

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am blessed and honored to acknowledge the blessings and support received to accomplish this task of preparing research report.

Firstly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my advisor **Prof. (Dr.) Bhavna Mehta**, (Dean & Head – Faculty of Social Work, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda - Vadodara) for the continuous support for my Ph.D. study and related research. I am grateful for her patience, motivation, and immense knowledge. Her guidance helped me in all the time of research and writing of this thesis. I could not have imagined having a better advisor and mentor for my Ph.D. study.

My sincere thanks goes to Prof. M. N. Parmar, Prof. Jagdish Solanki, Prof. Ankur Saxena, Prof. Sunita Nambiyar, Dr. Kavita Sindhav, Ms. Hiral Parmar and entire staff of Faculty of Social Work, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda – Vadodara, who provided me an opportunity to join the team as research scholar and colleague, and who gave access to the library and research facilities. Without their precious support it would not be possible to conduct this research.

I acknowledge the contribution of research scholars, respondents, hostel wardens of the respondents and my students for their cooperation, timely support and willingness to be part of this research study.

I place a note of gratitude to my dear friend **Ms. Surekha Rathwa** (Research Scholar – Faculty of Social Work – The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara) for her encouragement, assistance, and motivation to accomplish the study.

I express my sincere thanks to my parents for their trust and belief in me. I place a special record of gratitude towards my beloved husband (**Dr. Narendrakumar D. Vasava** – Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work - Children's University, Gandhinagar) and my lovely son (**Rihan**) for their unconditional love, care, and support. Without their tremendous understanding and encouragement in the past few years, it would have been impossible for me to complete my study.

**DIVYA N. VASAVA**