Acknowledgement

One of the joys of completion is to look over the journey past and remember all the friends and family who have helped and supported me along this long but fulfilling road. I would like to take this opportunity to express my utmost gratitude for all those who helped in countless ways to make my thesis a success.

The guidance and unwavering support of my supervisor, Dr. Ashok Ranade, was a big contribution towards the advancement of the thesis. He was inspirational, supportive, and patient throughout the period of research. It has been an honor to be his Ph.D. student. I would like to acknowledge Dr. Patangraoji Kadam, Chancellor, Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed university, Dr. Shivajiraoji Kadam, Vice Chancellor, Bharati Vidyapeeth Deemed University, Pune and Dr. Vishwajeet Kadam, Secretary for giving me support.

I am also extremely indebted to Dr. Sachin S. Vernekar, Dean Faculty of Management Studies and Director, IMED for providing necessary infrastructure and resources to accomplish my research work. I would like to thank Dr. Nitin Nayak, without his support it would have been very difficult to pursue my research work. I thank Dr. Anthony Rose, for his help and guidance, which was very precious. I wish to acknowledge the insightful suggestions and advice of Dr. Sachin Kadam, in the recent push for completion of my thesis. I thank Dr. Kirti Gupta and Mrs. Hema Mirji for their support throughout the research.

I gratefully remember the protection and love of my family members, my Wife Ms. Ashwini Mane, my daughter Anushree and my parents who helped me at every stage of educational endeavor. Without support of my mother Mrs. Vidya Mane it was really difficult to complete this journey of research. Her blessings have helped me during this endeavor. I am indebted to all my colleagues who have been offering me their support and encouragement. Last but certainly not in the least, I thank all my friends, family and colleagues whom I do not have the capacity to name individually here.

Mr. Pravin Mane