It has been my privilege to work under the supervision of Professor G.S. Bhalla who initiated me to the subject of electricity pricing. Besides his valuable guidance, he has all along been a constant source of inspiration.

In this task, I have received help from many sources - individuals as well as organisations. I am grateful to Prof. G.K. Chadha of CSRD/JNU and Dr. Surinder Kumar of Maharishi Daya Nand University, Rohtak for their valuable suggestions during discussions and their comments on the first draft. My thanks are due to Messers A.K. Saha and B. Vijay Raghvan the then Chairpersons of UPSEB and TNEB respectively for permitting me to collect relevant information from the two Boards. I remain obliged to Shri P. Murari, Secretary to the President of India and former Chairman TNEB for his help in the early stages of my work. Dr. R.K. Pachauri of TERI, Dr. Ramesh Bhatia of the Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi, Dr. T.L. Sankar of the Institute of Public Enterprises Hyderabad, Dr. Gopal Krishan of Panjab University and Dr. S. Ramesh need special mention for their assistance and encouragement.

I also appreciate the cooperation of several officers in Planning Commission, Ministry of Power, Central Electricity Authority, Tamil Nadu and Uttar
Pradesh State Electricity Boards and Rural Electrification Corporation. I received special help in collecting information and had the benefit of purposeful discussions with them. To many others who also contributed to my work, I am grateful, though the responsibility for the final outcome is mine. I benefitted immensely from the Jawaharlal Nehru University library.

My cordial thanks are also due to Professors Kusum Chopra and Ashok Mathur, present and former chairpersons, of the Centre for the Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University. The Centre afforded me all possible assistance at every stage. In particular, I must express my appreciation for the help rendered by Mr. V. Murlidhar, Computer Programmer of the Centre.

I am grateful to the Economic Adviser to Government of India, Ministry of Industry for granting leave during the initial stages of the study and the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management for providing various facilities to complete the work. Thanks are also due to the ICSSR for providing contingency grant.

My special word of appreciation for Shri Mohinder Singh who spared no effort in typing the thesis in record time.

Mere words cannot express my gratitude to my wife, Prabhu Jyoti who sacrificed much and waited too long.