ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This dissertation is the result of the guidance, the encouragement given to me and troubles taken to assist me in every possible way by many a people and I want to express my gratitude towards them.

First and foremost, I express my profound gratitude to my research guide, **Prof. N.S. Ambardekar**, without whose clear-sighted guidance, I would not have been able to complete this work.

I also express my deepest gratitude to Prin. K.R.Chapkhane, (M.A., M.Com.) of The Chintamanrao College of Commerce, Sangli, whose kind encouragement and timely advice helped me tremendously. I than< Prin. Dr. **B.A**. Patil, Willingdon College,Sangli. I thank Dr. V.B. Ghuge, Dr. R.R.Doshi, Dr. J.F. Patil, Dr. T.G.Naik, of Shivaji University and Dr. Bhanushali of D.R.K.College of Commerce Kolhapur, and Dr.S.S. Sahasrabudhe, and Dr. Ali of Shahu Institute, Kolhapur for their kind help.

I can not move forward without expressing my gratitude to Prof. D.R.Kulkarni, Prof. Mrs. Y.Y. Bapat, Prof. C.N. Limaye, Prof. S. D.M. Phadnis and Shri. A.N. Deshpande (Chief Officer, SISI, Kolhapur).

I acknowledge the whole - hearted co-operation extended to me by all the foundry owners, their managers and the clerical staff at the Industrial Estate, Sangli.

Last but not the least, I thank Mr.M.D. Dhavale (Dip.Lib), C.C.C.of Sangli and Mr. Y.S.Raste (Librarian) of Willingdon College and other library staff for their proficient assistance.

I thank 'Patankar Xerox Copier', Sangli, for their expert and able Electronic typing.

Mrs. Vandana S. Jandekee Mrs. V.S. Dandekar