PREFACE

My interest in attempting to relate philosophy and social work through a research study was stimulated by a UGC workshop organised by the Department of Social Work, Stella Maris College, in 1982. The theme of the workshop was "Social Sciences and the Social Work Curriculum." The participants of the workshop, evaluated the content of sociology, psychology, economics and philosophy in the social work curriculum. The deliberations of the workshop clearly indicated the need and value of incorporating philosophy in general and Indian philosophy in particular, in the social work curriculum. As a social work educator who is interested in the task of indigenising social work, I realised that incorporating Indian philosophy in the curriculum of social work would be one method of indigenising social work. The present thesis originated out of these thoughts of mine.

It is difficult to express my gratitude to my guide, Dr. C. V. Radhakrishnan, M.A., Ph.D., Diploma in Anthropology, Professor, Department of Philosophy, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda College. He has been generous enough to offer guidance to a non-philosophy student. He allowed considerable freedom in my work and stimulated me with constant challenges. His comprehensive knowledge, intellectual approach, meticulousness in work and his
humane nature in particular, have indeed enriched my thesis as well as my research experience. I am glad to have had the opportunity of working under him.

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K.G. Rama