ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I take great pleasure in expressing my sincere gratitudes to my guide, Dr S R Ijari, Professor (Retd), Department of Library and Information Science, Karnatak University, Dharwad, for his valuable guidance, meticulous supervision, constant and inspiring encouragement throughout this study.

I sincerely thank Prof B V Rajashekhar, Chairman of the Department of Studies in Library and Information Science and other teachers Prof. C R Karisiddappa, Prof. S L Sangam for their timely help and encouragement during this study. I also thank the other secretarial staff of the Department.

Also, I appreciate the authorities of the Karnatak University, Dharwad for giving me an opportunity to carry out the Ph D research work at the Department of Studies in Library and Information Science.

I would like to remember with a deep sense of gratitude, Mr A K Jain, Executive Director, Graphite India Ltd., Bangalore, for granting me permission to register and carry out the Ph D work. Also, Dr R G Shah (Retd) and Dr R Raghunand, Manager, R & D Department, Graphite India Ltd., supported my research with constant encouragement.
I sincerely express my thanks to all my friends, especially Mr I H Jahagirdar, Librarian, The British Library, Bangalore, Mr D Pulikeshi, Deputy Manager, R & D Library, Sri Ram Fibres Ltd, Chennai and Dr M K Bhandi, Librarian, Mangalore University, Mangalore for their timely help during the study.

I am particularly grateful to my wife, Smt. Leelavati and my sister Smt Shanta Hirehal for their support and encouragement.

S B KITPUR