This thesis attempts to analyse the importance of Non-Tariff Trade Barriers (NTBs) in the framework of modern commercial policy. An effort is made to indicate the restrictive impact of the "Voluntary Export Restraints" (VER) in cotton textile trade. While highlighting the experiences of the developed and the developing countries in respect of the VER, particular reference has been made to India and some of her main competitors.

The thesis has been prepared under the supervision of Dr. Ashok Guha, Professor and Chairman of the Centre for Studies in Diplomacy, International Law and International Economics, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. I am deeply indebted to him for his valuable guidance. I have also benefitted immensely from his lectures and comments. I express my sincere gratitude to him.

I am indebted to Dr. S.V. Bokil and Mrs. A. Patil for their valuable lectures on economic theory and statistical methods during my pre-Ph.D. course in the School of International Studies, and to the School of International Studies for providing facilities for the research work.

I am thankful to the Reserve Bank of India, for awarding me a research fellowship for a period of three years.
Several suggestions and comments on the various aspects of thesis have been received from late Professor H.G. Johnson, Professor Ingo Walter, Professor R.H. Snape, Mrs Coroline Miles and Dr. S.O. Cleireacain, which helped me in understanding the problem in the right perspective. I am beholden to all of them.

I am thankful to Dr. V.K. Panchmukhi, Dr. P.K. Patnaik and Dr. Suresh Tandulkar. Their suggestions have helped me in reforming the arguments at various places.

I have benefited by discussing the various aspects of the textile industry and trade with Mr. P. Chentsal Rao, Secretary-General, FICCI, Mr. D.M. Pai, Panandikar and Mr. R.S. Bisht. My heart-felt thanks to them.

I am grateful to Mr. D. Srinivasan for his help in editing the manuscript and suggesting improvement in style, Mr. M.K. Rao and Mr. Satish Kumar of the Planning Commission Computer Centre for computer work, and to the staff of the Sapru House, FICCI, and the USIS and UN Libraries. My special thanks are due to Mr. V.K. Mazumdar of FICCI for his assistance as and when required.

I am highly obliged to Dr. L.S. Bhat, Uma and Anita for their constant encouragement and help at various stages, and to my colleague Mr. G.D. Awasthi for his cooperation in several crucial moments.
I will be failing in my duty if I am not expressing gratitude to Mr. Gajanan Hegde, Ranganathan, Venkataraman, and Murali for typing the script. I am thankful to Mr. K.M. Raipuria, Alokesh Barua, P.S. Ghosh, M.A.J. Jayasheelan and K.S. Mallick, for their help.

I owe a debt more than I know how to express in words to my wife, Nalini, who helped in innumerable ways. Her constant support enabled me to complete this work.

1-6-79
NEW DELHI,

TARANATH P. BHAT