Acknowledgements

At the outset, I express my profound sense of gratitude to my research supervisor Prof. M. Chinnaswamy Naidu, Department of Economics, S.V.U. College of Arts, Tirupati, for his able guidance, constant encouragement, suggestions, constructive criticism, stimulating discussions and keen interest throughout the period of this study. The help rendered and the suggestions and valuable pieces of advice given by him are mainly responsible for the successful completion of the present work.

I am deeply indebted to Prof. A. Padmavathi, Head, Department of Economics, Prof. G. Savaraiah, Chairman, Board of Studies, for their constant help and encouragement in fulfilling this task. Also, my sincere thanks to Prof. C. Gangaiah, Prof. B. Nagaraja and Dr. K. Radhika, for their moral support and co-operation throughout the study.

In fact, no words would suffice to express my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. C.V. Ramana Reddy, Head, Department of Economics, B.T. College, Madanapalli, Dr. K. Rushindrababu, who have been a source of inspiration, constant help, never failing encouragement, parental care and affection throughout my research work.

My earnest thanks to Dr. G. Munirathnam, Gen. Secretary, RASS, Tirupati and Sri. M. Mohan (Project Director), Sri. I. Karunakar Naidu and Sri. K. Nageswar Rao, who provided me the needy information as and when sought for. But for their timely help and co-operation, this work would not have got its informative fullness.

I owe an encompassing and external debt for the encouragement, blessings and benedictions of my parents Sri M. Jayabba Naidu & Smt. M. Masthanamamma for the best wishes and moral support of my brother M. Giri Babu. I wholeheartedly thank my uncle G. Venkatramana Naidu for his blessings and instilled the spirit of encouragement in me. With a sense of great respect, I pass my tributary gratitude to my beloved cousin G. Harinadha, who was a constant source of encouragement to me before he reached the holy presence of the Lord.
It is with pleasure that I record here my deep sense of gratitude to Dr. S.V. Lingeshwara Rao and Dr. B.V.R. Prasad under whose valuable guidance, the work got its present shape.

My thanks are due to the Librarian & staff of the Library and Non-Teaching staff, S.V. University for their help in providing the material and support.

It is with all pleasure that I record my sense of gratitude to my friends and fellow scholars Dr. G. Prathap, Dr. T. Ananda, Dr. A. Rambabu, Dr. T. Balaji, Dr. C. V. Naidu, Dr. J. Vasu, P. Ramana, C. Jaya Prakash, Dr. M. Murali Mohan, M. Subbaramaiah, T. Mahesh Babu and D. Anjaiah, who were ready to help me round the clock in procuring the needy primary and secondary sources for this thesis.

I am thankful to Suryanarayana, Vinay Graphics, Tirupati for their flawless work on bringing shape of this thesis.

I am greatly indebted to all the rest of my friends, relatives and well-wishers who have constantly extended their moral and physical support in the successful accomplishment of this Herculean task.

M. Rama Mohan......