PREFACE

This thesis is being submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of Ph.D degree in Arts (Commerce) under the University of Burdwan.

This work has been prepared under the supervision of Prof. Jaydeb Sarkhel, of the Department of Commerce, The University of Burdwan.

I wish to acknowledge my gratitude to him for his guidance, continuous encouragement and valuable comments in the preparation of the work.

My heartiest thanks are also due to Mr. Biswajit Mondal for his spontaneous help in the efficient typing of the thesis within a short period of time.

The affection of parents towards children can never be accredited in words, still, I feel that spontaneous love and blessing of my parents have always showered on me and have helped my work to come into fruition and any attempt to express my gratitude to them is simply meaningless.

Lastly, I do confess that if any undesired mistake remains present in the paper, I am alone responsible for that.

Dated
Burdwan (SANTOSH KONER)