Acknowledgement

This Research study would not have been possible without the help and guidance I obtained from various individuals and institutions. I am indeed grateful to the authorities of the Department of Economics, Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune for giving me the opportunity to undertake this research project.

I express my sincere gratitude to my research guide, Dr. Praveen Jadhav, Head, Economics Department, Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, for his constant encouragement and valuable suggestions. During the entire research period, he guided me in manifold ways to ensure that the research project was kept focused. Words are inadequate and insufficient to express my indebtedness to him.

I am also indebted to Prof. Vijay Karekar, Dean, Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, and Prof. Jyoti Patil for giving me valuable insights. I thank also all the teaching, non-teaching and library staff of Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth. I am also indebted to librarians at Gokhale Institute, Pune University, N.I.B.M., D.I.C. Pune, Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture, S.N.D.T. University.

I express my sincere gratitude to respected Hon. Ajitdada Pawar, President Pune District Education Society. Mr. Satishrao Ursal Secretary and all the members of Pune District Education Society for giving me necessary permission and co-operation.

I would like to thank Mr. R.M. Misal, Principal and Mr. V.D. Lokhande, Vice – Principal Annapasheb Magar College, Pune, for the encouragement and co-operation extended to me; Prof. D.S. Kadam, Prof. S. N. Nanaware, Prof. A. P. Jadhav and all my colleagues at A.M. College, Pune, for their support. The non-teaching staff and the Librarian, Mr. Sangle, also provided valuable assistance, which I appreciate.

I am very grateful to Dr. Nalini Joshi, Head, Jain Chair, University of Pune for guiding me on the various fundamentals and nuances related to Jainism; to Mr. Prafulla Parakh, Trustee Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana, for providing information regarding Jain entrepreneurs affiliated to Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana; to Mrs. Sharmili Oswal and Mrs. Surekha Katariya of Swanand Mahila Mandal for helping me in obtaining information regarding Jain entrepreneurs; to Prof. V.B. Gujar of H V Desai College and Prof. Mrs. S. R. Kothari of Shahu College for helping me in the collection of data. Mrs. Sadhna Bhandari for providing constant encouragement.

I would also like to thank the women entrepreneurs selected for this study for their good response to the questionnaire.
Mr. Purushottam Thete for his help in thesis writing, and, to Mr. George Davis for his expertise in language editing and design of the text I am deeply obliged.

For the whole-hearted support of my husband, Mr. Pravin Dakle, constant encouragement of my sons and kindness of other family members, who stood as ONE for me throughout the entire research and study period, I owe a debt of gratitude which cannot be expressed merely by saying Thank you.

Finally there are many persons whose names may not be mentioned here, but who have helped me in various ways in the preparation of this work. I would like to extent my sincere gratitude to them.

I would like to say thanks to all the Almighty God, who had sustained me and given me strength to carry on this work without blessing.

Date
Place

Dakle Sunita Pravin