ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I would like to thank God, the Almighty, for having made everything possible by giving me strength and courage to do this work.

It is my great pleasure and privilege to express my deep sense of gratitude and everlasting indebtedness to my guide, Prof. Rajani Kanta Barman, HOD, Dept. of Library and Information Science, Gauhati University, who introduced me to the area of research in Human Resource Development and its related areas. I am deeply indebted to him for his enthusiasm, continuous encouragement, and guidance which have been the main source of inspiration during the preparation of this thesis.

I also take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all faculty members of the Department of Library and Information science, Gauhati University, for their valuable advice and help all throughout my Ph.D. period. I express my sincere thanks to Dr. B. Saibaba, Deputy Librarian, Central Library, IIT Guwahati, Mr. R. K. Rajbangshi and Dr. T. K. Guha, both Assistant Librarians, IIT Guwahati for their cooperation and useful comments during the progress of my research work.

I am deeply indebted to my dearest colleagues Chandrika, Gitashri, Sewali, Bina, Chandan, Sanjib, CKDas, Pranjit, Deepak, Mintu, Lahkar, Kakati, and Dibakar for their help and encouragement. I am also grateful to my departmental senior and junior research scholars for their help and cooperation. It is my great pleasure to thank all my friends at IIT Guwahati for their encouragement to accomplish the research work. I am also very thankful to Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati for giving me the permission to undertake this PhD work and providing a truly wonderful academic atmosphere and facilities for pursuing research.

Last but not the least, my heartfelt gratitude is due to my parents and my elder brother and his family for their abundant love, constant encouragement and moral support for everything throughout my life.

Date. 02-09-2011

(Niraj Barua)