ABSTRACT

A review of the different approaches to language study - intra-lingual varieties, the language deficit theory, the linguistic variation in society, ethnography of communication and and study of bilingualism - has been dealt with in chapter 1. The concept of language attitudes and their study in social psychology have also been discussed in this chapter. It is concluded that a framework based on the principles of Sociology of Language and Language Attitudes is most suitable for the present study.

In chapter 2, the history of the development of English-MT bilingualism in India, the census figures on Chandigarh, the questionnaires used for the pilot study and for collecting the data for this study have been presented. The procedure adopted to collect the data has also been discussed.

Chapters 3, 4, 5 and 6 contain the main findings of this study. In chapter 3, the demographic characteristics of the sample and the respondents' proficiency in different languages and their relatives' proficiency in English have been presented. In chapter 4, the effect of domains, role-relationships and topics on the reported language used for spoken communication has been discussed. In addition, the effect of the given social variables on different domains is also studied. In chapter 5, the study of the respondents' choice of a language to read newspapers, magazines and novels, to listen to radio broadcasts and watch the T.V. news has been analysed. The respondents' preference of a language for written communication is also studied in this chapter. In chapter 6,
the respondents' attitudes to different language functions have been examined. In addition, the effect of a set of social variables on the linguistic attitudes of the respondents has also been analysed.

The implications of the present study for language planning in the light of the official language policy of the government are evaluated in chapter 7. It is concluded that language planning should be directly related to the needs and attitudes of people in a state/country.

Suggestions for future research are, then, made in chapter 8. The observational method being time consuming and uneconomical, an alternate method to confirm the reliability of the questionnaire technique is presented. Certain improvements in the questionnaire, used for the present study, are also suggested. The conclusions drawn on the basis of the present study are presented in chapter 9.