ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I owe a deep debt of gratitude to many distinguished individuals who extended their help, co-operation and guidance for the successful preparation and completion of this Ph.D thesis on “Economics of Dairy Co-operatives in Kerala- A Study With Special Reference to Operation Flood.” I wish to express my sincere thanks to each and every one of them.

In the first place, let me express my gratitude to Dr. V. MATHEW KURIAN, my Research Guide who guided me at every stage of the work and enriched me with his valuable guidance and suggestions for the arrangement of details and making it an exhaustive study of a hitherto unexplored area.

My sincere thanks are also due to the Principal, Government College, Kottayam, Prof. Soman, Head of Economics Department, Government College, Kottayam, Prof. Dr. K.A. Sunny, Economics Department, Government College, Kottayam, and Prof. Unnikrishnan Chettiar, Former Head of the Department of Economics, Government College, Kottayam, who provided necessary facilities, support and encouragement for preparing and completing this work. Other Professors, Office and Library Staff too were very helpful. I also thank Mr. Steffi Thomas, Researcher and Prof. Dr. T.M. Jacob.

My friends and colleagues in various colleges where I served extended their full support and co-operation. I thank them sincerely. I also thank the Librarians and Staff of the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Mahatma Gandhi University Library, Government College, Kottayam and Dairy Societies in the three regions. The Officials of KCMMF and Bureau of Economics and Statistics Department who provided me with the required data and information for my research also deserve my thanks. I also thank the enumerators and local helpers without
whose assistance the conduct of the survey and collection of field data would not have been possible.

This work would not have materialised but for the encouragement of my husband, father and my brother. It was my brother, Shri.Giriraj.B.N, who prompted me to take up this task and he remained motivating throughout the course of the work. Words are failing to express my affectionate gratitude to my husband, Shri.Bimal Biswas, for the loving support, useful suggestions and co-operation. My heart is filled with the gratitude to amma, husband’s amma, Appu, Ammuma and husband’s achan. I will be failing in my duty if I do not register my gratitude to Adambayil for providing computer-related assistance.

Above all, my heart goes out in profound gratitude to God Almighty, for endowing me with courage and confidence for tiding over several personal hurdles and enabled me to complete the work.

Shoja Rani.B.N