ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Prof Aasha Kapur Mehta, Professor of Economics, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, for supervising this Dissertation. She has constantly inspired me to set challenging research goals and guided me throughout this dissertation process, particularly through the phases of Research Proposal, Field Study and Dissertation Writing. She has painstakingly perused each word of the several drafts that I submitted and with her critical comments, scholarly inputs and candid but challenging intellectual engagements, she was instrumental in shaping my dissertation into a meaningful research document. However much I thank her, it will not be commensurate with the overall learning that I gained from her. I am also grateful to Dr T. Chatterjee, Director, IIPA, New Delhi for his support during the course of study and in particular for facilitating my Field Study in Jaipur District of Rajasthan. I also express my gratitude to the Programme Director, 43 APPPA, Prof C. Sheela Reddy and Co Programme Director, Dr Mamta Pathania, for their encouragement and support. Thanks are due to the Jaipur District Administration and in particular the officials concerned with MGNREGA in the Kant Gram Panchayat. I am also thankful to the APPPA Office staff Mr M S Bisht, Mr Manish Rawat, Mr Rajesh Kumar, and Mr Vinod Kumar for trouble shooting in general and for their assistance in the APPPA computer lounge in particular.

M. Chandrasekhar