ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

From the bottom of my heart I sincerely thank my research supervisor Dr. Sayed Afzal Peerzade, of Department of Economics, Karnataka State Women's University, Bijapur, for his guidance and supervision.

I place on record my sincere thanks to Dr. H.H.Uliveppa, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Studies in Economics, Karnataka University, Dharwad, for his help and cooperation during my research work.

I acknowledge with great sense of gratitude the kind encouragement and all possible help rendered to me by Dr. Mrs. Mukta Adi, Prof. L. D. Vaikunthe, Prof. R. V. Dadibhavi, Dr. P. M. Honakeri, Dr. S. T. Bagalkoti, Dr. (Smt.) P. M. Savadatti, Dr. (Smt). H. H. Gadawale, Dr. R. R. Biradar and Sri. B. H. Nagoor of Department of Economics, Karnataka University, Dharwad. I am also thankful to Dr. Sabanna Talawar, Department of Economics, KRC PG Centre, Belgaum.

I express my deep sense of gratitude to Shri. Suresh D. Chavan, Lecturer in Political Science, Sangameshwer College, Chadan, and Shri. Unus Hameed, fro their valuable suggestions and timely help.

I am also thankful to, Dr. Zia A. Pathan, Lecturer in Sociology, Shri. I.S.Hameed, Lecturer in Economics, Shri. P. K. Rathod, Lecturer in Economics, Shri. Anand D. Chavan, Lecturer in Sociology, Dr. Ramesh Olekar, Department of Commerce, Dr. Motilal C. Rathod, Lecturer in Commerce, Dr. R. L. Rathod, Lecturer in Commerce.

I am thankful to the Non-teaching staff namely Gamangatti senior clerk, Suresh Assistant Clerk, Kalmesh and Chougale; Librarian and staff of the Library of Karnataka University, Dharwad; University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad; University of Bangalore; Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (CMDR), Dharwad; Institute for
Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore and SC/ST cell for financial support.

I express my sincere thanks to several authorities of Bijapur District namely, District officer SC/ST Corporation Bijapur, District Statistical Officer and Staff, Bijapur for having helped me in providing valuable data, information etc., related to my research work. I also thank officers, members and respondents (sample beneficiaries) of the concerning study area for their help and co-operation.


I extend my gratitude to my father Ramu R. Lamani, uncle Dhansing Rathod, Revu, sisters Sunita Bai, Kavita Bai, Pintu and brothers Sivaraj, Mohan (Contractor), Nemu, Kumar, Raju, Jagadish and Santosh(Maruti) for their invaluable and constant support.

I am immensely thankful to all my friends and relatives. I extend my thanks to Computer Lab Assistant of Economics Department for helping in computer related matters.

There are many other respectable persons who have contributed in many ways. I thank them all and pray for them.

Prakash R. Lamani