

## P R E F A C E

In the process of economic growth, great importance is attached to the proportion that capital formation constitutes of national product and to the growing capital base. It is desirable that the capital base be mainly financed from domestic saving. Since household sector contributes a very large proportion of total domestic saving, our study is directed towards studying the behaviour of household saving and its components.

Especially after 1970, saving ratios have increased but growth rates have continued to be low. With a view to understand this phenomenon we have made an attempt to study the effect of inflation on both the composition of saving and incremental capital output ratio.

Considerable work has been done to identify the factors determining household saving. But in none of the studies, have all the components of savings been considered. The present study attempts to fill in this gap. The variables that had not been considered so far are expected real rates of return on physical assets, expected real rates of return on consumer durables and expected real rates of return on gold; of these the latter

two are significantly affecting domestic saving function. The study broadly points out that inflation affects saving ratio positively, mainly because of inflation being accompanied by increase in volume of black money. Inflation also positively affects incremental capital output ratio. Therefore the effects on growth are not encouraging.

I am particularly grateful to Prof. R.H. Dholakia, under whose supervision and guidance the present Thesis is written. He has not only shown keen interest in my work, but has also made very valuable suggestions. He has been extremely helpful and co-operative at all times. Inspite of his shifting from Baroda to Ahmedabad and his very busy schedule, he continued to guide and assist me throughout the period.

I would also like to thank my father-in-law Shri W.N. Chopra and Mr. M.C. Mittal of Inter-India Publications for their help and cooperation in extending all facilities for getting the thesis typed at a very short notice. I also gratefully recall the computer assistance that was provided by Mr. B.S. Nagi of Council for Social Development, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi.

This thesis would not have been possible without the inspiration and encouragement given to me by my husband, Ram Adhar Chopra. I must also add a word of appreciation for the

tolerance shown by both my children, Shekhar and Sandeep during the periods when I was busy with the research work.

Finally it gives me pleasure to thank Mr. Ravinder Singh Purba for efficiently typing this thesis.

October, 1988

Baroda.

SHASHI CHOPRA