Acknowledgement

I would like to express my gratitude to all those who supported and encouraged to complete this thesis.

First of all I would like to express sincere gratitude to my supervising teacher, Dr. A.C. Kuttykrisnan, Professor and Head, for his valuable suggestion, critical account and encouragement during the course of this work. His overly enthusiasm and integral view on research and his mission for providing ‘only high quality work and not of less’ has immensely helped me for making this work a fruitful one. I learnt a lot from his dedication to research and I feel proud to be his PhD student. I owe him lots of gratitude for having me shown this way of research.

I express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to Dr. K.P Mani, Professor of our Department for his suggestion and encouragement. His practical suggestions and inspirations have helped me a lot for the completion of this work. He provided his expertise in economics, statistics, econometrics and especially his innovative approach to research whenever I approached him. His words are confidence boosting and supporting.

I express my deep gratitude to Dr. P Abdul Kareem, who kindly provided his immense knowledge in International Economics. He offered his integral view on trade related issues whenever I approached him. The suggestions and inspirations were very helpful from the beginning to the final stage of this work.

I am thankful to Dr. P.P Pillai, Dr. D.P Nair, Dr. Lakshmi Devi K.R., Dr. U.T. Damayanthi, and Dr. Retnaraj, my teachers, at John Matthai Centre, for their motivation and encouragement. I am thankful to Dr. K.X Joseph, and Mr. Skijan, faculty at JMC for their various help.

Two invaluable treasure I gained from Thrissur is my good friends, Simon and Hari. To me they are my brothers than mere friends. They never had a word of ‘no’ whenever I approached for academic and non academic matters despite their busy research work. Without their help this work would never be complete. The help rendered by them at Thrissur and Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram are beyond words. They whole heartedly gave a final word of decisions to me in many conflicting situations. The unconditional help rendered by them are beyond the scope of this thesis and its dimensions vast. I extend my deep sense of gratitude to them for their help, cooperation, motivation…..

There is no suitable word to thank for the help rendered by Salma teacher, Valsa teacher and their family. Their love and affection towards me are beyond my imagination. Their home was mine whenever bored with hostel life. The problem I have faced in using computer in hostel was sort out by God by giving these two teacher families. This work has taken this present form with the computer facility and freedom given in their home by these loving teachers.

Salma teacher helped and encouraged me in all matters. To thank for the help given by her during the course my PhD work need more pages than this thesis. She helped me as a teacher, loved me as a mother and is always with me as a friend. I owe lots to Sathar sir, for giving me inspirations and advice whenever I faced problems. Sebi and Mani helped me for working with the computer and were willing to offer any help at any time. Heartfelt thanks to these young brothers for their timely help.
Valsa teacher helped me in every walk of my life at Thrissur. She helped me by providing the freedom to use computer at any time in the final stage of my thesis. Her words have the magic power to ease out my tensions. I take this occasion to express my sincere thanks for the timely help rendered by Raju sir. The valuable help given by Raji and Dekku with their computer expertise and affectionate behaviour deserves special thanks. I remember and record with gratitude the help provided by them.

One of the most affectionate and supporting teacher, I met in my life is Smt.T.N Sudha, Head of the Department, Sree Kerala Varma College, where I worked as guest lecturer. Despite all constraints, she whole heartedly allowed me to adjust the teaching hours. Her words ‘hope for the best’ always gave special strength to go ahead. I express my deepest gratitude to my teacher for her sincere and intimate affection, inspiration, encouragement and prayers.

I am thankful to Aruna teacher, Sudha, SreeVidya, Sreekala and Rajasekharan sir, faculty at Kerala Varma College, for their moral support. I owe a lot to Aruna teacher and Sreevidya for happily adjusting their teaching hours for me.

I am thankful to Dr.Suresh Babu and Dr. K,N Harilal Associate Fellows, CDS for their suggestion to improve this thesis.

The help and support given by the librarians of John Matthai Centre, Smt. UshaRani and Reshma, played an integral role in completing this thesis. I am thankful to them for their valuable help. I place a record of gratitude to the library staffs of CDS for their cooperation. I am also thankful to all office staffs of JMC especially Vanaja chechi, Chandrettan and Subhash, for their various help.

I remember with gratitude the help and affection shown by Louis sir and Gigi teacher. Their words of encouragement and inspiration helped me to make a better out put from this thesis. Their advice to think positively and ‘pains will be rewarded’ guided me in many situations.

I express my deepest gratitude to Savithri teacher and Mercy teacher for their inspirations and motivation. Special thanks to Savithri teacher for her prayers to sort out some of my problems. Dr. K.A Baby and Dr.C.B Baby deserve special thanks for their relentless affection and prayers.

I express my heartfelt thanks to Dr. Johnson Thomas, Francis sir, Rajeev sir, Suresh sir, Shibly sir, Babu sir and Abdulla sir (FIP teachers) for their friendship and motivation. Their differing opinion about research and the discussions were very useful and I am very happy for getting a chance to be with this eminent personalities. I am thankful to Dr.Ancila, Principal, Providence college for her co operation and affection. I am also thankful to other co research scholars of JMC Thushara, Smita especially to Aneesh, for the hot discussion with him.

Subu and Parameswaran, CDS, Thiruvananthaparam, helped me a lot for solving the data problems regarding my thesis and I take this occasion to express my heartfelt gratitude to them.

I am thankful to Rakhe P.B, Sajitha Beevi, Lakshmi and Dhanya, Research Fellows at CDS, Thiruvananthaparam, for their help whenever I approached them. Their friendship was very remarkable for the completion of this work.
A mere word of thanks may not be enough to my roommates, Dyuthi and Sapna for adjusting with my books, papers and luggages. Their poems and songs were tension relievers to me. I am fortunate to have these two good roommates for sharing our happiness, tensions, dreams, visions and ambitions. I express my heartfelt and sincere thanks to them for making my hostel life an unforgettable and joyful one.

The computer talents offered by Sabu, Sreejith, Mukesh, and Sijo, Faculty, Computer Science dept., John Matthai Centre, was very useful for the completion of my PhD work. They wholeheartedly helped me whenever I approached them. I express my sincere thanks to them for their friendship and inspirations.

I am thankful to Uma, Saru and Smitha, Mphil PhD integrated students of JMC, for their friendship and support. I am thankful to all MA students of JMC for their help at various stage.

I express my heartfelt thanks to Pauly, Educare Infotech, for the neat presentation of this thesis.

I am very lucky to have a lot of loving and affectionate friends during the course of my PhD works in Thrissur especially in Hostel. I am grateful to all of them. Without mentioning a few names this acknowledgement will be incomplete. I express my deep sense of thanks to Seema, Reema, Bindu, Sheena, Manju, Raji, Smitha and Shalna for their friendship.

My parents and brothers are the real force behind this work. Without their love and affection this work may not be possible. They provided the strength and inspiration to carry forward this work. I would like to share this moment of happiness with them for rendering me enormous support during the whole tenure of my research.

Last but not least I express my sincere, grateful and heartfelt thanks to GOD, The ALMIGHTY for guiding me in correct direction and for giving me strength to face problems.