

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

*The present study would not have been possible without constant encouragement, generous help and guidance of my Guide, a great scholar and an eminent personality, Prof. R.G.Kothari, former Dean, Faculty of Education and Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara; former Vice Chancellor, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat. Well known for his knowledge in the field of research, Prof. R.G. Kothari has always believed in developing care, concern and commitment for students. His strong motivation and apt unconditional support contributed a great deal towards the completion of this research endeavour. In fact, words fail to express my deep sense of gratitude for his keen interest, kindness and moral boosting. His guidance coupled with friendly approach has helped me to smoothly accomplish the task of completion of research work. His indispensable advice along with his punctuality, sincerity and patience ignited my mind to carry out the research work successfully.*

*My sincere thanks to Prof. S.C. Panigrahi, former Head, Centre of Advanced Study in Education, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, for his administrative support.*

*I also extend my thanks to Prof. .R.C. Patel, Dean, Faculty of Education and Psychology, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara, for his academic and administrative support. I am also thankful to all the Faculty members and non teaching staff who have helped me directly or indirectly in my study.*

*I owe a great deal to Dr. Kedar Bhatt, Director, Rollwala Computer Centre, Gujarat University for helping me in statistical*

*data analysis. I extend my heartiest thanks to all the experts who validated my tools and provided me constructive suggestions.*

*A special word of thanks for my dear friends, Dr. Vaishali Patel and Dr. Arti Bhatti for constant help, encouragement and academic support throughout my research work. I offer my gratitude to Dr. Prerna Shelat, Dr. Kadem Srinivas and Ms. Minaxi Bhagwat for their worthwhile suggestions, especially while preparing tools. I also extend my thanks to all the research scholars at the Faculty of Education for their useful suggestions.*

*I extend my sincere thanks to all the principals and teachers of schools of Vadodara District for their co – operation in data collection, without which this research would not have been possible.*

*My heartfelt thanks to my loving and caring family who has been a pillar of strength and real source of inspiration throughout my academic career. I am indebted to my father, Mr. Rupchand Varandani, and my mother, Mrs. Sarla Varandani for constantly supporting me to their maximum capacity during my research work. A special mention of my affectionate daughter, Alisha Varandani, who provided me with constant encouragement and support. Special thanks to my brother Mr. Deepak Varandani and his wife Mrs. Harshita Varandani, and my dear nephew Rishit Varandani for their persistent support.*

*Lastly, I am thankful to God for bestowing in me the power to complete this research work and giving me the good fortune to contribute to the field of knowledge.*

**Shalini Varandani**