ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The task of conducting a study is not an easy one. There are many people involved who contributed to the bulk of the material which ultimately has to be collated by the author. I take upon this opportunity to express my utmost gratitude and sincere thanks to all the people without whose best wishes and help my research work would not have seen the light of the day.

First of all I am extremely grateful to my esteemed guide Prof. Gayatree Goswamee, Former Head, Department of Education, Gauhati University, who not only ignited in me the initial spark that lighted the concept but who has also guided me through the course of the study at every step of the way, providing me with encouraging words for more times than I can count. Her invaluable guidance, constant encouragement, affectionate attitude, understanding, patience and healthy criticism has helped me throughout my research and making this thesis in shape. I owe a lot of gratitude to her for always being there for me and I feel privileged to be associated with a person like her during my lifetime.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Kaberi Saha, Head Department of Education, Gauhati University for her kind cooperation and valuable advice.

My sincere thanks also go to the faculty members of Education Department, Gauhati University for all their help, suggestions and kind cooperation during my study.

I offer my thanks to the principals and teachers and other supporting staff of the schools visited during my study for their kind cooperation during my data collection in spite of their busy schedule.
My sincere thanks go to the adolescents of the respective schools without whom this study would not have been completed.

I sincerely thank Dr. Marami Goswami Associate Professor Department of Education, Guwahati College for all her cooperation and help.

I am grateful to all the officials and staff of the various libraries I had visited during the course of my study.

A special thanks to all my family members—my husband, my son, my parents, my brother, my sister and my in laws for their love and support during this study.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all those persons whose names may have not found mentioned among the pages of this study but who nonetheless have contributed in whatever small way they could to make this study a fruitful one.

Place: Guwahati

Date: 21.2.19

(Papari Deka)