ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere thanks to my guide, Prof. Krishne Gowda, Director and Professor of Urban & Regional Planning, Institute of Development Studies, for his invaluable help and constant encouragement throughout the course of this research. I am deeply indebted to him for his constant encouragement. But for his unflinching effort and guidance, it would not have been possible to complete this work.

I extend special thanks to Prof. K.V. Aiyanna and Prof. T. M. Mahesh, in the Institute of Development Studies. Prof. M. V. Sridhara has edited the thesis in many ways; I am deeply thankful to him.

I thank the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Prince of Songkla University, Thailand for their support which allowed me to study in India.

I wish to thank Pra Wisit Wongsai and friends from Thailand and Laos for their advice on my arrival at the University of Mysore.

I am very grateful to Associate Professor Penpuk Tongtae, Associate Professor Arwang Lanui, Assistant Professor Nukul Ruttanadakul, Dr. Arkom Sowana, Assit. Professor Nachapong Junjura, Ms. Srisuda Chaivijarn, Ms. Keskanok and Mr. Nuradee Latae who helped to complete this work. My special thanks to Mrs. Leelawatee Ponnapa, Mrs. Seela D., and Mrs. Jennifer Pereira for assisting me with my English in the final draft of this research. I am grateful to all Narathiwat Province officials for permitting me to take up the research work at the University of Mysore.

I have to thank my wife Mrs. Bunpada Arunberkfa and my son Mr. Kittikiat Arunberkfa who had to have a temporary separation during some periods of my research.

Niwate Arunberkfa