ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am extremely delighted in expressing my deep sense of gratitude and esteemed reverence towards my guide Dr. Shridhar D. Joshi, Associate Professor, Department of Home Science, Municipal Arts and U.B. Science College, Mehsana, Hemachandracharya North Gujarat University, Patan for his constructive criticism, stimulating guidance and constant encouragement during the research work and for his help in preparation of this thesis.

My appreciation is also extended to Dr. D. R. Patel, Principal, Municipal Arts and U.B. Science College, Mehsana for giving me an opportunity for higher study leading to Ph.D. degree and providing facilities during the research investigation.

I greatly indebted towards honorary trustee Late Shri J.M. Chaudhary and Mr. D. J. Chaudhary (SSKM) and in-charge principal Dr. R.H. Bhatt and Shri G.K. Gadhavi (Former principal) Smt. A.S. Chaudhary Mahila Arts and Home Science College, Mehsana, for timely encouragement in completing the thesis. I also express respective regards for the inspiration and blessings during the academic year.

I greatly place on records, the concrete suggestions and valuable advice given from time to time by Dr. H. J. Patel, Head of the Department of Home Science Faculty, and Mrs. J.H. Patel (Former Head, Home Science Faculty) Smt. A. S. Chaudhary Mahila Arts and Home Science College, Mehsana.

My grateful thanks also goes to Dr. D. A. Patel, Associate Professor, C. P. College of Agriculture, S. D. Agricultural University, Sardar Krushinagar, for their constant support, statistical analysis, suggestions and their sincere help in many ways during the period of my study. I am cordially thankful to Dr. Vinayak Patel, S. P. University
V. V. Nagar for the help at various stages of investigation during the study period.

My special thanks to Dr. Kalen Shah, Dr. Indermit Anand, also to Mr. Shailesh Goswami (Pathologist) and Dr. Alpa Patel, (Pathologist), Raj Pathology Laboratory, Mehsana for their instant help during the process of this work.

I deeply express great sense of gratitude towards respondents, without whom, I would not have reached to completion of research work successfully.

The completion of this thesis fulfills long cherished desire of my beloved family members Dilawarsinh and Pushpaba, Bharatbhai, Ramanbhai and Kailashben, Nirmal, Mayur, Vandanadidi, Ajitkumar, Neetadidi, Kalenkumar, Apoorva, Dhaval, Tishira, Tehul and Deeya who even in their own inconvenience and difficulties gave me inspiration, encouragement and overwhelming support, without which the present study may not have become the reality.

A special note of thanks to my mother-in-law Lalitaben Shah for her constant encouragement, patience and timely help that has enabled me to complete this work. I would be unfair to my friends Shilpa, Nrupal, Rajneesh, if I do not acknowledge their direct or indirect contribution towards successful completion of this work. I owe a lot to them.

A special thanks to my colleagues Jiju, Alka, Neeta and Harshida for their constant support for the completion of this work. I express special thanks to my students Kinjal, Vaishali, Ruchita, Dolly, Dhara, and Kajal for their help and contribution in work.
My special thanks to staff members of Smt. A.S. Chaudhary Mahila Arts and Home Science College, Mehsana, for their kind support.

I suffer from limitation of language when I desire to express my feelings of gratitude towards my beloved husband Udayan and my wonderful kids Hetav and Karnik who have been a constant source of inspiration and cheerfulness and overwhelming support, without which the present study may not have become a reality.

Place: Mehsana
Date: 5/2015

(Prafulla U. Shah)