Acknowledgement

On Completion of this thesis, I have great pleasure and privilege to acknowledge the help and support received from a large numbers of individual and institutions during the course of my research work.

First and foremost, I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude and sincere respect to my research guide Dr. T.S. Raghavedra, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, L.B. and S.B.S. College (Autonomous), Sagar, for giving me an opportunity to carry out the research work under his guidance.

It is my proud privilege to offer my sincere and devoted gratitude to Dr. Rame Gowda, Registrar (Evaluation) and Dr. Krishnappa, Registrar (Administration), Kuvempu University and Dr. S.N. Yogish, Professor and Chairman, Department of Studies in Economics, Kuvempu University and Dr. Manjunath, T.R., Professor, Dr. Jayaram Bhat, Professor, Department of Studies in Economics, Kuvempu University and all the Faculty Members of the Department of Economics of Kuvempu University, Shimoga for their encouragement and help extended to me during my research work.

I am thankful to Dr. Lalith Achoth, Professor, University of Agricultural Sciences, Hebbal, Bangalore for his help and Co-operation in my research work.

It is my proud privilege to offer my sincere and devoted gratitude to Prof. Varadaraj Iyangar, Former Principal of Sahyadri College and their daughter Smt. Veena, English Lecturer, Sri. G. Sundaresh, Deputy Manager, SHIMUL, Dean and Dr. Chidananda Swamy, Assistant Professor, Veterinary College, Shimoga.

I thankfully acknowledge the encouragement given by Prof. Narayana Rao, S.G.L in Economics, GFC, Old Town, Bhadravathi and Smt. Geetha, Kuvempu University, Shimoga.
I am grateful to the Librarian of University of Veterinary Sciences, Bangalore, University of Agricultural Sciences, Navile, Shimoga. The Faculty Members of B.V.S.C., College, Shimoga, Statistical Department Shimoga, Dept. of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Sciences, Shimoga, who have extended their kind co-operation during my visits to these institutions. I am also indebted to their staff for their timely help.

I can never forget the help and co-operation rendered by Principal and Prof. Manjunatha Rao and friends of GFGC, Shimoga, Dr. Jayasheela, Dr. S.K. Mohan Kumar, G.F.G.C. Ripponpet, Hosanagar Taluk.

I accolade my highest respect to my Parents Late Smt. Kaveramma and Sri. B.A. Manjappa Heggade, Benadamane Megaravalli, Thirthahalli Taluk, Shimoga district, brothers Sri. Rangappa Heggade, Rtd. A.A.O., Sri. Devappa Heggade, Sri. Late Kadappa Heggade, Sri. Vasappa Heggade and Sri. Nagappa Heggade, Agriculturists, Sri. Parameshwar, I.F.S. and Sri. Prabhakar, S.S.M.R.V. College, Bangalore and sisters Smt. Sharadha, Smt. Lakshmidevi, for their blessings, moral support, constant encouragement and dedicated efforts to educate me to this level.

I am thankful to Mr. K.B. Manjunath, Basavanna Associates, Shimoga and Mr. Dinesh and Sudha, S.G.S. Computers, Shankaraghatta, for typing the thesis promptly, correctly and neatly.

And it is needless to mention the constant encouragement and active assistance of my wife Smt. H.S. Pramila Kumari in every phase of Research work and co-operation from my beloved children Priyadarshan Tejasvi and Priyanka B.C. Heggade.

(B.M. CHANDRAPPA HEGGADE)