ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study is the result of my field-studies at Cochin during the year 1961. Including the field-work, I have put in about three years of continuous effort in completing this study through its different stages.

It has to be stated that this study would never have been undertaken by me, had it not been for the training, the guidance and the financial assistance I received from the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona. The Institute was kind enough to offer me a Research Fellowship for a period of about four years from June 1959, one year of which was for receiving a training course in Research Methods at the Institute, and the other three years for conducting the present study. I express my deep sense of gratitude to the Institute, particularly to Prof. D. R. Gadgil, its Director, for all the kindness and goodness shown to me during the course of this study.

The idea of this study was first suggested to me by Prof. N. V. Sovani, Joint Director of the Gokhale Institute, under whose constant encouragement and guidance, I later conducted and completed this study. I recall with gratitude all the great, valuable help which I have received from Prof. Sovani in connection with this study. The debt I owe to him for all his guidance and advice, and constant encouragement, is more than could
ever be repaid.

There are a number of others to whom I owe much for helping me through the different stages of this work. I am very much thankful to the large number of individuals and firms whom I interviewed, and who readily helped me with all the necessary information. Among those who helped me during my field-studies at Cochin, I must particularly mention Shri P. R. Subramanian (Administrative Officer, Cochin Port), Shri Cyril Raj (Secretary, Cochin Port), Shri M. Karunakaran (Deputy Chief Accountant, Cochin Port), Shri K. Sukumaran (Secretary, Cochin Chamber of Commerce), Dr. K. Bhaskara Varma (Indian Chamber of Commerce, Cochin), and Shri A. V. Rajan, my good friend. I am very much indebted to all these and several others, too many to be listed here, for helping me in several ways during my field-studies.

My thanks are due, also, to a number of my friends and colleagues at the Gokhale Institute. I am particularly indebted to Dr. Miss Kamala Mathur who patiently went through the final typed copies and made many suggestions, and to Dr. A. P. Kulkarni who helped me very much in the statistical part of the work. I am also thankful to Dr. A. Anjaniah and Shri V. S. Satyapriya for helping me in many ways.

Lastly, I thank Shri D. R. Kotasthane who helped
me in preparing the various maps and charts, and Shri N. G. Phadke and Shri V. N. Inamdar who typed this report.

Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona 4 (India).