ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My journey as a student of Jawaharlal Nehru University comes to an end with the submission of my research work for the award of Doctor of Philosophy. Words would be inadequate to express my gratitude to a number of persons who have helped me, encouraged me and even at times scolded me to complete my research at the earliest. This piece of work would have been incomplete without the able guidance of my supervisors Prof Baladas Ghoshal with whom I started my research and subsequently, Prof. Ganganath Jha whose able guidance and constant support has helped me complete this work. I am particularly thankful to him for his kind consent in allowing me to continue my work and submit it under his supervision. His valuable opinions and insights have enriched my work to the level it is. My deepest regards to him. I have been fortunate to have received important advice and assistance from teachers not only from my own division but also from other divisions and Centres in the School of International Studies. I am particularly thankful to Prof. A. K. Dubey and Prof. A. Patnaik for their constant cooperation that made it possible for me to not only re-register as a Ph.D scholar but also adjust myself with JNU since I was away from this place for quite some time. A word of thanks reaches out to Prof. Nalini Mahapatra in providing me assistance in any way I needed while my stay at JNU during the period of re-registration. I express my thanks to the office staff of my Centre for their ready assistance in facilitating my re-registration and submission of the thesis. I must add that it was a pleasant surprise that they remember me despite my long absence from the Centre. They have never felt short of patience in answering my periodic enquires about my re-registration and submission process. I also take this opportunity to thank the Dean of the School of International Studies, Prof. Tyagi in kindly consenting to my re-registration. The administration of the School of International Studies especially Mr. Malhotra needs to be thanked for their able administrative support in the submission of my thesis.

This piece of research would not be enriched had not I been able to receive prompt cooperation from the staff of the JNU Library, the Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis, Rabindra Bharati University Library, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies Library and National Library. I am very grateful to Kamala Kanta Dash for his constant assistance from Australia by providing me with ample materials.
on demand but more on his own. I thank Sri Nihar Nayak, research fellow at the IDSA in helping me acquire valuable material from the IDSA at short notice. My thanks goes to Prof Kingshuk Chatterjee of Calcutta University who has been so eager to help me by facilitating access to the Political Science Department Library of Calcutta University. Prof. Lipi Ghosh had also shown the generosity in allowing me to access the books and materials at the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies in Calcutta University.

This work would not have seen the day of light had not my colleagues been cooperative and encouraging of my academic enterprise. My heart-felt gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor of Rabindra Bharati University, Prof. Karunasindhu Das who so kindly sanctioned me a leave urgently required for submission of this work. My colleagues and friends Prof. Chindanada Bhattacharya, Prof. Sabyasachi Basu Chowdhury, Prof. Abhik Kumar Roy, and Prof. Brishti Basu have been always persuading me to complete my work at the earliest. I thank them.

I must thank the staff of Sanjay Photostat because who so promptly yet perfectly formatted my work, bound it in time and made it presentable for submission.

Friends and family are so important to any person and I have learnt so in course of my research work. I fall short of words to express my thanks to Arpita and Ayan for their assistance. Without their assistance this work would not have been easy. I thank Srimati also for her periodic enquiries on the progress of my work. I feel short of words to express how my family has been supportive of me. It was the active encouragement of my grandfather Late Ardhendu Sekhar Naskar that I had been able to make it to JNU as a post-graduate student at SIS. His broad outlook and his support as the head of the family was a blessing and I hope that in completing my thesis I have been able to fulfil his dreams in my limited capacity. I have been persuaded by my family, my father Shri Asoke Naskar and my husband Binod to complete the work as early as possible. Their constant presence and encouragement has helped reach this goal which I believe I would have never been able to achieve. My father has done me good by scolding me at times for not working hard enough to give my work a final shape. Binod’s words of constant encouragement have done wonders whenever I fell short of patience. I thank my domestic assistants Sujata and Manju without whose
active assistance at the domestic front I doubt whether at all I could afford to work on my thesis blissfully forgetting my duties as a homemaker. I know not how to thank my four and half years old daughter Sneha who has shown such maturity in understanding the pressure and seriousness of my research and has happily sacrificed her prerogative to spend time with her mother.

In my work I have made an earnest attempt to do justice to the topic that I had selected for my doctoral degree. However every piece of work has its limitation and my work is no exception to this rule. There are likely to be certain flaws which I admit arise from my limitations as a researcher and for which I accept responsibility till eternity.

(ISHANI NASKAR)