

### Acknowledgements

I thank my supervisor, Prof.S. Roy, for initiating me into the intricacies of educational research, the unstinting academic freedom I enjoyed, his incredible patience and support throughout the course of this project.

I am grateful to Mrs. Saroj Padhye, retired librarian, CASE, for her invaluable service as reference librarian.

Thanks are more than due to Mr. Tyagarajan and other KSSP activists at Palarivatom, Ernakulam, who were very generous with their time and resources, for their ungrudging cooperation during my field visits.

I thank all the interview respondents for readily sharing their time and adding more meaning to this study.

Thanks to Prasant and Vijay of Saumyas Computers for their technical help. Special thanks to Hemant and Nimish for their technical assistance at a very crucial time of this thesis typing.

I thank University Grants Commission for awarding me Junior Research Fellowship for 1993-95 and Senior Research Fellowship for 1995-98.

Thanks to my friends for their undaunting faith in me which saw me through good and bad times and for sharing the pain of growing in knowledge.

I warmly appreciate the pleasant interludes I shared with Mrs. Maitrey Roy.

Finally, I am at a loss for words to thank my family for their remarkable patience and not asking those questions to which I had no answer.

*Eisha Kannadi*  
Eisha Kannadi