ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude and reverence to my teacher and Research Supervisor Prof. C. Subbarami Reddy, M.Sc., Ph.D., F.S.S. (London), Department of Statistics, for accepting me as his student and suggesting a novel and fascinating problem for execution. His logical discussions and vital analysis are accountable for the present form of my work. I also thankful to Mrs. Uma Rami Reddy for her affection, encouragement and blessings.

I owe a special debt to Prof. P. Balasiddamuni, Chairman, Board of Studies (Statistics), for his constructive advice, meticulous and timely reading the manuscript during the writing of my thesis.

I am greatly indebted to Prof. M.P. Sastry, Founder Professor, Department of Statistics and my Teachers, Prof. E. Satyanarayana, Prof. K.V.S. Sharma, Prof. P. Rajasekhar Reddy, Prof. R. Abbaiah, Prof. M. Venkatramanaiah, Dr. M. Subbarayudu and Dr. M. Bhupathi Naidu for their help at various stages in completion of my work.

I would also like to record my deep gratitude to Prof. C. Ramaiah, Dr. D. Chengal Raju, Mr. G. Esważaiah and Mr. P. Lenin Kumar for their continued moral support and encouragement.

I am also thankful to Prof. C.R. Rao, Sc.D., F.R.S. Director: Center for Multivariate Analysis, Pennsylvania State University, U.S.A. and Prof. S. Rao Jammalamadaka, Ph.D., Department of Statistics and Applied Probability, Santa Barbara, University of California, U.S.A. for their appreciation and blessings.
I thank to my co-research scholars Mr. K. Srinivasulu, Mr. K. Ramesh Reddy, Mr. B. Munaswamy and Mr. Yadavendra Babu, Ms. K. Saroja for their co-operation in course of my research work.

I express my heartfelt thanks to my friends Miss. K. Kalpana, K. Leela Rani, T.M. Venkata Prasanna, K.L. Durga Kiran Kumar, M. Srinivasulu for their constant support and encouragement.

It is indeed a great pleasure to record my sincere thanks to each and everyone of my friends in S.V. University Campus for their contribution in shaping this thesis.

Finally I wish to express my personal sentiments, love and affection to my grand mother M. Rudramma, my father M. Subbarayudu Naidu, my sister M. Suguna, uncle K. Lakshmaiah Naidu and all other family members. without whose blessings, this venture would never have been materialized.

I thank Mr. Y. Ram, Sri Lakshmi University Xerox, Tirupati, for typing my thesis neatly.

(M. RAMESH)