ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I express my boundless gratitude and immense respect, to my research guide Dr. S. Venugopal, Head of the Department of Commerce, The Cochin College, Kochi for his valuable guidance, whole hearted support and constant encouragement.

I am thankful to the members of the Cochin Education Society for their encouragement and support during the course of my research.

I express my sincere gratitude to Smt. M. Narayanikutty, Principal, The Cochin College, Kochi for her unstinted support throughout my research.

I am grateful to Rev. Fr. A. J. Savience CMI, Principal, Dr. K. X. Joseph, H.O.D, Department of Commerce and all the members of the Department of Commerce, S.H. College, Thevara for their invaluable help during the course of my work.

Had it not been for my colleagues of the Department of Commerce, other teaching staff and all non-teaching staff of The Cochin College, Kochi this venture would not have been possible. I take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of them.

I am very much obliged to Dr. Chandrachoodan Nair, Chief, Industries Division, State Planning Board, Trivandrum and Mr. George Varghese, Assistant Director, Office of the Development Commissioner of Handicrafts, Trivandrum for imparting valuable information and suggestions to the study.
I sincerely acknowledge the help rendered by the librarians of School of Management studies, Department of Applied Economics, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi, the librarians of Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum and College of Co-operation and Banking Management, Vellanikkara during the research.

My thanks are also due to the President, Secretary and all the staff members of the Handicraft Apex Co-operative Society and the Secretaries of the primary handicraft societies for their unreserved support and co-operation throughout.

Special thanks to M/s. Petcots Computer Copy Centre for the neat DTP work and prompt services.

Finally a word of thanks to all who have in some way or other helped me in this endeavour.

JAYA. K.R.