Acknowledgements

This thesis is the result of Research work done by me under the able supervision and guidance of Dr. D. Chenna Reddy, Associate Professor of Rural Development, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur. I am indebted to Dr. D. Chenna Reddy for all the encouragement. My sincere thanks to Dr. Reddappa Reddy and other faculty members of the Department of Rural Development and also to Dr. Padmanabha Reddy, Department of Political Science, Dr. P. Sudhakar, Department of History and Dr. Ramprasad Rao, Department of M.B.A., S.K. University, Anantapur.

My sincere thanks to Dr. Y. Obi Reddy, Principal, CVLNR Degree College, Anantapur for his invaluable suggestions and help.

I also thank Dr. B.R.K. Murthy, Retired Professor, Research Guide, Bangalore University for valuable guidance, support and help in undertaking this work.

My thanks to Lecturers Sri R. Sukumar, Sri Venka Naik, Sri P. Nagabhushana Reddy and Smt. Shakeela of R.J.S. College, Bangalore for all the help and encouragement.

I am also thankful to the officials, representatives and other staff of Bangalore Zilla Panchayat, Taluk Panchayat Samithi for
furnishing the required information and relevant material, but for their co-operation it would have been difficult to complete this work.

I also express my thanks to the Librarians of S.K. University, Anantapur, Bangalore University, ISEC, Bangalore, IIM, Bangalore, NIRD, Hyderabad and University of Madras, Chennai for their assistance in providing necessary material connected with my research work.

I am also thankful to my friends Sri P. Joel Jayaprakash, Sri Daniel M.M., Sri M. Mahadevu of Tumkur & Sri H.P. Narayana Reddy of Bangalore for their moral support and timely help, encouragement and co-operation in completing the thesis.

Last but not least I express my sincere gratitude to my wife Smt. Manjula, daughters Y. Jayashree, Y. Leena and also to my brother Dr. Lakshmi Yatham and his daughters Swetha, Kavya and Megha of Vancouver, Canada.

Finally I thank Mr. A. Shantha Kumara for typing neatly this thesis.

Yatham Gangadhara Reddy