ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The most pleasurable aspect of writing a research report is the opportunity it provides to express gratitude to all the persons who have contributed their might and have been a source of encouragement and enlightenment.

Research Projects can neither move in right direction nor come to any meaningful conclusion without the expert guidance. I have been singularly fortunate in getting the patronage of Prof. (Retd.) I. P. Sharma and Dr. (Mrs.) Malwinder Ahuja, Reader, Department of Education, Panjab University, Chandigarh. Their deep insight into the problem solving, tremendous capacity to conceptualise and erudite scholarship coupled with indefatigable fact finding zeal and unflagging patience not only made it possible to benefit from their helpful nurturing but also aroused in me a habit of clear thinking as a researcher.

Professor R. C. Sobti, esteemed Vice Chancellor, Panjab University and a Biotechnologist of international repute always had an inspiring attitude and excellent spirit towards my academic endeavours and provided me the best facilities a researcher could dream of. His academic leadership, benevolence and quest for excellence have encouraged me during this research project.

Prof. Anand Bhushan, Prof. (Retd.), Department of Education, Panjab University has been a constant source of encouragement and benevolence. His astounding reasoning abilities made it possible to analytically analyse my research findings and give it a meaningful conclusion.

Dr. (Ms.) Raj Gupta, Chairperson, Department of Education, Panjab University has been a source of inspiration and guidance. She was extremely cooperative in taking care of all my research material requirements.

I am obliged to all the faculty members of Department of Education, Panjab University for their whole-hearted encouragement and cooperation. They provided a conducive academic environment for research. I am beholden to the faculty for refining my knowledge of the challenging and rewarding field of Education.

The library staff of Panjab University were highly supportive to my requirements and indulgent enquiries. I owe a debt of gratitude to them.

Chandigarh
October 22, 2007

Rachna Tyagi