ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am deeply indebted to a number of individuals and institutions without whose help and encouragement this study would not have been possible.

On this occasion I express my deep sense of gratitude to my Teacher and Supervisor Dr. G. Sudershanam who showed a lot of interest in guiding this work. The opinions he shared with me, his willingness to enter into dialogue, and offer helpful suggestions eased my burden considerably.

I am also grateful to Prof. G. Haragopal, whose advice and guidance helped me a lot in the completion of this work. My profound sense of gratitude is also due to Prof. Shanta Sinha, Head, Dept. of Political Science and other faculty members.

I am also thankful to the help rendered by Prof. Satyabhushan (Director, NIEPA), Prof. J.B.G. Tilak (NIEPA), Prof. Rajani Kothari, Prof. Jalaluddin, Dr. Mathews (NIEPA), Dr. Vidyanath lyengar (Jt. Secretary, Ministry of HRD), Sri. Raghavachary (Member, CABE), Prof. V.S. Prasad (IGNOU), Prof. K.V. Srinivasan, Fr. T.C. Rayappa, Fr. Julian Studden (Principal, St. M.C. Jr. College.)

The work would never have been finalised without the help of my friends. I must particularly acknowledge the help rendered by Mr. Arvind Das, Corrine Camposs, D. Babu Rao, S. Laxman Rao, Timma Reddy, Subramanya Raju, Venu Gopal, JL.N Rao, Y.K. Reddy (Director SICE), R.S. Goud, Don Fernandez, Naveen, M. Srikanth, I also extend my thanks to the officials of Ministry of HRD, Planning Commission Faculty members of NIEPA and representatives of various student organizations, teachers organization, political parties, who gave an opportunity to interact with them.

It would have been impossible to reach this point of academic life, but for the consistent encouragement and support of my parents Sri. M. Venkateswara Rao and Dayamati Devi. I would like to thank my mother-in-law Smt. Lakshmi and my brother Srinu for their love and support. My wife Mrs. Hyma stood with me on all the occasions. She encouraged me to pursue my research work and a great source of strength and inspiration. The love and affection of my wife and my daughters Rachana and Sahiti boosted my morale to complete this work. My sincere gratitude is also due to my cousin Dr. C.L. Narasimha Rao and their family members for their love and affection.

My thanks are also due to the library staff of University of Hyderabad, NIRD, Osmania University, CESS, HPA, NIEPA, ASRC, etc. Finally I place on record the help rendered by my friend Mr. Gangaji, in finalizing this dissertation.

M.V. Rama Rao