ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Successful completion of this research study is an achievement, which could not have been possible without the guidance, support, help, cooperation and good wishes of my teachers, parents, friends and others. On this occasion, I take this opportunity for expressing my grateful thanks to all those who have helped me in carrying out the study successfully. I give all honour and glory to my Lord Krishna for this chance to conduct a study and bring it to a completion.

I express my deep and sincere gratification to my guide Dr. R. G. Kolhari, former Vice Chancellor, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat and former Head, Department of Education, and Dean, Faculty of Education and Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, for his inspiring guidance. He deserves highest appreciation for his scholarly supervision and his never ending zeal for the quality work. His support, encouragement and moral boosting, coupled with his friendly approach, were crucial to bring the work to its completion.

I am also indebted to Prof. S. Kumar, Head, Department of Education, and Dean, Faculty of Education and Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara for his constant and inspiring support. I extend my heartfelt thanks to Dr. Dipti Oza, Dr. R. C. Patel, Mr. V. R. Acharya, Ms. Prerna Shelat, Mr. Pradeep Patel for providing their academic support and motivation from time to time in my research work.

I am sincerely thankful to the experts of mathematics, subject experts and teachers of mathematics for their valuable suggestions. I am also thankful to Ms. Manju Gupta, Principal, Salvation Army English Medium School, Anand and Mr. Kantibhai Patel, Principal, I. B. Patel English Teaching School, Vallabh Vidyanagar for permitting me to conduct my study at their school, without their kind co-operation this investigation would not have been possible. I extend my sincere thanks to all students who underwent and cooperated at different stages of the study. I am also thankful to the researchers whose studies helped me to justify and validate my study by incorporating their ideas.
I am thankful to Mr. R. R. Joshi, Former Head, Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, for his timely expert suggestions and motivation. I am also thankful to Ms. Sulabha Natraj, Principal, Waymade College of Education, Vallabh Vidyanagar for her cooperation that kept me going for carrying out the study successfully.

I am eternally thankful to my alma mater CASE, Department of Education, Faculty of Education and Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara for its scholarly edifice which inspired me to take up a study like this. It was within its portals that ideas took birth and created history. I am thankful to all the forerunners at CASE for having created a positive and scholarly environment for researchers in education. I extend my thanks to all the researchers at CASE for their suggestions.

I am thankful to Mr. Jayesh Patel, Ms. Poornima Vennugopal, Ms. Pankti Mehta, Ms. Mohini Bachani, Ms. Singi Varghese and Ms. Kruti Bhuskute, my friends and well-wishers who helped me directly and indirectly for the completion of the study.

I remember with great emotions, the love and affection bestowed on me by my parents, in-laws, brother, sister-in-law and nephew, which acted as a vital motivating force towards the completion of the study.

A special thanks is extended to my husband Mr. Mehul Karia for his constant moral support and encouragement.

Rachna N. Patel