Acknowledgements

I sincerely thank my research supervisor Prof. Chandrasheknar Bhat for guiding me throughout the course of my research and giving me the pleasure and privilege of working under the conditions of freedom without any constraints. He, along with Dr. Rani Bhat have looked after me and supported me in various ways. I am deeply indebted to the friendly couple for all the help and support they gave me for all the years of my stay on campus.

I thank the Dean, School of Social Science, Prof. V. V. N. Somayajulu and his Staff for all the academic and administrative support. I would also like to thank Mr. Surya Narayana, Mr. Madhusudhan, and Mr. Tirupathayya, office staff. Department of Sociology. My thanks also go to Mr. Sudhir, Academic Section and Mr Srinivasa Rao, Students Section for their cooperation.

My sincere thanks to Prof. E. Haribabu and Dr. K. Lakshmi Narayana for taking keen interest in my research. I also thank Dr. Vijaya Tilakam, Dr. Vinod Jairath, Dr. Shoshij Hegde, faculty of the Department of Sociology for their cooperation. I miss Dr. Surinder Singh Jodhka and Dr. Satish Deshpande during my last stages of work.

Prof. G. Hara Gopal and Prof. D. Narasimha Reddy, faculty, school of Social Sciences, have always triggered thinking in me on various issues of concern including the problems of women and labor. Prof. Rajen Harshe, Dept. of Political Science, has always been my admirable teacher who belongs to a class and style of his own.

I am deeply indebted to Prof. Yogender Singh who took keen interest in my work and gave valuable suggestions to proceed with my work. Prof. Karuna Chanana, JNU, was of immense help in discussing various issues pertaining to women professionals. Prof. Promilla Kapur took pains in understanding my problem and helped in delineating the field of study.

It was Balaram who has inculcated enthusiasm to pursue academics through his inspiring discussions, criticisms and debate. His all round presence in academic as well as personal life has strengthened my morale and bolstered my spirits to pursue research in an uninterrupted way. Without his support, it would have been difficult to bring out this volume in this form,

I specially thank V. Janardhan for his long-term association, the time he spent on discussing various issues and taking pains in correcting my draft with apt suggestions. Dr. S. Srinivas has inspired me to pursue studies in Industrial relations-Kavali Srinu, now Dr. S. Srinivasa Rao, faculty J.N.U., was of immense help during my stay in JNU. Lavanya, Srujana, Manila. Subba Reddy, Krishna, Gunda Srinivas, Siddoji made me feel at home in JNU.

It will be too formal if I thank Dr. P. V. Pratibha for all the backing she gave me during various stages of my work. Her invaluable support and assistance, in spite of busy schedules
in the last minute preparations of her departure has given me a moral boost. I specially thank my beloved friend Jyothi and the lovely couple Mamata and Vikas for their help and support during the course of my field work I thank Bhagyanand for helping me in tabulation of my data.

I thank my close pals Thai and Nogaraju, Vijaya Krishna, Ram Mohan and Mani for their encouragement and keen interest in my work. My friends from Gachibowli school of thought, Giri, Marsha and Aunty were encouraging in my work. Satish and Srikanth were always pushing me during times of low morale with their constant encouragement. Valentina need to be specially thanked here for being with me all through the days of my study and giving me a lot of moral support. My friend Mohammad was of immense help during the course of submission.

My heartfelt thanks go to all my respondents, management consultancies and organizations for providing me the primary data needed for my study. I express my gratitude to Ms, Kokila Parthasarathy for guiding and helping me in dealing with the topic of women managers.

Staff of the Indira Gandhi Memorial Library, British Library, American Studies Research Center, Center for Economic and Social Studies, Osmania University Library, Institute of Public Enterprise, Jawaharlal Nehru University Library, Center for Women Development Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru Museum and Memorial Library, Delhi University Library, and Tata Institute of Social Sciences, were very helpful in carrying out my research.

I thank University of Hyderabad for providing me various facilities to carry out my research. More importantly, I thank University Grants Commission for providing Junior Research and Senior Research Fellowship which had made my work run smoothly.

My special thanks go to the distinguished couple, Sri SriRam and Smt. Rajyam for the keen interest they have shown in my work. Kiddies of this generation - Ammanni, Vicky, Pohar, Pranav, and Ninniman and them enthusiasm to capture everything in their eyes has made me to work afresh.

No words are left to express my heartfelt gratitude to my parents for being with me in all my ventures and eager to see this piece of work. Without their support, I would not have been what I am today. Beloved couples of my family, Jaya and Raman, Amar and Uma, Vinay and Soujanya have always given total Support and cooperation in my life. I am proud to be a member of the Maliye family. Finally, I would like to dedicate this work to the living legend, my beloved Ajji, Smt. Gauri, the best manager of the millennium, who always stood besides the girls of the family and encouraged us to go in for higher studies. Her inspiration and hard work always kindles the light in our lives.