Acknowledgement

I owe thanks to many individuals and institutions in bringing this work to fruition.

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Prof. J. S. Panwar, Professor and Head, Post Graduate Department of Business Administration (MBA Programme) at Sardar Patel University (SPU), Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat, my supervisor for the Ph. D research. I am indebted to him for having agreed to accept me as a candidate for doctoral research under his guidance and supervision. I would like to express my gratefulness for the valuable guidance, suggestions and scientific inputs he had provided to me at various phases of the doctoral research such as research design, data analysis and synthesis of the study findings, which had enormously helped in enhancing the value of my research. The comments and suggestions on the contents and presentation of draft papers, and organizing of the thesis, which he very promptly offered in spite of his busy schedules, have been undoubtedly remarkable in improving the quality of the thesis. Also, my constant interaction with him during the period of undertaking Ph D dissertation had helped me enhance my academic knowledge, more importantly in the discipline of management, including the concepts, theories and tools.

I am indebted to Dr. Tushaar Shah, Principal Researcher, International Water Management Institute, Colombo, Sri Lanka, the then leader of IWMI-Tata Water Policy Programme (ITP), Anand, for having wholeheartedly granted official permission for registering for Ph. D programme in SPU. The keen interest he had taken in the overall progress of my research work, and the valuable and timely suggestions he had provided on the research contents and focus, in spite of his busy work schedules are commendable. I am also grateful to him for the constant encouragement and inspiration and the compromises he made on the work front, without which it would have been difficult for me to complete the doctoral research on time.

I am also highly thankful to Dr. Sanjiv Phansalkar, the present leader of ITP, for the invaluable support provided to me for successfully completing the research work and thesis preparation.

Thanks are due to Prof. Katar Singh, Chairman, India Natural Resoruce Economics and Management (INREM) Foundation, Anand for the valuable comments and suggestions on earlier versions of the chapters of the thesis, which were of immense in sharpening the focus.

The data collected and various reports made available from the Department of Narmada, Water Resources and Water Supplies-Gandhinagar, Central Ground Water Board-Ahmedabad, Gujarat Water Resources Development Corporation-Gandhinagar, Gujarat Water Supply and Sewerage Board-Gandhinagar, Water and Sanitation Management Organization-Gandhinagar, Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation, State Pollution Control Board-Gandhinagar, and Gujarat Electricity Board-Baroda, have been of great in completing the study. I am extremely thankful to all officials of these agencies who have directly or indirectly contributed to making this possible.
I would also like to express my deep sense of gratitude to the farmers and other members of the rural communities of north Gujarat, particularly those living inside Sabarmati basin area, for the patience they had shown in sparing their valuable time for me, and the great cooperation they had extended in furnishing all the data I badly needed from them for completing the study.

My daughter Archana had greatly missed the care and love from her father throughout the period of the research. She had to compromise a lot, with respect to the due parental affection, while I was away in extended field trips and, at times, away from family routines, being hooked to my computer for long hours in thesis preparation. Also, her frustrations for being deprived of access to the lap top, which she strongly believed is hers’, had made me more responsible in finishing my writing job fast.

I am also indebted to my wife Shyma for making several compromises at the family front, with great understanding and determination. My preoccupation with regular work at office and Ph. D work had resulted in her bearing a lot of additional burden to meet the family and social obligations. I appreciate her dedication. Finally, let me express my deep felt gratitude to Dr. Rajnarayan Indu and Dr. O. P. Singh, my long-time colleagues and friends, who had not only persuaded me to register for a Ph D programme, but have been my constant source of motivation. Dr. Singh’s name deserves a special mention for the remarkable patience and meticulousness shown in doing a commendable job of proof reading all the chapters.

To be sincere, it would be difficult to include ‘in extenso’ the very large number of people, whom I am indebted to, for this work. While acknowledging their contribution, the responsibility of shortcomings and errors in this thesis lies solely with me.

M. Dinesh Kumar