PREFACE

As one interested in women’s issues, I have made an attempt to highlight household issues and also women’s issues. I had been an active member of a local women’s organisation and involved in solving to a considerable extent the personal and financial problems of women and girl students. Many a time such involvement consumed all my leisure time as well as my holidays.

I have seen working women rushing to office in the morning without time to have breakfast and rushing back to home in the evening to look after the children. Lack of time is their main problem. I myself, have experienced it as I play multivarious roles such as daughter, son, home producer, teacher, head of the department and social worker. I have to spend daily nearly five hours to travel to my work place and back to my residence. I feel the problem of lack of time even though my working hours are certain. Police women do not have this comfort.

I have seen some working women handing over their salary packets to their mothers-in-law or husbands and making constant requests to get a meagre amount for personal expenses. Also, I have seen some earning women making
requests every now and then to get their husbands’ permission to go to their mother’s house. Some are even hesitant to tell about their ailments for fear of criticisms from in-laws. All these drew my attention to study the economic freedom and the impediments they face. I have tried to show that household issues and women’s issues should be synthesized.

Despite the application of modern techniques in Social Science Research, I faced many problems. I owe a great deal to many whom it is a pleasure to acknowledge.

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I admit that I am solely responsible for the flaws and lapses. I also admit that I have not been familiar with the statistical/mathematical/econometric tools of analysis nor do I have a chance to learn them as I live far away from the learned circle and my household and official responsibilities do not permit me to spare time to travel a long distance.