Acknowledgement

The investigator sincerely wishes to place on record her indebtedness to Dr. Sudharma A., Reader, School of Pedagogical Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, under whose relentless supervision the present study was conducted. The investigator do acknowledge that her constant reading and invaluable inspiration which assisted the investigator to complete the research work. She also remembers her with deep gratitude for her sincere co-operation and kind words throughout the course of the study.

The investigator acknowledges her heartfelt gratitude to Dr. K. R. Sivadasan, formerly Professor Department of Education, University of Kerala and Director, Planning and Development Mahatma Gandhi University, under whose profound guidance and help the study was initiated. He has rendered his expertise in the preparation and finalisation of the tools.

Dr. P.M. Jaleel, Professor and Director of School of Pedagogical Sciences was an inspiring force behind the completion of the present work. The investigator remembers him with gratitude.

The investigator is very much grateful to a large number of people who rendered their sincere advice and help. In particular she would like to thank Mr. Gheevarghese, the computer programmer in the Department of Computer Sciences, his colleagues Shuja and Madhu who have helped in doing the analysis of present study, Mr. Anilkumar A.T., the librarian of School of Pedagogical Sciences, whose long experience aided the investigator to locate relevant books.
and journals for the study, the teaching faculty and her former colleagues of School of Pedagogical Sciences, for their encouragement.

The investigator acknowledges her sincere gratitude to her late husband Mr. Pazhani and her children Aimey and Amit for their genuine help and cooperation to complete the work.

The investigator also remembers with gratitude the valuable assistance of the Headmasters and teachers of the schools from which the data was collected.

The investigator is always thankful to God Almighty for giving her the strength and presence of mind to complete the work successfully and she humbly solicits the Almighty's blessings.

Rajeswary P. J.