ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I have great pleasure to have been associated with and worked under the inspiring guidance of Dr. Sarjerao A. Salunkhe, Lecturer, Department of Sociology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur under whose keen supervision this dissertation has been prepared by me. I havebeen receiving his valuable suggestions and constant encouragement without which it would not have been possible forme to accomplish my purpose. I take this opportunity of acknowledging my sincere feelings of gratitude and respect for his valuable help throughout the present work.

I must put on record my sincere feelings of gratitude and respect towards Dr. S.N.Pawar, Professor and Head, Department of Sociology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, for his constant encouragement, academic discussions and valuable suggestions to complete the present research work.

My sincere thanks are also due to Dr. R.B. Patil, Dr. J.B. Ambekar, Dr. M.M. Awate, Reader, and Dr. Shrikant, Lecturer, Department of Sociology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, for their academic discussions and encouragement while preparing this dissertation.

I must acknowledge my debt of gratitude to N.K. Lad, Head, Department of Sociology, Rajaram College, Kolhapur, G.M. Chonde, Lecturer, Rajaram College, Kolhapur for their useful discussions constant encouragement and help to complete the present research work.

My sincere thanks are also due to Mr. P.D. Dighe, Mr. Santram Patil, Mr. V.B. RaoRane, Mr. R.G. Karajgar, Ex. M.L.A., Shri Ravindra Salnis for their willing cooperation during the

data collection period. I am also thankful to the authorities in the office of Assistant Commissioner of Labour, Kolhapur, Office of Sakhar Kamgar Union, Kolhapur for providing necessary data for the present study.

I must put on record my deepest gratitude towards my father, Bapusahel, mother Sou. Sunanda and my beloeved wife Iyoti who inspired me in my task for all the times and spared me from the household responsibilities during the period of the present study.

My sincere thanks are also due to my known and unknown friends for their inspiring encouragement while carrying out the present research work.

I am also thankful to the Librarian and all library staff of Balasaheb Khardekar Library, Shivaji University, Kolhapur.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to Miss Geeta Gosavi for her expeditious, neat and accurate typ8ing of this dissertation.

Shivaji University Kolhapur-416004

Shri V.B. Bhosale

