ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It gives me immense pleasure to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to my beloved teacher and research guide Dr. R.G. Desai, Professor, K.K. Birla Fellow & former Chairman, Department of Economics, for his invaluable guidance and suggestions during the course of this study. His constant inspiration, meticulous ways of guiding, encouragement and genuine co-operation rendered to me throughout the period of the study have greatly helped and I remain ever grateful to him.

I am thankful to Prof. N. Rangaswamy, Chairman, Department of Economics & former Dean of Faculty of Arts, & former Director of Department of Student Welfare, for his encouragement and forwarding thesis.

I also encouraged by many professors in the department while pursuing Ph.D., such as Prof. K.K. Seethamma, Prof. M. Ramanjaneyalu and Sri D.P. Anjaneyaswamy and others. I heartily and respectfully thank them.
I extend a special thanks to Dr. Shashi Kumar, Reader, Department of Economics, who went through every chapter in the thesis and keenly read between the lines and corrected them before final touches given by my guide.

I owe a lot to the Librarians and staff in various libraries. Librarian of Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) New Delhi was very kind to provide me valuable material from the thesis on ICT during my visit in 2003. Similarly the help rendered by librarian of Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC) Bangalore during 2004 is greatly acknowledged. I am richly benefited from the libraries at Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB), and Central Library of Bangalore University, JB Campus, I remain grateful to them.

I express my gratitude to the Managing Directors of sample garment industry for kindly giving me all relevant data and other valuable documents concerning my research work as well as responses recorded about the use of IT tools in their firms.

I am extremely thankful to our former chief warden Mrs. Deepa Shanai, Reader, UVCE, Bangalore, who made my stay smooth and comfortable in Bangalore university ladies hostel, Jayanagar, Bangalore.
Special thanks are due to my indeed friend Rajasulochan A.L., Lecturer in Economics, M.S. Ramaiah College for Science, Arts & Commerce, Bangalore, & Aunty Padmasri (Mrs. Desai) for their constant encouragement and moral support.

My thanks are due to my beloved grandparents late D.M. Rangappa & grandmother Gangamma C. for their encouragement.

Words cannot express my gratitude to my parents for the love, care, concern, and support they extended to me. Without their sincere support, this thesis would not have been completed.

I deem it necessary to acknowledge my thanks to my sisters Jalaja Jagadish, Nethra D.S., Pallavi D.S. and brother-in-law H.K. Jagadish for their wholehearted support.

I am highly indebted to my genuine friend Kiran G.N. for his timely help especially during field survey and constant inspiration throughout this study.

Above all, I bow before the Almighty for blessings.

Deepa D.S.
Special thanks are due to my indeed friends Rajasulochana A.I., Lecturer in Economics, M.S. Ramaiah College for Science, Arts & Commerce, Bangalore, & Deepak C. for their constant encouragement.

My sincere thanks to aunty Padmasri (Mrs. Desai), aunty A. Kamakshi Devi, uncle A. Lakshmaiah and brother Dr. Chandra Shekar for their encouragement and moral support.

My thanks are due to my beloved grandparents late D.M. Rangappa & grandmother Gangamma C. for their encouragement.

Words cannot express my gratitude to my parents for the love, care, concern, and support they extended to me. Without their sincere support, this thesis would not have been completed.

I deem it necessary to acknowledge my thanks to my sisters Jalaja Jagadish, Nethra D.S., Pallavi D.S. and brother-in-law H.K. Jagadish for their wholehearted support.

My thanks are due to Mr. Mohemmed Rashid K., for neat printout.
I am highly indebted to my genuine friend Kiran G.N. for his timely help especially during field survey and constant inspiration throughout this study.

Above all, I bow before the Almighty for blessings.

Deepa D.S.