ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
Acknowledgement

First and foremost, praises and thanks to ALLAH; the Almighty, for the immense blessings and help He had bestowed upon me throughout my research work to complete it successfully.

I am immensely pleased to place on record my profound gratitude and heartfelt thanks to my supervisor Prof. Mohd. Jameel Ahsan for his guidance during my research at the Department of Statistics and Operations Research, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, who suggested the problem and provided inspiring guidance for the successful completion of my research work. His unflinching courage and conviction always inspired me throughout this work. His valuable advice, constructive criticism, extensive discussions regarding my research work proved instrumental for completing this work in time. I deem it as my privilege to work under his able guidance. His dynamism, vision, sincerity and motivation have deeply inspired me. I am extending my heartfelt thanks to his wife and family for their patience and support during my research work.

I would like to express my sincere and profound gratitude to Prof. M. M. Khalid, Chairman, Department of Statistics and Operations Research, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for his constant encouragement and for providing all the necessary facilities throughout this work.

I take this opportunity to say heartfelt thanks to Prof. A. H. Khan, Prof. I. A. Khan and Prof. S. N. Alam for their valuable advise and encouragement.

I owe a great deal of appreciation and gratitude to Prof. M. Z. Khan, Prof. M. Yaqub, Prof. Abdul Bari, Dr. S. M. Arshad, Prof. Q. M. Ali, Prof. A. A. Khan, Prof. Arif-ul- Islam, Mr. S. S. Hasan, Dr. R. U. Khan, Dr. Haseeb Athar, Dr. Kamalullah, Dr. Shakeel Javavid, Dr. Mrs. Najmussehar and all other teachers for their help, suggestions and moral support during this work.

I do thank all non-teaching staff for all the help they rendered me during my stay in the department.
Acknowledgement

I take this opportunity to say heartfelt thanks to Dr. M. G. M. Khan, Associate Professor and Head, Department of Mathematical Science, The University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji, for his constant encouragement, advise, help, suggestions, moral support and for being the co-author of one of my research papers.

I am forever grateful to all seniors, colleagues and friends Dr. Zaki Anwar, Dr. Mohd. Faizan, Dr. Ziaul Haque, Dr. Saiful Islam Ansari, Ms. Saman Khowaja, Ms. Shazia Zarrin, Dr. Benazir Zia, Ms. Ummatul Fatima, Mr. Rahul Varshney, Mr. Manu R. Prachandia, Mr. Devender Kumar and all other research scholars for their well wishes, motivation and moral support throughout my research work.

I take this opportunity to sincerely acknowledge the University Grant Commission, New Delhi for providing financial assistance in the form of Maulana Azad National Fellowship which buttressed me to perform my work comfortably.

My fortune is to gratefully acknowledge the support of the special individuals. Words fail when I think of my parents Mr. Ghufran ul Haque and Mrs. Murtazal Begum whose selfless sacrificial life and their great efforts with pain and tears, love, generous care and unceasing prayers has enabled me to reach the present position in life. I am forever indebted to my parents who planted the seed of idea to do the research and encouraged me in attaining my goal.

I also record my special appreciation to my brother Mr. Imran ul Haque and my sisters Mrs. Iram Asim and Mrs. Sadaf Akram and brother-in-laws Mr. Asim Jamil and Dr. Mohd. Akram for their love, prayers, sincere encouragement and inspiration throughout my research work and supporting me uphill in this task.

Finally, I thank all those who have helped me directly or indirectly in the successful completion of my thesis. Anyone missed in this acknowledgement are also thanked.

Dated: 12.3.13

(Shazia Ghufran)