ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work was undertaken and commpleted under the guidance of Professor V.N. Kothari, Professor of Economics at the Department of Economics, Faculty of Arts, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Baroda-2.

In the course of organising and completing this work, my greatest debt is to the Professor V.N. Kothari, Head of the Department of Economics, Faculty of Arts, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Baroda. His invaluable suggestions have helped to solve the problems of estimation in the thesis. It would have been very difficult to complete the present work without his able guidance. In critical moments in my work he restored my sense of confidence. Above all, I am very grateful for the love and affection whichhe has shown for me. I have no words to express my deep sense of gratitutde to his able guidance, encouragement and inspiration throughout.

I am also grateful to Dr. S. Srikantiah, Reader in Business Economics, Faculty of Commerce, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Baroda. He has rendered an invaluable and sustained guidance at every stage of my work.

At this stage I cannot forget to remember a few distinguished persons who have taken interest in my research work. I am thankful to Professor J.C. Sandesara, Professor of Industrial Economics, University of Bombay, Bombay, for the taken interest in the initial stage of my research work. I am also thankful to Professor K.N. Naik, former Dean, Faculty of Commerce, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, and Professor H.P. Chokshi, Dean and Head of the Department of Business Economics, Faculty of Commerce, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Baroda, for their interest in my work. I am also thankful to Dr. K.R. Shah, Reader in Business Economics, Faculty of Commerce, Shri I.P. Vyas, Head of the Department of Commerce including Business Administration and Shri P.R. Pancholi, Lecturer in Business Economics of the Faculty of Commerce, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, for their keen interest in my research work.

I am indeed deeply indebted to my brothers Shri D.M. Patel, Shri C.M. Patel and Shri M.M. Patel for their persistent encouragement.

I am equally thankful to the University Grants Commission for the award of U.G.C. Research Scholarship for the Ph.D. degree.

The Librarian and the Staff of Smt. Hansa Mehta Library, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, gave me utmost cooperation. I am thankful to them. I am highly indebted to Mr.J.S. Kelkar for the speedy and excellent typing of my thesis. Due to his technical insight and meticulous nature my burden was considerably reduced at the typing stage.

Lastly, I am highly grateful to my wife also. Throughout the period of my work I was preoccupied. It comes to almost neglect of my wife. She shared my sorrows and pains.

(SHANTI M. DALSANIA)

. -