ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



The present study has been completed with the help of many individuals and institutions to whom I am grateful and indebted for their cooperation and support. The Faculty of Education and Psychology of the M.S. University of Baroda where I have been registered as a doctoral student, and the Faculty of Journalism and Communication of the M.S. University of Baroda where I have been working as a Lecturer – have been very supportive of my endeavour.

Dr. N. Pradhan, my guide, and Head, Department of Educational Administration was a great pleasure to work with. Always calm and patient, he guided me and steered me through the proceeds of my study in a wonderfully supportive manner. He was always accessible for discussion and offered very sound and practical suggestions for my research. His encouraging stance infused me with the necessary motivation and confidence to keep the flow of the work going. I am indeed ever grateful to him for everything.

Professor Sneha Joshi, former Dean of the Faculty of Education and Psychology, and former Head, Department of Educational Administration, has been a constant source of inspiration and encouragement. It was under her guidance that the idea of developing a 'Communication Module' that would be useful to educational administrators was first conceived. Her enthusiasm and belief has helped me channelize the research.

Words would be inadequate to thank my friend and colleague at the Faculty of Journalism and Communication, Dr. Manisha Shelat. A 'sounding board' for everything – she patiently fielded all my queries and helped in sorting and chiselling the minute details of my work from scratch to finish. Her support for my study leave for a year helped accelerate the pace of my research and

I'm ever thankful to her for the same. I would also like to thank Professor S.K. Tiwari, Dean, Faculty of Journalism and Communication and Dr. Nikhil Desai, former Coordinator of the Faculty of Journalism and Communication, presently Professor, Department of Geology, the Faculty of Science - for their persistent encouragement to work for a doctorate, and helping me to consider choices and take decisions regarding the same. I am also very thankful to Professor_R.G. Kothari, Dean, Faculty of Education and Psychology, for all the timely suggestions, support, and help. His optimism about my work rubbed off on me and kept me in a positive frame of mind. I cannot thank enough all the staff members, particularly Professor D.R. Goel and Dr. S.C. Panigrahi, and all the research scholars of the Centre of Advanced Studies in Education (CASE) for significant suggestions for my study at the time of my registration seminar and even later - right through the work. Dr. K. Pushpanadhan deserves a very special word of thanks. Since the very idea of this research was initiated – to its completion, he has stood by me like a true friend and colleague. His pleasant and softspoken demeanour helped me discuss my work with him in a relaxed and open manner and any interaction with him always left me with useful information.

Thanks are due to him, as also to Professor Sneha Joshi, Professor Acharya, Dr. Joseph, Dr. Sujata Srivastava and Dr. Milind Sahastrabuddhe of the Faculty of Education and Psychology for going through the contents of the module and validating the same with pertinent remarks for improvement. I also thank for their very useful suggestions all the other validators – viz. – Professor M. Monipally, Head, Communications Area, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad; Mr. Milind Beedkar, Deputy Registrar (Administration), M.S. University of Baroda; Mr. S.R. Joshi, Group Head, Social Research Group, Development and Educational Communication Unit, Indian Space Research Organization, Ahmedabad; Professor G.N. Gosai, Director, Baba Saheb Ambedkar University, Ahmedabad; Dr. Kalpana Mishra, Regional Director, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Ahmedabad; Dr. Manisha Shelat, Faculty of Journalism and Communication, M.S. University of Baroda; and lastly but very importantly Professor V.J. Trivedi, retired Principal, Gujarat College, Ahmedabad; and Professor Shirish Kapadia, former Director, School of Psychology, Education and Philosophy, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad – both of who were always there for me with encouraging words, helping me with academic material as well. In the initial phases of my study brain storming with them had helped me clear a lot of the fundamental concepts vis-à-vis the study, and their sharing of experiences as college heads helped me articulate my thoughts and frame significant inputs for my work. I am indeed highly indebted to them for their interest in my research. Discussions with Senior Professor R.S. Trivedi and Late Professor K.G. Desai, lent meaningful perspective to my study and I am indeed thankful to them and feel privileged to have had a chance to interact with them. I would like to thank Ms Gauri Kumar, the then Principal Secretary, Higher and Technical Education, Gandhinagar for giving me an appointment and sparing time from her very busy schedule to talk to me about issues pertaining to Communication and Higher Education in the context of the crucial role of Educational Administrators within the framework of the educational system.

I would also like to deeply thank Professor M.M. Desai, Advocate, and Principal, Daulatbhai Trivedi, Law College, Ahmedabad, who spared a lot of his valuable time for me to explain and clarify my doubts on the judicial matters of Gujarat University, and also for sharing with me a lot of material relevant to the study.

Most of all, I would like to thank all the principals, co-ordinators and directors of the fifty colleges sampled for the study. Their co-operation, particularly some of those who took a keen interest in my work, lent credibility and shape to my research. The Librarians and staff of all the libraries I frequented – viz. – Smt. Hansa Mehta and Centre of Advanced Studies in Education Libraries of the M.S. University of Baroda; The Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, and The Gujarat University,

Ahmedabad – were all very cooperative and helped me readily with all the relevant books, journals, theses and documents that I needed to refer.

I also thank the office staff of the Faculty of Education and Psychology, the Centre of Advanced Studies in Education, as also the Faculty of Journalism and Communication for their cooperation for all the procedural matters. All my students over the years at the Faculty of Journalism and Communication deserve a mention for being an interesting and sharp lot, keeping me a 'learner' too! My special thanks to Mr. Rangwala for turning my scrawl and patchy work at the computer into this beautifully typed and formatted record. His gentle manner and cool temperament coupled with his sharp skills made me feel comfortable and confident working with him. I could always depend on him to deliver beyond my expectations and always before time. I warmly appreciate his contribution towards the completion of this work

Huge tasks like the pursuit of doctorate work can sometimes get tedious to cope with and it's the home and family members who lend succour at such times. My help at home and child's caretakers – Sangita, Jaywanti, Gajaraben and Jyotsnaben – all deserve a special mention of thanks for keeping everything well-oiled and going – particularly when I needed to concentrate more on my research work.

And of course, my family has been my best support. My parents, Dr. Parthiv L. Desai and Dr.(Mrs.) Madhuben P. Desai – both opthalmologists – gave me the 'vision' to 'see'. They have always extended unconditional love and support –over the years and have always been understanding and encouraging about anything I attempted to do. My father took keen interest in this work, and gave timely and useful suggestions at every stage of the research. My mother, reassuring me as always, urged and emboldened me towards the completion of this work. My parents-in-law, Mr. Jagdish and Mrs. Sunita Chopra, also have been a very comforting presence, always giving me 'space' to 'grow'. Their warmth and understanding towards me even in the most

trying of situations has been very touching. My gratitude and heartfelt thanks to both the set of wonderful parents for always fortifying and strengthening my spirits. My thanks to my sister, Priti, who though abroad, always kept in touch about my work, and a thorough professional that she is, she fostered in me an attitude and sense of purpose of 'quality'.

My husband, Asheesh, my emotional anchor – always gave sound advice and urged me to keep appropriate time frames. Always there to 'trouble shoot' in times of technical or other difficulties, his unruffled manner helped me too to remain calm and level headed under all circumstances. And of course, my son, Tarun, my whispered promise ..., understood me the most of all, I think. Though all of just five years, he kept his patience with me as I offered one excuse after another to postpone play with him. I cannot thank him enough for always remaining cheerful and waiting for me to have more time for him.

Many other family members and friends extended their support, inquiring about the progress of my work and offering to help in which ever way they could. My thanks to them, particularly for being understanding about my periodic reticence and withdrawal owing to work pressure.

To everyone mentioned above, I reiterate my thanks; as also to all others who may have helped me in one way or another at any point of time in the proceeds of my work – my heartfelt thanks.

Noto Chopsa 00 30.12.2002