ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is my privilege to express my deep sense of gratitude to my Research Guide Prof. C. R. Karisiddappa, Prof., & Chairman, Department of Library and Information Science, Karnataka University, Dharwad for his constant encouragement, support, guidance from time to time. In spite of his busy schedule and professional attachments, Prof. Karisiddappa spared his valuable time and guided me to complete this work.

I gracefully acknowledge the encouragement given by Dr. T A V Murthy, Director, INFLIBNET Centre who has inspired, guided me with his characteristic professional touch. I will be failing in my duty if I don’t express my heartfelt thanks to Shri. Pramod Kumar, former Director, INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad for permitting me to undertake research work.

It is with pleasure I offer my sincere thanks to my teachers of the department of Library and Information Science, Karnataka University, especially Prof. S L Sangam, Prof. B V Rajashekhar, Dr. B D Kumbar for their encouragement and active support. I acknowledge with thanks the encouragement given by Dr. P V Konnur, University Librarian, Goa University. My thanks are also due to Shri. R M Vatnal, Shri. Ramesh, Shri. G C Mathapathi, University Library, and Shri. R R Naik, Shri. Keshava, Dept. of Library and Information Science.

I express my sincere thanks to my colleagues at INFLIBNET, especially Shri. S M Salgar, Dr. T S Kumbar, Shri. Yatrik Patel, and my other colleagues who have directly or indirectly helped me to complete my work. Thanks are also due to Shri. M N Megeri, Lecturer in Statistics, Hurakadli Ajja Women’s College, Karnataka University, and Sh. Paresh M Prajapati, Lecturer Statistics, L D Arts College, Gujarat University for guiding me in the analysis of the data and use of SPSS. I take this opportunity to thank Sh. Balaji Ranganathan, Sr. Lecturer, N. C.Bodiwala College of Commerce, Gujarat University for necessary English corrections.
A research work cannot be carried out in isolation. I take this opportunity to thank sincerely my professional colleagues and friends Dr. D K Singh, Asst. Librarian, Banasthali Vidyapith, Dr. Pravakar Rath, Faculty, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Dr. P G Tadasad, Lecturer, Gulbarga university, Shri. S M Pujar, Asst. Librarian Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research.

I have been able to reach this level only because of encouragement and support by my brother Shri. Sharanabasav S Cholin and family, my mother and sisters, with deep sense of gratitude and I express my heartfelt thanks to them.

I take this opportunity to thank all the respondents who took pain in filling up the questionnaire and sent to me in time.

Last but not the least, I feel it as my primary duty to express my heartfelt feelings to my wife Hema and son Master Shivam for their abundant patience and invaluable support throughout my work.

(Veeranna S Cholin)

Dharwad:

Date: 6/12/02