venture. I deeply regret he is no more to see this study in its present shape.

I am beholden to Dr D.N. Rao for his comments on the findings of the study and the estimation procedure used. I thank him also for going through the re-estimated results. Dr Rajesh Mehta clarified several points on simulation models for which I am grateful to him. I thank Dr Deepak Ahluwalia for sharing his research work with me and for useful discussions.

My gratefulness would be incomplete unless I mention the
names of Dr (Ms) Kusum Chopra and Professor Amitabh Kundu in whose contact I came during the course of this study and who have been very encouraging and helpful.

I am grateful to Professor Deepak Nayyar, then Chief Economic Adviser (Ministry of Finance) for granting me leave to pursue this study.

Among friends, I must thank Sarvashri M.N.Lothe, Utpaul Ghosh, P.N.Asari, K.L.Datta, Harcharan Singh, J.Das and Smt Vinita Kumar for being helpful in many ways. I thank Shri Pramod Kumar for the Flow Chart used in the study.

I am grateful to the staff of the libraries of Ministry of Finance, Directorate of Economics and Statistics (Ministry of Agriculture), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Planning Commission for all the help.

I would be failing in my duty if I do not thank my wife and my son for patiently enduring my long hours of work at home.

This study has been taken up in my personal capacity and none of the persons mentioned above, or my present or past employers, is responsible for the views expressed or the errors that may still remain.