Preface

After completion of M.Sc. degree in Economics from University of Calcutta in 2002, I have had to join as a Research Consultant in a project in 2003 and, thereafter, as an Urban Planner, in 2005, at South Dum Dum Municipality, Kolkata due to some very personal reasons and family affairs. But a wish to do Ph.D. in Economics had been keeping dormant in my mind from Post Graduation’s second year when I was studying Urban Economics as optional paper at CUES at Sahid Kshudiram Siksha Prangan (Alipore Campus) of the university. The latent desire had got burning point sensation when Ministry of HRD, Department of Higher Education, Government of India had selected me for an interview on December, 2006 at New Delhi but I was not finally selected for Ph.D. in UK universities. Thereafter, I contemplated to register my new titled topic in Jadavpur University, Kolkata under the guidance of Dr. Asim Kumar Karmakar, Department of Economics.

This work covers the process and evolution of urbanization and its relationship with industrialization in India. Of interest to academic study of urban economics and regional planning, this thesis is meant to be useful for researchers, administrative policy makers including urban planners, economists at large. There is little research that engineers a livability study of those urban centers in India which have significant industrial growth potential especially highest ITES export around the world. This study focuses on major factors of urban growth, salary growth in urban and employment situation in urban India. Here is an effort to retest a statement like ‘salary discrimination is there in MNCs as well as large firms in urban India’. This research gave me an opportunity to travel in India across major cities such as Delhi, Chennai and Bengaluru apart from my home, Kolkata. This study required extensive field based surveys and comprehensive interviews with salary holders and entrepreneurs. During this study, I have learnt a lot of things. My experience was further enriched by the presentations that I made at several national and regional-level conferences and workshops. I also published few papers in national referred journal and among those there are some papers relevant to this thesis. This thesis emphasizes the two-way relationship of urbanization and industrialization and socio-economic situation in urban India as well as the dependency factors of urban growth and social decay. It is my privilege and pleasure to receive valuable comments and advice from my Ph.D. guide Dr. Asim Kumar Karmakar. It would not have been possible to finalize the writing without his constructive suggestions and handholding support.