ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am extremely grateful to Dr. K. Rathnakara Aithal, Reader, Department of Studies in Law, Karnatak University, Dharwad, for the invaluable guidance and unparallel co-operation he has extended during the course of this work. I am obliged to him for the kind gesture of going through the draft and making his valuable suggestions for improving the same. After incorporating the suggested improvements and changes, he showed lot of patience in going through the same before it was finalized.

My thanks are due to Professors Dr. C. S. Patil, Principal, University College of Law, Dharwad and Dr. V. Nagaraj, Professor, National Law School of India University, Bangalore for the concern and encouragement shown all through by them in completing this work. A special mention of Professor William J Lockhart, S. J. Quinney College of Law, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, USA, must be mentioned here for his extremely helpful observations during the study.

I am deeply indebted to all the experts who were interviewed during the course of study. All of them took time out of their busy schedule to give valuable insights into the practical aspects pertaining to the environmental impact assessment programme in India. I must also fondly remember the support through fellowship, extended by the United States Educational Foundation in India (USEFI), which helped the research to include a useful comparative element to the study.

I am also obliged to Mr. Navalgund, Librarian; Mr. Kumbar, Assistant Librarian; Mr. Mahesh Yermal, Mr. Madhu and Mr. Ramesh, Library Assistants for their support by providing me with all necessary research materials, whenever needed. I also fondly remember my partners at Centre for Environmental Law Education Research and Advocacy, Ms. Pushpa Kadam and Ms. Sumita for their cooperation.
I would fail in my duties if not remember my parents and my entire friend circle, who stood beside me through all thick and thin to constantly encourage me to concentrate on my work.

Finally, my special thanks to Ms. M. Padmavathi, National Law School of India University, for her concentrated efforts and concern in printing this work.

(Nandimath Omprakash Veerayya)