PREFACE

The concepts about Creation of the Universe, consisting of all Stars, Sun, Planets and the animate and inanimate world, are found in the Vedic and later Sanskrit literature. The oldest strata of Vedas and allied literature have deep philosophical notions about cosmogony. In these very notions we find astronomical and astrophysical concepts of ancient sages.

The deliberation of Vedic seers on the creation of the universe as reflected in the texts of the Rgveda, the Atharva Veda, the Brāhmaṇas, the Upaniṣads have been thoroughly studied and taken into consideration in the thesis.

Vedic Seers have dwelt upon the creation of the universe from Philosophical point of view which always presupposed a creative agent behind it. This creative agent is either subjective or objective. The Nāsadīya hymn (RV.X.129) clearly refers to the objective aspect (Nāsadāsīt Sadāsīt) which is very close to Lemaitre’s primeval zero volume atom and ultimately concept of pregnant zero. The hymns to Prajāpati Viśvakarman (RV.X.81,82 and 190), Hiranyagarbha (RV.X.121), Puruṣa (RV.X.90), Paramātman (RV.X.125) the deities
are credited with cosmocratic deeds. The major gods Indra, Agni, Soma, Varuṇa and Vṛhaspati are also assigned as Creator of the Universe in scattered references.

There are many theories regarding creation of the universe in modern science. The twentieth century cosmology has witnessed various scientific theories on the creation of the universe viz. Big bang theory, Steady State theory, Oscillating Universe theory, Quantum theory of the Universe, String theory, etc.

Throughout the 20th century the researches on Modern Physics about the origin of the Universe have steadily accumulated evidences that the Universe had a beginning.

The perception of the ultimate truth leading to the unique phenomenon of Creation of the Universe could not be expressed without giving analogies.

The objective of the proposed research work is to synchronize the views forwarded by two different schools of thinking-namely by the ancient Indian tradition which dates thousands of years back and the modern Physics in the 20th century.
In this thesis entitled “A Study of the Interface between Vedic thoughts and Modern Physics with reference to Creation of the Universe” – an attempt has been made to study the problem in two phases. A thorough survey of the different theories with reference to creation of the universe as put forward by the modern as well as by the ancient scientists has been done. The Vedic hymns along with different interpretations on the Creation of the Universe are also being studied.

The discourses on the creation of the Universe advocated by two separate schools are parallel to each other which are synchronized.