ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I life my heartful and sincere gratitude to God Almighty for the blessings showered upon me during the course of study. The strength and courage which was extended to me helped in completing this strenuous work.

I am very much greatful to University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi for funding the study without which this research would not have been possible.

I wish to express our deep sense of gratitude to Vice- Chancellor, GRI, Gandhigram, for his encouraging support to every stage of the implementation of the research work.

My profound gratitude goes to Dr.M. Hilaria Soundari, my research supervisor, Assistant Professor in the Department of Applied Research, GRI, Gandhigram, for her guidance, love and affection, valuable and precious suggestions throughout the research work which contributed to the completion of the study. I express my sincere gratitude to her.

I am extremely grateful to Dr. A. Celine Rani, my joint supervisor, Professor, Department of Political Science and Development Administration, GRI, Gandhigram for her timely help and support for the successful completion of the study.

I wish to express our deep sense of gratitude to Dr. M.A. Sudhir, Professor, Department of Education, Central University of Kerala, for the encouragement and support for the successful completion of the study.

I also express my gratitude to Dr.C. Sivapragasam, Professor and Head, Department of Applied Research, GRI, Gandhigram, for his constant help throughout my career and especially during the course of this work.

I wish to place on record our deep sense of gratitude to Dr.S. Gunasekaran, Dr.A. Balakrishnan and Dr.S. Selvamani of the Department of Applied Research, GRI, Gandhigram, for their continuous support, technical advice and motivation throughout the implementation of the project.
I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Suriakanthi, Former Professor, Department of Extension Education, GRI, Gandhigram, for their continuous support and valuable help for successful completion of the study.

I express my special thanks to Reservation Cell and Academic Section, GRI, Gandhigram who provided me the necessary facilitate to completion of the study.

My heartful thanks go to my mother and father for the moral support and encouragement throughout the study. I am also thankful to the respondents for their cooperation in responding to all my questions during the data collection.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Eye- Net Computer Centre for timely help throughout the research work.

I would like to thank all my friends for their cooperation and timely helpful to successful completion of my research work.

Finally, I thank all those who have helped me directly or indirectly all through my research journey in the Department of Applied Research, GRI, Gandhigram.

S. Menaka