ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Most humbly we bow to You, O Supreme Lord.

At Your command moves the mighty wheel of time.

You are eternal and beyond eternity.

(Artharva Veda)

First of all, my head bows down to ‘Almighty God’ who has blessed me with the opportunity, skill and capacity in making this endeavor a success.

Undertaking this research work has been an incredible and unique experience to me. I acknowledge invaluable support and encouragement of various people. The number is so long that it might be difficult to name each one of them. However, a few of them are mentioned in this page.

Words can not express my sincere gratitude to my esteemed supervisor Dr. (Mrs.) Parveen Sharma, Associate Professor, Hindu College of Education, Sonepat for her valuable suggestions, constant encouragement, immense help, meticulous guidance and keen interest.

I feel indebted to Prof. Hemant Lata Sharma, Head and Dean, Department of Education, M.D. University, Rohtak for her constructive comments. I express my sincere thanks to Prof. Indira Dhull; Prof. A.K. Kalia; Prof. Madhu Gupta; Prof. Jitender; Dr. Umender Malik; all faculty members and non-teaching staff members of Department of Education, M.D.U. Rohtak for their inspiring guidance and timely advice.

I am also thankful to the Principals, Heads, teaching staff and students of various Secondary Schools of Karnal, Kurukshetra, Kaithal, Sonepat and Panipat which were selected for the sample of the study.
Words fail to express my deep indebtedness towards my respected father in-law Dr. K.C. Tyagi, Director, MM Group of Institutions, Rambha, Karnal and my mother in-law Mrs. Pushp Lata Tyagi who deserve more than a written acknowledgement throughout the work and who bestowed the pious blessings, incessant encouragement and financial support for my higher academic pursuits.

I do feel proud while mentioning the name of my husband Mr. Kamal Tyagi, Additional District Informatics Officer, NIC, Deity, Govt. of India who helped me with full ICT support and the latest knowledge of technological development to accomplish the work with fullest of my potentials in all the ways. He is God ordained spouse to me.

I also express my deep sense of gratitude towards my father Late Sh. Dinesh Tyagi & my mother Smt. Savitri Tyagi. My brothers Akshay & Bhanu gave me love and inspiration for learning. I pay my thanks to my dear and supportive fatherly figure Sh. Rakesh Tyagi & Sh. Mukesh Tyagi and all the other members of my family for their whole-hearted support at every stage of my research work.

Last but not the least, I am highly indebted to my lovable children Shourya and Charvi who patiently tolerated my negligence to them. They supported me in work coordination in spite of being at their toddler and pre school ages. They refreshed me by their naughty tantrums.

I am immensely thankful to Mr. Vinod Singla, DIO, NIC, Deity, Govt. of India Kurukshetra, Dr. Ajay Kumar Dang, Principal Scientist, NDRI, Karnal, Mr. Chander Prakash Patil, Scientist, Dr. Devendra Sharma and Mr. Yogesh K. Gupta (Computer Professional) for their kind cooperation.

—SHIKHA TYAGI