ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This thesis has been kept on track and my dream of completing Ph.D. has been materialized through invaluable guidance, unstinted co-operation, sincere support, encouragement and a great deal of thought and efforts of many people in many ways, to whom I am sincerely grateful throughout the journey. It always remains difficult for me to express their contribution merely by using a few words. As such it is a ritual to acknowledge all the well wishers at the end but for me I am thankful to each and everyone from the very first day that made this thesis possible and makes it an experience for lifetime. To them I owe so much but so little is expressed. However, this inadequate linguistic expression may to some extent express my indebtedness to them.

First of all, I would like to thank the almighty who gave me the ability and strength to complete this work successfully with patience and confidence.

Indeed, at first I remain deeply indebted to my guide Dr. Tarak Nath Sahu, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce with Farm Management, Vidyasagar University. Under his able guidance this work of mine would have seen the light of the day. His invaluable suggestions, helpful criticism, meticulous reading and editing, and overall moral support made it possible for me to complete the thesis. Under his guidance I successfully overcame many difficulties and learned a lot. His energy and enthusiasm inspire me to take many steps forwards in this process of learning. Despite the tremendous professional and personal engagement he was always there to help. This quality truly means for me. It will help me doing something to adopt and hope my
future works with the similar zest and enthusiasm. I can’t even forget the times of rebuke which gets me back on track and helps realize the importance of time. He is every inch an academician who can go to any extent even to clear doubts on a tiny concept. Any word of appreciation will definitely fall short of his contribution towards the outcome of this work. I am ever grateful to him.

I am to pay my homage and gratitude to all my hon’ble teachers of our Department of Commerce with Farm Management, Vidyasagar University, Former Professor Kartick Chandra Paul, Professor Samir Ghosh, Professor Arindam Gupta, Professor Kalpataru Bandyopadhay, Professor Tagar Lal Khan, Dr. Abhijit Sinha, Dr. Brajaballav Paul for their incredible support, valuable assistance, cooperation and suggestions to conduct and complete this research work.

I am equally grateful and indebted to Professor Purnendu Sekhar Das, former professor of Vinod Gupta School of Management, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, for his valuable advice and guidance at every step of my work. He not only acted as advisor, but also as mentor who encouraged and motivated me throughout the entire process. His critical reading of this manuscripts, excellent advice, and helpful comments greatly contributed to the improvement of the final draft.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and special thanks to Professor Debasish Mondal, Department of Economics with Rural Development, Vidyasagar University, Professor Girijasankar Mallik, School of Business, Western Sydney University, Professor Soumyananda Dinda, Department of Economics, Burdwan University and professor Panchanan Das, Department of Economics, University of Calcutta for sparing their precious time in providing me with technical support related to thesis and insightful guidance throughout this research work.
I am highly grateful to my beloved friend as well as brother Krishna Dayal Pandey, Assistant professor in Commerce, Directorate of Distance Education, Vidyasagar University, for his uninterrupted cooperation in numerous issues like improvement of pen-paper skill and spending time for discussion of number of economic issues and in enriching the research work. Also, I sincerely acknowledge the fruitful help, encouragement and support in every respect from my another friends like brothers, Dr Apu Manna, assistant Professor, Balurghat College, Tamal Basu, assistant Professor, Contai P.K. College and Sujit Mondal, assistant Professor, ADAMAS University. Further, I extend my appreciation and thanks to my beloved students Shantanu and Sushovan for their assistance.

I would like to express a deep sense of gratitude and sincere thanks to my teachers having in different stages of education. I would like to remember all my teachers who have provided me with the foundation for research and development in this area, and thus shaped my research interests. Their professionalism, knowledge, and skill helped me in my scholarly development over the years.

I sincerely express my gratefulness to the Principal, Belda College for providing me different help to pursue my doctoral studies. My honest and sincere thank to my teacher and fortunately my present colleague Dr. Abdul Hai Mallick for his valuable suggestions and moral support. Also my heartiest thank to my Departmental colleagues Mr. Mrinal Maity, Mr. Arun Kumar Roy and Mrs Anupama Sahoo for providing me leisure many times from departmental hazards. Further I endorse my special thanks to my colleague Prof. Anandamay Sinha for sharing his contemporary economic views.

Friends have been an important part in my life and without their support and help it would have been difficult on my part to complete this work. I take this opportunity to
thank my friends Sumit Da, Laltu, Deepankar Da, Mahavir, Sovan, Mithu, Babu, Tutu, Koustav, Sutanu Nilu, Rupak, Ramu, Brata Da, Subrata Da, Dibyendu, Anupam and others for their kind help at different stages of time. Also, special thanks to Mahadev for fruitful library assistance in IIM.

There are no words sufficient enough to express my honest regards to Chandan Kaka, Minu Pisi, Babu Kaka, Kakima and Kachi Pisi, Soma Pisi, and Sima Pisi for their immense love, mental support, materials help and blind faith for mine. I take this opportunity to specially thank Minu Pisi for serving me at any time with sacrifice. I also convey my deepest thanks to my younger sisters and their better halves and my beloved cousins Maman-Basu and Choto-Amarendra, Bappa- Rimi, Dev, Titai and Babai for their love and continuous encouragement. Another set of thanks and love needs to be said to Fuchi, Buri, Bura, Chuchu and Tanvi for their sweet association which made me refresh in this long hectic journey.

I would like to express my honest regards to my beloved parents, Mr. Bipin Jana and Mrs. Arati Jana for their unconditional sacrifice, love and support. My most wholehearted appreciation and indebtedness must go to my mother, who is the most driving force for all in this life time to embark on a career. Without the blessing of my mother, I cannot live and survive in the world, and she is the cause of my continuing the pursuit of truth and knowledge. I am unable to find the words suitable and feasible for me to humbly and faithfully express my gratitude to her. I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to my elder sister Miss Bithika, who has endured me so long, and been continuously pressing me to move forward. Also, I extend my appreciation and thanks to my younger brother Bapi for his love, support and assistance. A handful of thank to all of them for relaxing me from the day-by-day family duties.
Additionally, I would like to thank my present colleagues of Belda College, former colleagues of Contai High School, students, well-wishers, and all other persons who have directly and indirectly helped me in carrying out this doctoral thesis.

Date: 28th May, 2019

Place: Midnapore

Shib Sankar Jana