

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Agriculture forms the backbone of the Indian economy. Agriculture is the source of livelihood for over 70 percent of population. The unemployment problem is very serious in general and rural area is particular. Agriculture is known a gamble in the monsoon. Agriculture is unable to provide full time employment to all the labourers. Thus it is subsidiary occupation like poultry, sheep keeping, cattle breeding, goat keeping etc. Provided a continuous income and employment to the agricultural farmers and landless labours. Hence, dairy plays a vital role in the Indian economy.

Malshiras taluka in Solapur district was recognised as a chronic drought prone area. After 1930 a part of this taluka was brought under command area of Nira Right Bank Canal. Late Shri Shankarrao Mohite-Patil was established Shivamrut Sahakari Dudh Sangh on 27<sup>th</sup> January 1976, under co-operative societies Act. In this taluka socio-economic development is going under co-operative movement. In this movement Shivamrut Sahakari Dudh Sangh plays a vital role in Malshiras taluka.

So, I thought that the study of the socio-economic development of Malshiras taluka by the Shivamrut Sahakari Dudh Sangh.

I express my deep gratitude towards my research guide Dr. V. B. Kakade, Reader of the Department of Economics, Shivaji

University, Kolhapur for his able and successful guidance and timely help in the preparation of this dissertation. This complex work would not have been completed without his valuable help and guidance. I have no words to express my gratitude towards him.

I am thankful to the Dr. V. B. Jugale, Head, Department of Economics, Dr. J. F. Patil, Dr. P. A. Koli, Dr. A. A. Dange, Dr. R. G. Dange, Shri P. N. Gavade and other teaching staff and non teaching staff of the Department of Economics, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for their kind co-operation.

I am grateful to Shri Jaysingh s. Mohite-Patil, Chairman, Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Akluj and Principal Dr. A. L. Deshmukh, Shankarrao Mohite Mahavidyalaya, Akluj, Dist. Solapur for granting me a study leave and giving me a lot of encouragement to complete the M. Phil. course.

I am grateful to Dr. P. B. Wagh, Mr. H. S. Nanaware, Mr. Surve, V. R., Mr. A. K. Patil and my colleagues and friends of Shankarrao Mohite Mahavidyalaya, Akluj and well wishers, who have helped me in completing this research work.

I am thankful to Mr. Rajsingh Shankarrao Mohite-Patil, Chairman, Shivamrut Sahakari Dudh Sangh, Akluj and staff of the Sangh for their help during the tenure of my M. Phil. Course.

I must express my hurtful thanks to the member of my family for their co-operation and encouragement to this work.

I must mention my sincere thanks to the University Grants Commission, New Delhi for awarding me a Teacher Fellowship for a year.

I also thankful to Mr. A. N. Sabale and Shri S. S. Pasare for their kind co-operation in doing this work.

Lastly I am thankful to Prajakta Typing and Xerox Centre, Kolhapur of their help in neat and timely typing of this dissertation.

**Shri D. S. Bagade**