ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The investigator wishes to place on record her profound indebtedness to all those who have contributed directly or indirectly to make this study a success.

At the very outset the investigator expresses her gratitude to Dr. Mercy Abraham, Reader, Department of Education, University of Kerala, under whose guidance this study was undertaken. The investigator is extremely thankful to her for her constant help and timely encouragement in the completion of this study.

The investigator would like to thank Dr. N. Vedamani Manuel, Former Professor and Head of the Department of Education, Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Kerala, Dr. (Miss) Pushpita John, former Professor and Head of the Department of Education, Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Kerala and Dr. (Mrs.) Vasantha Ramkumar, Professor and Head of the Department of Education, Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Kerala, for having provided all facilities available in the Department.

Special thanks are due to Dr. N. P. Pillai, former Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Kerala and Dr. A. Sukumaran Nair, Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Kerala for their help in permitting the investigator to use some of the tests developed by them.

Sincere thanks are due to the members of the staff of the Department of Education, University of Kerala for their co-operation and encouragement.

The investigator is grateful to the Library staff of the Department of Education and the Kerala University Library, for their help in placing necessary reference material at her disposal.

Finally the investigator places on record the help and co-operation extended by the heads of various educational institutions, teachers and pupils in collecting data for the present study.

Seethamony D.