Though placed in the beginning of the thesis, an acknowledgment is the last piece of writing that a researcher takes up, after the successful completion of the challenging task in hand. This is one of the rare opportunities when the researcher looks back on the entire experience acquired during the work and duly acknowledges the help received from others.

As the present study is undertaken for the award of the degree of Ph.D., I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude, first and foremost, to my esteemed teacher and research supervisor, Dr. B. Mohan, Professor and Head, Department of Commerce, Sri Venkateswara University Post-Graduate Centre, Cuddapah, for his highly valuable guidance and wholehearted cooperation in the smooth completion of this study. His sound words of advice and his unassuming and highly informed dealings will ever remain fresh in my memory and will continue to give me inspiration for the future years to come.

I am also thankful to Dr. N. Kamaraju Panthulu, Professor of Commerce, Dr. P. Murali, Professor of Business Administration, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati and Dr. B. Dasaradha Rami Reddy, Chairman, Board of studies in Commerce (P.G) and Professor of Commerce, Sri Venkateswara University Post Graduate Centre, Kavali for their helping hand.
I express my sincere thanks to Prof. A. Sambasiva Reddy, Special Officer, Prof. R. Jagadiswara Rao, Prof. M. R. Acharya, Dr. C. Sivarami Reddy, Sri K. Ramakrishnaiah, Dr. P. Mohan Reddy, of Sri Venkateswara University Post Graduate Centre, Cuddapah for their help and encouragement.

No words can adequately express my gratitude to my teachers Smt., & Dr. N. Syamasundar Naidu, Lecturer in Commerce, S.V. Arts College, Tirupati, Smt. & Prof. V. Nagaraja Naidu, Registrar, Prof. V. Venkaiah, Director, Student Services, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University, Hyderabad, for their constant help never-failing encouragement, and for generating in me a perennial interest in higher studies.

I profusely thank the managements of the Nizam Sugar Factory Limited., the Jeypore Sugar Company Limited., Sri Sarvaraya sugar Factory Limited, the Chittoor Co-operative Sugars Limited, and Sri Venkateswara Co-operative Sugar Factory Limited and other organizations for their helping hand in providing me generously the required information for my research. Also I would like to express my grateful acknowledgments to those writers whose contributions are quoted in the study as well as in the bibliography.

My special thanks are due to Dr. P. Venkata Narasaiah, Dr. N. Subba Narasaiah, Lecturer, Dr. B. Kuberudu, Lecturer, Sri S. Venkata Ramana, Library Assistant, Sri S. Venkatadri Naidu, Sri T. Krishna Reddy, Lecturer, Sri K. Kailasam, Lecturer, Sri C. Anantha Rao, Lecturer, Dr. M. Sreenivasulu, Asst.
Director, Sri A.Sai Kumar, Sri D.Giri, Mr.P.Mahesh, Mr.B.Jesson, Mr.K.Mohan, Mr.C.Venkata Ramana, Mr.V.Mahesh, Mr. B.Bhagavan, and others whoever helped me to complete this project work successfully.

I am also equally thankful to Mr.S.Prabakaran, for giving the final shape to this entire work to my satisfaction.

I am very much beholden to my Parents, brothers, Sri B.Sankaraiah and Sri B.Tharakanadha and Sister-in-law, but for whose support and sacrifice this work could hardly have been completed.

At the end I accept the sole responsibility of errors and omissions that might have crept in the completion of this study.

( B. RAJAGOPAL )