Acknowledgements

The most satisfying moment for a research student is when the research work is presented for evaluation. In such moment of bliss, I must acknowledge the help and cooperation extended by scores of persons. I owe a deep sense of gratitude for them.

First and foremost of all is Dr. Ashok Mittal, Professor & Chairman, Department of Economics who is not only the supervisor of this work but is mentor and source of inspiration for me. I have no hesitation in admitting that his scholarship abilities went a great deal in the organization of thought and giving them a shape.

As most of the work was carried out at National Institute of Public Finance and Policy where I was allowed not only to use its rich library but was given permission to attend the refresher course on Public Economics along with my husband which was then going on in the Institute. For such kindness and hospitality I am grateful to its Director Dr M Govinda Rao, and the course coordinator Dr Pinaki Chakravarty. The lectures I attended there and the interactive sessions that followed them greatly enhanced my understanding of the subject. It was during my stay there that I got the opportunity to interact with galaxy of stalwarts on the subject that include professor D K Shrivastava, Dr Indra Rajaraman besides Dr Rao and Dr Chakravarty. Discussion with them immensely benefited me in giving the right kind of treatment to my research task. I can not forget to mention the name of Dr Gautam Naresh of the NIPFP itself for his help, cooperation and hospitality. The library staff was very cooperative, I thank them from the core of my heart.

I can not forget to mention the teachers of my own department at AMU especially Dr AM Siddiqui, Dr Nighat Ahmad, Dr Shehroz A Rizvi and Dr M Azam Khan. They have always been of great help and cooperation. I am grateful to all of them. Amongst the faculty members I must especially mention Dr Mohd Saeed Khan, my husband who has always been a source of mental
strength which enabled me to face squarely various challenging situations and helped me academically as he himself has a keen interest in the area of Public Finance.

Mr Bunyad Ali Khan, the Librarian of the departmental library who was of all the help whenever it was required. I am grateful to him as well the office staff namely Mr Aquil Ahmad.

I must thank Mr H.K. Sharma, the typist who has been ever obliging even if often I did not give him the breathing space.

My little daughter Fatima Saeed deserves especial mention as not only she cooperated like a mature person. She kept on motivating me for the early completion of my task. Among other things she has been a very significant source of motivation.

Mention must also be made of the blessings and good wishes of my mother, Khadija Sultana, brothers, Shariq Aziz and Tariq Aziz and sister, Kehkashan Aziz. I thank God almighty for enabling me to fulfill the wishes of my family.

I have a regret as well that my father Mr Aziz Ahmad Siddiqui is no longer alive to see to this accomplishment of mine. I can only imagine his happiness on this occasion.

(Ghazala Aziz)