ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my great indebtedness and sincere gratitude to Dr. N. Chandrasekharan Pillai, Professor, School of Management Studies for his stimulating guidance and whole-hearted support throughout the study. But for his patience and perseverance this work would not have been possible.

I am indeed grateful to Dr. K. C. Sankaranarayanan, Professor and Head of the Department of Applied Economics, Dr. G. Antony, Reader, School of Management Studies and Dr. M. K. Sukumaran Nair, Director, Centre for Science in Society for their help, guidance and co-operation.

In this process, I had the rare blessings of receiving profound help and suggestions from Dr. C. Radhakrishnan Nair, Reader in Econometrics, University of Kerala who very recently had expired completing his mission.

I am deeply indebted to Dr. Bishwanath Goldar of Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi for his invaluable and priceless help, guidance and suggestions.

Most helpful were the comments and suggestions of two anonymous reviewers in the early stage and final stage of research work. I shall remain beholden for their scholarly counsel.

Encouraging comments and suggestions from scholars and econometricians while presenting the research topic as
seminar papers in the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore and Academic Staff College, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi were also greatly remembered and acknowledged. I owe a great intellectual debt to my teacher guide at ISEC whose comments contributed much to the clarity of exposition of econometric ideas.

May I remember with deep sense of gratitude Dr. K.L. Krishna of Delhi School of Economics, Dr. Kevin of Kerala University and Dr. Pushpangadhan of Centre for Development Studies (CDS) with whom I had the opportunity to discuss the subject at different levels.

With respect and love, I remember here Mr. Joseph, Spinning Master, Kathai Cotton Mills. His help and suggestions were so great and unaccountable.

I record special thanks to the Principal and my colleagues of Economics Department, Sree Sankara College, Kalady for their encouragement, sincere help and research support.

The analysis of data was mainly done at Tata Institute of Social Sciences on SPSS/PC+ and I am grateful to all those at the Computer Centre for their efficiency and cheerful disposition.

Grateful acknowledgement is due also to the staff in the Department of Applied Economics: Miss Elizabeth Abraham, Librarian, Mr. M. Rajan, Section Officer, Mrs. Alamma, Mr. Unnikrishnan and Mr. George for their kind co-operation.
Many thanks to Mr. Sibiraj for having done the electronic typing neatly and meticulously.

I also wish to thank Miss Sophia who helped in manuscript and typological corrections and one and all who associated with the work of typing and reading the draft and making valuable suggestions.

I would like to thank my wife Indira and my kids Vimal, Vineeth and Varsha for putting up with the stresses and strains during my research.

And finally my sincere and deep hearted thanks to my beloved parents who are always a major source of inspiration to me.

P.S. MOHANA KUMAR.