Acknowledgement

In the modern era of competition everyone is restlessly working for success and growth, but attainment of one's goal is not the consequent of efforts of a single person.

As the present academic endeavour has acquired this final form, reminiscences reel in my mind reminding me of the ups and downs encountered during the last few years. Those have not only led to the completion of the doctoral thesis, left me a little wiser and bolder to survive, but also instilled in me a deeper sense of appreciation and gratitude to all the people who have directly or indirectly, knowingly or unknowingly and voluntarily or involuntarily assisted me in one way or the other.

The pages those follow contain suggestions, blessings, cooperation and constructive criticism of many people. All those whose efforts have gone into materializing my work into this thesis, cannot be thanked in this limited space. However, the following deserve special attention.

In the modern era of competition everyone is restlessly working for success and growth, but attainment of one's goal is not the consequent of efforts of a single person.

As the present academic endeavour has acquired this final form, reminiscences reel in my mind reminding me of the ups and downs encountered during the last few years. Those have not only led to the completion of the doctoral thesis, left me a little wiser and bolder to survive, but also instilled in me a deeper sense of appreciation and gratitude to all the people who have directly or indirectly, knowingly or unknowingly and voluntarily or involuntarily assisted me in one way or the other.

The pages those follow contain suggestions, blessings, cooperation and constructive criticism of many people. All those whose efforts have gone into materializing my work into this thesis, cannot be thanked in this limited space. However, the following deserve special attention.

I am thankful to my guide, Prof. A. P. Singh, for his constant support, academically as well as emotionally, throughout the completion of research work.
Prof. Singh’s stimulating thoughts while discussing with the topic at different stages of work provided directions to the thesis. At times, when my spirit went low, Sir was always on my side to invigorate me and bring me back to track. Inspite of many responsibilities like Headship, Coordinatorship, etc. that the University has thrust upon him from time to time, Sir always spared time for me to discuss the topic and check progress. I shall always remain indebted for his help. Prof. Divakar Sharma always remained a source of energy. Discussions with Prof. Divakar Sharma on some ticklish points related to the topic helped in many ways in the completion of thesis. Prof. Srinath Sharma and Dr. Divakar Singh Rajput provided their worthy inputs from time to time. I extend my thanks deep from my heart.

My father Prof. N. K. Gowraha has been a constant source of inspiration to me. It is said that, one is at advantageous as well as disadvantageous position when he is in the same profession as his father. I lovingly faced this situation during the course of doing Ph.D. My father, being a perfectionist at core, outrightly rejected any loose link or thought expressed in the thesis. He would ask me to rectify it immediately. He would constantly rebuke me for improvement. At times it would hurt me, but now I realize the virtue of ‘nagging’ but his moral support helped me to accomplish the inevitable. With due emotional regards, “Thank you Papa for all you have done”.

I am thankful to ICSSR for providing me Fellowship. Fellowship relieved me of the financial burden and I could concentrate wholeheartedly for the Ph.D.

I am also thankful to Prof. Aditya Shastri, Director, Banasthali Vidyapith for having a compassionate approach towards me and providing me all the support, which was available at his disposal. I am also grateful to Dr. Alka Sharma for not only motivating me to complete Ph.D., but also for relieving me from minor responsibilities. This helped me to devote myself towards working on my Ph.D. I also want to thank Mrs. Manju Singh and Mrs. Ranjeeta Garg for providing their insightful thoughts. Thanks are due to my colleagues and friends at Banasthali Dr. Bijay Kumar Pradhan, Dr. Sujeeet Kumar, Shesh Mishra, Praveen Babel and Vikas Tomar for their moral support.
My friends at Sagar, Dr. Nitin Korpal, Prabhu Shankar Pandey, Dr. Mithlesh Chouhney, Ashish Sharma and Ravi Guru helped me in all possible way to see the thesis is out in time. Prabhu Shankar Pandey also helped me in the course of collection of data. Dr. Nitin Korpal, a teacher himself has helped me in many ways right from the beginning to the end. Inspite of his pressing needs he always took out some time for my work. Being friends, I feel somewhat constraint in extending my thanks to them. I am sure, they know the virtue of silence.

I want to express deep sense of gratitude to my Mother Dr. Pushpa Gouraha, for providing her energetic blessings and moral support in accomplishing this task. My sisters Dr. (Mrs.) Shefali and Mrs. Madhulika for their support to me. Without their support, I would have not been able to complete my Ph.D.

I am thankful to both my typist Mr. Rajput and page setter Mr. Nirdesh Jain, Adinath Computers, who raced against time to bring out thesis in time.

Because, many persons wanted anonymity hence I am constraint to mention their names. I would like to thank all my informants who have provided me information that helped me in producing this work.

I have tried my level best to avoid mistakes. Still I take the responsibility for any omission and commission.

Sagar
7th September 2007

(Manu Gouraha)