ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

During the time of my research work I have been given the opportunity to gain knowledge and share experiences with many people. They have contributed to shape my thoughts as a researcher and a person. It is a matter of happiness and honour to convey my gratitude to them all.

I wish to start by showing my gratitude to God. I strongly believe that no work is complete without the blessings that gave me strength to complete my research work.

This research could not have been accomplished without the inimitable guidance of my Supervisor Prof. Meena Dutta, Coordinator, Department of Defence and Strategic Studies, University School of Open Learning, Panjab University, Chandigarh. I consider it is a great privilege to have worked under her guidance, profound knowledge and admirable dedication to the subject which provided an academic direction to this research. Her valuable suggestions, tremendous encouragement and subtle comments enabled me to accomplish the hard task of completing the present study.

I am extremely grateful to Prof. Rakesh Datta, Chairman, Department of Defence and National Security Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, for his academic help, great patience and continuous upgradation of my efforts. He also provided me scholarly inputs which helped me in my research.

I am beholden to my family members for their abundant help and emotional support.

I also thank Prof. S. K. Sharma, Director (former) Energy Research Centre, Panjab University Chandigarh and Mr. Ashok Sajjanhar, IFS (retd) Ambassador of India to Kazakhstan, Sweden and Latvia.
I am also grateful to Ms. Meena Singh Roy, Research Fellow, Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis, New Delhi and Mr. Alok Bansal, Executive Director, South Asian Institute for Strategic Affairs, New Delhi.

I would definitely place on record a sense of appreciation and thanks to Dr. Jaskaran Singh, Dr. Salam Binod Kumar, Mr. Prabhavat, Mr. David, Mr. Kulvinder, Mr. Yaipha, Mr. Nishant, Dr. Shaveri and Ms. Priya for their support.

I wish to accord my deep thanks to the office staff Department of Defence and National Security Studies namely Mr. Vikram, Mr. Atul, Mrs. Banita, Mrs. Sonika and Mr. Ashok for their cooperation.

I would like to thank Staff of AC Joshi Library, Panjab University, Chandigarh, State Library Chandigarh, CRRID Chandigarh, Jawaharlal Nehru University Library Delhi, GNDU Library Amritsar, Punjabi University Library Patiala, Allahabad University Library Allahabad, Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis Delhi, USI Delhi, India International Library and all the subjects who made this work possible.