ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I deem it a great privilege to unveil my profound respect, deep sense of gratitude to my revered teacher and Research Supervisor Dr. A.V. RAMANA, Associate Professor, Department of Commerce, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur for his inspiring guidance, affectionate attitude, constant encouragement for the completion of my thesis. I am also thankful to him for his affectionate concern showing not only towards my academic life but also towards my personal life. For me, he is a guide, philosopher, more so a well wisher. I also express my earnest gratitude to Smt. A.V. Kamala Ramana for her unstinted encouragement and blessings and hospitality.

I humbly take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to Prof. C.S. Rayudu, Head, Department of Commerce, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur, for his moral help and guidance at various stages of my work.

I am indebted to Prof. P.B. Appa Rao, Chairman, Board of Studies, Department of Commerce, S.K. University, Anantapur, for providing me an opportunity to work as a Research Assistant at the Research and Monitoring Wing for Essential Commodities, Hyderabad. He was also a source of inspiration and encouragement to carryout my research on this topic. I honestly take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to him for all the help he has done to me both academically and financially.

I take this opportunity to thank Prof. P. Subba Rao, Vice-Principal, Sri Krishnadevaraya University College and Dean faculty of Commerce and Management Studies, who has extended his helping hands at different stages of this work.

I am also grateful to Prof. C.R. Reddy and Prof. B. Phaneswara Raju, Senior Professors, Department of Commerce, Sri Krishnadevaraya University for their affectionate attitude and sincere encouragement given to me during my stay in department as student and scholar. I am also thankful to Dr. K.V. Ramana Reddy, Dr. B. Shoba Rani and Dr. D. Anjaneyulu, Associate Professors, Department of Commerce, S.K. University for their encouragement during the period of my study.
I am also grateful to Prof. J. Satyanarayana and Dr. S.V. Satyanarayana, Department of Commerce, Osmania University, for their affectionate attitude and sincere encouragement given to me at the time of working as a Research Assistant.

I thank to Dr. Titus Paul who has meticulously gone through the manuscript and offered me suggestions for bringing this piece of work in an excellent way.

I shall remain grateful to Dr. Govindappa, Department of Rural Development, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur for his valuable suggestions in the preparation of questionnaire.

I am equally thankful to Dr. N. Mohanan, Director, Dr. Bhaskar Rao and Dr. Gangi Reddy, Assistant Directors at National Institute for Rural Development, (NIRD) Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad, who have speared their valuable comments and suggestions for the preparation of this work.

I am also thankful to my Research Supervisor’s Mother Smt. A. Yerramma for her never ending encouragement and blessings. I always remember kids of my guide. Hari Sai Sandeep and Arun, for their affectionate association with me.

I would like to express, with profound respect, my deep sense of gratitude to my ever loving sweet mother Smt. R. Sujanamma, who nursed and nurtured, showered her best blessings, inspiring me for doing a constructive job and helping me in all my endeavours. I am also grateful to my father Late. Sri R. Obanna, for his affectionate concern and encouragement showed to my prosperity and well being. Though he is not alive he wished to see this work completed.

I place on record my sincere thanks to Sri R. Prakasham my affectionate brother and Smt. R. Prakashamma, my sister-in-law who have been a source of constant inspiration and encouragement. I am also thankful to my beloved sisters Smt. G. Santhamma and Sr. Annamma for their affectionate concern for my prosperity and well being. I must thank my brother-in-law Sri G. Showry for his moral support and constructive encouragement.

I must place on a record keen interest, encouragement and cooperation received from my affectionate wife Smt. G. Hemalatha in completion for this academic endeavour.
I am thankful to my aunty Smt. G. Mariyamma and my uncle Sri G.P. Obulapathi for their never ending encouragement and blessings showed throughout the completion of my thesis.

I am grateful to Dr. Jyothi Vijaya Kumar, Department of Law, S.K. University, Anantapur and D. Naganna, Junior Lecturer in Commerce in A.P.S.W.R. College, Kothakota, Chittoor for their constant encouragement throughout the completion of my thesis.

My thanks are due to the officials of DRDA, Kurnool, Assistant Project Officers, Mandal Development Officers, Village Development Officers (Women), Grama Sevikas and Non-Government organisations, community co-ordinators and community volunteers in Kurnool district who provided me the needed data and information for my study.

I shall remain thankful to my research colleagues Mr. D.N. Madhusudana Reddy, Mr. K. Maddileti and K. Nandeeswaraiah, Mr. R. Venkateswarlu, Mr. D. Sreenivasulu and Mr. Prabhakar Reddy for their help during my course of study.

I am very much thankful to my co-scholars and friends of the other departments Mr. K. Narayana, Mr. O.O. Mannjunath, Mr. T. Rajasekhar, Mr. Rajaiah, Mr. Ahobutesu, Mr. Vijaya Kumar Naidu and Mr. R. Marenna for making my stay very pleasant and also for their constant encouragement and readily help in all aspects of my association with them.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not put a record the help received during my field work from Mr. M. Rajasekhar, Mr. P. Balaswamy (Animator, APSSS), Mr. B. Rajasekhar and Mr. Rudrappa who have provided me facilities for the collection of necessary data from the respondents.

I thank the authorities of Sri Krishnadevaraya University for providing me an opportunity to complete my thesis.
The functionaries and the DWCRA members whom I met during the course of my study were highly generous in sparing their precious time and their experiences as functionaries and DWCRA members. I thank them all.

I am also thankful to Sri V. Amareswara Rao, Sri Nataraj Gupta and Sri M.V. Subba Reddy, all my degree teachers for their encouragement during the course of my study.

I express my sincere thanks to Dr. M. Mallikarjuna for his cooperation and encouragement throughout my research work.

I am also thankful to Sri M. Prem Kumar, Junior Assistant and Smt. Bhagyamma in the Department of Commerce, S.K. University, Anantapur for their help and encouragement throughout my research work.

I am also thankful to Sri G.W. Raja Rao who brought this thesis into present form timely.

Lastly and in no way least, I earnestly acknowledge my sincere thanks to all the authors and researchers listed in the bibliography whose ideas, concepts, definitions and research findings helped me in understanding the concepts, selection of research problem and in analysing the massive data.

R. PAPAIAH