ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to my beloved guide Dr. B.P. VEERABHADRAPPAPA, Professor and Head Department Of Studies and Research in ECONOMICS, Kuvempu University, P.G.Centre, Davangere for his valuable guidance, sustained interest and constructive criticisms throughout the period of this study, which enabled me to complete this thesis. I am highly indebted to him.

I have been immensely benefited from the manifold help I received from Dr. Rangappa Professor, Department Of Studies and Research in Economics Davangere University in completing this thesis. I am very grateful to him.

I am thankful to Dr. M.G. Basavaraj Director Sir M.V. P.G.Centre Mysore University, Mandya in the formulation of this thesis.

My special thanks to Mr. Sandesh research scholar who helped me in data collection and also assisting me during my course of research work.

I am grateful to Professor M.G. Shashidhar, H.O.D. Department of English, Dr.V.T.Hiremath Dept. of Botany S.J.M. College Chitradurga for editing the entire thesis and offering valuable suggestions.

I am also thankful to my friends, Dr. Shanmkha, Dr. Renukabai, Prof. Gayatri.P.C., Prof. M.K. Rudraswamy, Prof. G. Narayan Rao, Mr. Shankar Sankal and Mr. p.k. Muttalli for their valuable support during my research study.

I express my sincere thanks to the President of our Management HIS HOLINESS DR. SHIVAMURTHY MURUGHASHARANARU for providing me the opportunity to pursue Ph.D. Studies.

I am thankful to our principal Dr. M.Basavaraju for his encouragement and support through out my research work.
This thesis would not have been possible without the support of SELF-HELP GROUPS and their members, NGOs. I thank all the member respondents for their co-operation extended at the time of visits and data collection.

I am also thankful to the Swa-Shakti project coordinator, Smt. Siddalingamma and all others who have provided data and other information for my research work. I am thankful to all the office bearers of Karnataka State Women’s Development Corporation (KSWDC) Bangalore and Department of Women and Child Development for providing me useful information.

I thank the Kuvempu University for having provided and opportunity to pursue my Ph.D. Studies.

I express my appreciation to my student friends, Mr. Sankeerth, Mr. Guruprasad, Mr. Sagar and others who have helped me in typing this thesis.

Place: Davangere
Date: 27/06/2011

M.K. Prabhudev