ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my profound gratitude to my Research Guide Dr. B.B. Kawade, Department of Economics, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for his valuable guidance for completing this dissertation.

I am also thankful to Dr. V.B. Ghuge, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Professor and Head of the Department of Economics, Shivaji University for the encouragement that he has always given me from time to time.

My thanks are also due to CDr. J.F. Patil and Shri A.A. Dange, Department of Economics, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for their co-operation and help.

I am greateful to Principal L.G. Dabhole, Yashawantrao Chavan College, Islampur for facilities he provided me with from time to time.

I am greateful to the officers and staff Taluka
Sub-Registrar, Islampur, District Statistical Office:, Sangli
Chairman and Secretary of Ladegaon, Yetawade, Yedemachindra
and Bhawaninagar society, for their generous co-operation
and facilities that they extended to me carry out the study.

I am thankful to Shri Kawade who typed the dissertation efficiently and in a short period.

(S.B. Patil)