ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank, first and foremost, to my research guide, Dr. D. G. Patel for his guidance and support throughout my research career and during the completion of this thesis.

I am extremely grateful to the members of Governing body of Sardar Patel University in providing me admission into Ph.D. course.

Special thanks go to Prof. M. K. Yagnik, Head, P.G. Dept. of Education and Dr. N. R. Patel, Principal, M.B. Patel College of Education, Sardar Patel University for their comments and timely guidance during my work.

I am grateful to the Faculty members of P.G. Dept. of Education and M.B. Patel College of Education, Sardar Patel University for their support with valuable suggestions.

I would like to express my gratitude to Prof. Ashok Shanubogue, Sri Dharmesh P.R. and Sri Mayank V. Bhat of Statistics Dept., Sardar Patel University for their encouragement and advice along with computing service.

I am also grateful to the Faculty and Research students of B.R. D. School of Biosciences, Sardar Patel University for their continuous moral support during the course of my work.

I remain indebted to my mother, family members, Management of S. C. Company, Co-teachers, Friends and Students for providing me the means to learn and understand.

I must also acknowledge to the office & Library staff, M.B. Patel College of Education and Mr. Rajesh Bhat, Co-researcher for their help during the period of my study.

I am also indebted to Dr. Nayana Patel and her family members for their attention and affection showered on me from the beginning of my admission into the course.

I would also like to thank Dr. Jayasri and Smt. Rama Devi, Faculty in Education, Nagarjuna University, Guntur, A.P., for their encouragement and advices in the course of work.

Lastly, but not least, I am thankful to Smt. K. Jaya Laxmi, Somagudem, A.P., for typing this thesis without whose efforts I would not have finished this thesis.