ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Om Asato Maa Sad-Gamay I Tamaso Maa Jyotir-Gamaya I

(Brihadaranyaka Upanishad)

I feel grateful to the SUPER-POWER for showering blessings and always accompanying me in the journey of life; from an ignorant state of darkness to quest for uncovering light. For me, the successful submission of present ambitious research for tribal communities is the proof of blessings and existence of almighty.

Prof. Anjali Pahad, my GURU, I owe a deep sense of gratitude for having faith in me, giving me freedom with her constant motivation, support and guidance throughout the course of the study. With due respect and warm regards, I extent my heartily thanks for always inspiring in academic, professional and personal fronts of life. These learnings, I will value forever!

I am privileged while taking this opportunity to place on record my acknowledgement to Hon. Vice-Chancellor Sir, Prof. Parimal Vyas, Dr. Jigarbhai Inamdar (Syndicate and Senate member), Prof. Anjali Karolia (Dean, FFCSc) and Prof. Anjali Pahad (Head) for being instrumental and generous in approving Study-leaves for data collection, without which this study could not be accomplished.

I feel extremely thankful to Department of Health and Family Welfare, GoG, Gandhinagar and the CDHO, Chhotaudepur- Dr. Chaudhary Sir for giving me obligatory permissions and access to data, required to carry out research work. I also appreciate efforts of BHOs and MOs for its smooth rollout in all six blocks of the tribal district. All the respondents i.e. ASHAs, ASHA Facilitators and FHWs deserve wholehearted thanks, without them this study was not possible.

I express my humble gratitude to Prof. Rameshwari Pandya, Dr. Avani Maniar, Dr. Anuradha Mathu and Dr. Varsha Parikh for their valuable discussions and remarks.

I am indebted to all the tool validators/experts for their significant comments and constructive directions, Precisely Prof. Ramesh Kothari Sir (Former VC (VNSGU) & retd. Prof., Faculty of Education and Psychology, MSU.), Shri. Partheshbhai Pandya and Shri. Dilipkumar Mehta Sir who have immensely contributed in improving the quality of the study.

The research concept was a culmination of discussions with my dearest friend Ms. Nilam (UNITED WAYS of BARODA) and her husband Shri. Shardulbhai Acharya (Deepak Foundation). Thank You, Nilam. Being a statistician and having inclination in public health research, Shardulbhai's contribution is worth to formally acknowledge here.

This research journey has gifted me loving friends Dr. Dhawal Pandey
Baxi and Dr. Jagrati Vadnerkar, who were like ready-reckoner and solid
support in all odds. I heartily extend warm gratitude.

Expressions of thankfulness are also due to dear friends Dr. Shivani, Dr. Dhara, Dr. Leena, Sipali, Ruma, Pooja and Krutika; dear students Itisha, Shreya, Amena, Krishna, Krupali, Netra and Raghav for their motivation and Dr. Jatin Patel for teaching me content analysis.

I express my sincere thanks to my family members, well-wishers, nonteaching staff and all those who have directly or indirectly contributed to the successful completion of the research.

Words will be never enough to express my feelings for my parents Shri. Vipinchandra – Smt. Bhartiben Sidhpura for making me capable and instilling in me instinct for achieving goals. I am overwhelmed by the support extended by my in-laws Shri. Maheshbhai – Smt. Hemaben Desai while fulfilling the dream of achieving academic goals nurtured by my parents since my growing age. I always feel grateful towards Brother– Ujjawal, Sister Janki and Jiju Gaurav for their love and concern, who have been the source of strength, Shri. Dhavalbhai–Smt. Sachi Desai for their encouragement and sweet kids, Jihan, Riaan and Jiaana for sacrificing joyful time during my busy schedule.

Shri Hemalkumar Desai-my life partner cum the best friend since childhood time and Jashvie-my lovely daughter, both have also lived the entire journey of research with me. I am indebted while expressing unalloyed gratefulness and love for keeping my spirits high, understanding me in all odds and making compromises on my unattended responsibilities as a wife and as a mother in her young growing age. I am so blessed and fortunate to have you both in my life.

In return, I, lovingly offer my sincere gratitude to...

My COMPANION – Hemalkumar

My CREATOR - Bhartiben (mother) & My CREATION-Jashvie (Daughter).