ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to record my gratitude and profound thanks to Dr. S.L. Sangam, Professor and Chairman, Department of Library and Information Science, Karnataka University, Dharwad, under whose affectionate guidance, encouragement and help the present study has been carried out.

I also like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Dr. C. R. Karisiddappa, Professor, Department of Library and Information Science, Karnataka University, Dharwad for his encouragement and inspiration during my research work.

I wish to express my thanks to Dr. B.D. Kumbhar, Reader, Department of Library and Information Science, Karnataka University, Dharwad. I also thank Dr. R.R. Naik, Lecturer, Department of Library and Information Science, Karnataka University, Dharwad.

I am highly grateful to the librarians and their staff of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai; Centre for Multidisciplinary Research, Dharwad; Prof. S.S. Basavanal Library, Karnataka University Dharwad; Gulbarga University Library for having provided me the permission to make use of their library resources and services.

My thanks are due to Dr. Megeri for his help in statistical calculations.

My grateful thanks are also due to my friends Dr. R.M. Vatnal, Sri. G.C Matapati, Sri. Raghunandan, Assistant Librarians, S.S. Basavanal Library, Karnatak University Dharwad who extended all the necessary help in completing this work.

I owe my gratitude to Prof. K.C. Tarachand for enhancing me for higher goals in life.

I also acknowledge the help of Dr. Saukath Azeem, Mr. Vinaya Korakoppa, Mr. Murgesh Mallapur, Mr. Kiran Savanur, Mr. Suresh, Mr. Yusuf M., Mr. Kiran Doddamani, Mr. M.G. Lamani and Mr. S.B. Chawan in carrying out this study.

Finally, I must acknowledge to my wife, Smt Shanthini, daughter Greeshma and family members for their support and co-operation all through the work.

Date: 27-12-2004
Place: Dharwad