ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Words are inadequate to express my deep sense of gratitude to my revered teacher and guide Dr. (Ms) Gayatree Goswamee, Reader, Department of Education, Gauhati University for her constant supervision and guidance, affectionate attitude, valuable suggestions and encouragement at every stage of this study without which this study would have been an uphill task.

I do express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Swarnalata Das, Professor and Head of the Department of Education, Gauhati University for her gracious encouragement, support throughout the course of this study.

I am also immensely grateful to Late Sri Ram Goswamee, retired Director, State Central Library, Assam, and a pioneer in the library movement who found time out of his busy schedule to give me valuable suggestions and guidance.

The faculty members of the Department of Education, Gauhati University have all along been a constant source of motivation for me and they deserve my heartfelt gratitude.

During the investigation carried out I received immense co-operation from a large number of students and teachers who patiently responded to the queries made to them. A special thanks to them.

I also wish to express my sincere thanks to the staff of different libraries, specially, K.K. Handique Library, G.U. and Omeo Kumar Das Institute of Social Change and Development, for giving me necessary journals and other related reading materials for the present research work.

My indebtedness to the authors mentioned in the text and bibliography is obvious.

I would be failing in my duties, if at this juncture, I do not express my extreme sense of gratitude to my family members, specially my parents and my wife, who have always been a constant source of inspiration.

Finally, I would like to thank my friends Jogen, Bhupen and Nila for their constant encouragement and help.

Date: 18.03.07

Dipul Kumar Das