Acknowledgements

To my revered teacher and supervisor Prof. K.D. Sharma, it is difficult to convey my gratitude; I thank him with all humility in supervising this research. His guidance not only enriched this work but also cultivated me as a student and a researcher. His critique through probing questions continuously infused fresh thinking on this work and compelled me to persevere harder. It is his generosity of time that has brought this work to culmination.

This arduous task came to fruition with the kind and willing support from several quarters. Foremost is the Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh, which has been a cornerstone in my academic advancement. It is indeed my proud privilege to have been shown direction at different junctures of this research work by Prof. G.S. Gosal, Prof. Gopal Krishan, Prof. R.C. Chandna, Prof. Swaranjit Mehta, Mr. Mehar Singh and Late Prof. R.P.S. Gosal. I shall forever remain deeply indebted to all of them. My sincere thanks to Prof. Smita Bhutani for her spiritual guidance, Prof. Dhian Kaur for her maternal direction, Prof. Karanjot Kaur Brar for her enthusiastic support and Dr. Navneet Kaur for motivation at the bends and curves. I thank Prof. Surya Kant, Prof. Krishna Mohan, Dr. Ravinder Kaur and Dr. Gaurav for their genuine concern in completion of this work. I am thankful to Shri Mohan Singh for his cartographic expertise and enduring patience in the preparation of maps for this thesis. I extend my thanks to the non-teaching staff of the department for their cooperation. I gratefully acknowledge the grant of University Research Scholarship by Panjab University, Chandigarh due to which I could devote my time wholly to this research.

I owe sincere thanks to Sh. K.J.S. Chauhan who had been exceptionally generous as the CEO of Jalandhar Cantonment Board in providing access to document resources for this work. I also thank subsequent CEOs Mrs. Sumitra Mishra and Sh. Rakesh Mittal and other officials of Jalandhar Cantonment Board, particularly Sh. Sham Sunder, Sh. Ram, Sh. Manish Jain, Sh. Vohra, Sh. Som Nath, Mrs. Poonam, Sh. Manjinder Singh and Sh. Paramjeet Singh for making available various documents for this work. I sincerely thank the people of the Civil Area of Jalandhar Cantonment who not only shared meaningful information during informal interviews but also extended warm hospitality during field work. I am thankful to the National Archives of India and Registrar General of India Library both at New Delhi and Janganana Bhawan, Chandigarh for providing access to information and data for this work. I am equally grateful to officials of the army for providing useful insights on the army and cantonment towns.

I owe a deep sense of gratitude to my beloved friends - Lovely for her faith in me; Shalini, for her generosity of heart during data collection at Jalandhar; Nidhi Taneja, Namita, Tanjeet, Jasbir, Rattan and Dr. Gurmeet Kaur for their encouragement; my friends from the department - Pallavi, Rajan, Vishwa, Sanjeev Goel, Navita, Inderjeet, Sucha, Laxmi and Anandvir for their camaraderie, and to Khushvir for his cheerful willingness to fetch books from the main library.

And to many who touched my life in the department through their warm spirits I am truly beholden.