

Acknowledgements

People used to tell me “You are a born doctor. If you acquire a Ph.D., you will become ‘DR’ square”. Today, I know that the process of squaring ‘DR’ has not been easy for me. I had to dedicate myself to the field of Polar Sciences, a subject newly introduced to me. I participated in the 33rd Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica (ISEA) and provided Near Real Time Sea Ice Advisories to 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th and 36th ISEA. Developing a new methodology in the field of Crop Area Estimation in such a situation would not have been possible without the immense support and cooperation of all the people around me.

Before I personally name the people, I want to acknowledge all the institutes who have supported me directly or indirectly. I want to thank the Director of Space Applications Centre (SAC), where I am currently employed as a scientist, for allowing me to pursue this research. I acquired the primary RS data from FASAL project and online websites. I thank the Project Director – FASAL for allowing me to use LISS-III, AWiFS and other data. I acknowledge the support of USGS for making the MODIS Terra MOD09Q1 data available online. I thank NRL for making the HANTS software available which I have used in this research. I also acknowledge support from the Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES), India website from where I downloaded previous years’ crop statistics data. I thank the Director – MNCFC, New Delhi for providing the in-situ and previous year’s crop statistics that I used for validation.

The most important part of my Ph.D. was the confidence my Ph.D. guide, Dr. Rajesh Kumar Jain gave me to pursue this research in the field of management. I whole-heartedly thank Dr. Rajesh Jain for the valuable guidance he extended whenever it was required, the ample time he devoted for the discussion of my research and for supporting me with full commitment. He played a huge role in helping me complete my Ph.D. research. I thank Dr. Jai Singh Parihar my Ph.D. co-guide, for critically proof reading the thesis and giving useful suggestions.

It was a great pleasure to learn the tools, techniques and theories of management with my Ph.D. research colleagues during the Course-work. The basics of management were taught to us by Dr. A. C. Brahmhatt, Dr. Bindi Mehta, Dr. Jayesh Agja, and Dr. Rajesh Jain. I thank them all for the extra efforts they put in while teaching us the Ph.D. Course-work. The fruitful

