AKNOWLEDGEMENT

The writing of this thesis has been one of the most significant academic challenges I have ever had to face. Without the support, patience and guidance of the following people, this study would not have been completed. It is to them that I owe my deepest gratitude.

The investigator expresses his heartfelt gratitude to his guide Prof. Nilambar P Deota, Department of Education, CASE, Faculty of Education & Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara who undertook to act as my guide despite of his many academic and professional commitments. His wisdom, knowledge and commitment to the highest standards inspired and motivated me.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my guide for his excellent guidance, caring, patience and providing me with an excellent atmosphere for doing research.

Prof. Deota’s guidance and encouragement throughout the process of formulating my ideas was invaluable. His ability to view things pragmatically was critical and priceless to the success of this study and need to be commended.

I would also like to give my sincere thanks to Prof. R. J. Kothari, Dean, Faculty of Education & Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara for his constant encouragement and timely advice and also giving me a chance to develop and enhance my skills in the field of Education and also for providing me opportunity with unconditional support which gave impetus to my work.

I would also like to thank Prof. S. C. Panigrahi, Head, Department of Education, CASE, Faculty of Education & Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara for guiding my research for the past several months and helping me to develop m background in Educational Leadership studies.

I would like to give my special greetings & thanks to Prof. N. Pradhan-Head of Deparment, Department of Educational Administration, Faculty of Education & Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara for his constant morale support without his encouragement this study could not have been achieved. His continual encouragement and timely advice and also giving me a chance to develop my skills in the area of Educational Administration is praise worthy.

I would like to thank Dr. Millind S - Department of Educational Administration, Faculty of Education & Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara always willing to help me and guide throughout my studies. This present study would not have been possible without their selfless services provided to me.I have been very fortunate to gain a mentor like him. His encouragement and advice has helped in sustaining the enthusiasm with which this study was taken up.
I would like to thank Pof. K. Pushpanadhan- Department of Educational Administration, Faculty of Education & Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara. I have been very fortunate to gain a mentor like him. His encouragement and advice has helped in sustaining the enthusiasm with which this study was taken up.

The faculty and staff at Faculty of Education & Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, is the most dedicated and generous people and I feel honoured to have been a part of this family. I have learned a great deal from them and I will never forget the valuable lessons they taught me. Their guidance has served me well and I owe them my heartfelt appreciation.

Mrs. Rashmi S Nair, my wife without whom this effort nothing. Your love, support and constant patience have taught me so much about sacrifice, discipline and compromise- even if there were times when said “I told you so.”

I would like to thank my wife for always cheering me up and stood by me through the good times and bad.

Syt. Sivadas Ramakrishnan & Sushri. Vijayakumari Sivadas, my parents, who have always supported, encouraged and believed in me, in all my endeavours.

Date: 04/01/2016
Place: Vadodara.