

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It would be difficult for me to adequately express my very warm sense of gratitude to Professor S.R. Hashin, my guiding teacher and head of the department of economics, M.S.University of Baroda. In spite of his various preoccupations, ^{as} the member of Baroda Planning Group, Government of Gujarat and also as present head of the Department of Economics, he was very kind in helping me to complete the work in time. But for his sustained interest in this study, it would not have become possible for me to complete the work. For all the helps that I received from him, I am much grateful to him.

To Professor V.N. Kothari, I would always remain thankful ever since I met him. He has been a source of inspiration to me. I am thankful to him for having given me the opportunity to ^{avail} the U.G.C. Teacher Fellowship, when he was the head of the Department.

I am thankful to Dr. M.H. Dadi for his helpful discussions. I also thank the other members of the department of economics, M.S.University for having made my stay in the Department, a pleasant experience.

Dr. G.T. Kurien, Director, Madras Institute of Development studies helped me in many ways at various stages of the present

study. He unfailingly responded whenever I approached him and provided me with useful suggestions and helpful guidance and also provided me with adequate reading materials of his institute. For all these I am much grateful to him. I feel inadequacy of words to express my gratitude to him. I am also thankful to Professor G. Parthasarathy, ^{head,} Department of Applied Economics and Cooperation, Andhra University, Waltair, for his helpful guidance.

But for the teacher fellowship offered by the University Grants Commission through M.S.University, it would not have become possible for me to think of undertaking full time research for Ph.D. I take this opportunity to convey my thanks to University Grants Commission and M.S.University of Baroda.

I am also thankful to Rev.Fr.K.C. George S.J., Principal of Arul Ananandar College, Karumathur, Madurai District and Professor S. Michaelsamy, the head, The Department of Economics, in my college, who were instrumental in my availing of the fellowship for Ph.D. I am grateful to them.

The study is based on the survey data of two remote villages in Tamil Nadu. Considering the hazards of the field survey, the tremendous amount of cooperation and help provided by my student friends as investigators for the survey was immense.

I sincerely thank those friends: Mr. Devasekar Augustus, Gaiasan, Karuppasamy, Paul Baskar, Vincent Selvanathan, Joseph Xavier, Maria Albert, Sakkaraiachamy, Senthil Kumaran, and Somasundaram. I am also thankful to ^{the} co-operation extended by the villagers for the successful completion of the survey.

Professor Sinha, head, Department of Geography, M.S. University was kind enough to permit me to use the departmental facility for the preparation of maps. Mr. C.H. Kachhia did efficient typing work. Friends like Mr. Padaria, Subbarao, Sahney, and Ganesh did proof reading of the thesis. For all these, I am thankful to them.

I sincerely thank my friend, Mr. R. Ramesh, research associate in the Department of Economics, M.S. University, who deserves special mention. But for his help in various ways, it would not have become possible for me to come over to Baroda to avail the UGC teacher fellowship.

I am reminded of the kindness and assistance of my friends Mr. Narayansamy of Sundaram Finance Limited, Madras, and Mr. Mohamed Mustafa, Lecturer in Economics, Madurai Kamaraj University, I am thankful to them.

I also cannot forget ^{the} cooperation, kindness and understanding shown to me by my wife, children and all other members of the family, throughout my study period.

Above all, I remember with gratitude the blessings of Almighty God who has given me the necessary skill to complete the work in time. Al hamdu lillah !

Baroda

E. Yousuf

19 August, 1980