P R E F A C E

Though the Chambers of Commerce and Trade Associations are operating in our country for more than a century, public interest in the problem of these organisations has unfortunately not manifested itself in a systematic effort to study their various aspects and problems faced by them.

In this research work I have made a modest effort to fill in this vacuum by conducting an intensive study of these organisations in the State of Maharashtra. The core of the study is based on the data collected by me from these organisations.

The greater part of the study was completed between October 1971 and March 1972.

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