As the electoral behaviour has become a dynamic concept related to various factors like education, socio-economic pattern of life, faith, culture, psychological elements, values of life, casteism, regionalism, and religion etc. a study of such a subject is being given much greater importance by the political scientists in the present day context. It would not be out of place to mention briefly as to what inspired me to take up such a project as 'A Study Of General Elections In India—with Special Reference to Lok Sabha -- A Study In Voting Behaviour'. However, the study of electoral behaviourism has been a subject of great importance among the academicians, social and political scientists in many of the developed countries of the world, its study in India is of recent origin. The studies, so far made, in our country, in regard to electoral behaviourism have remained confined only to a limited area either concerning the sectarian or regional basis; or else if it has been made on a national level, it has remained confined to the study of one particular General Elections only. But a study of the electoral behaviour, by taking up all the General Elections together, has not been done as yet. Therefore, in writing the present dissertation, it has been my endeavour to make my humble contribution to the study of General Elections, from the point of electoral behaviour, beginning from the first General Elections (held in 1952) to the fifth General Elections held in 1971, with the hope that it might fulfill the gap that exists in the studies, so far made, till date.
While making an exploration for a topic of research, I expressed my interest in the study of the electoral behaviour to Dr. R.P. Shrivastava, Head of the Deptt. of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Sagar, Sagar, who inspired me accordingly and suggested the aforesaid topic. As many of the problems concerning the elections both at the micro and macro levels had been studied and a comparative study had also been made of various General Elections with varying themes, a study on such a topic seemed to be an expedient in the continuation with a view to finding the specific reaction of the electorate at the time of polls which the present dissertation aims it.

As to the relevance of such a study, it might be stated that with the ever growing awareness of the people to their right to change the government which fails to satisfy their aspirations and fulfil its promises made at the time of elections, it will acquire much greater significance, and as time goes on, the political scientist shall depend more and more for making their predictions, in regard to the behaviour of the electorate on such scientific studies which are being made in this field or shall be made in future.

Therefore, the dissertation of the type as is being submitted may have its utility for those who would like to develop this theme taking into account future elections that might show some other
trend in the electoral behaviour. It may be then conveniently expected that such a dissertation would prove as a guide line to the future researchers who might work on such a project. As to the findings and the conclusions that I have made I would only add that I neither make any claim nor an assertion that they are permanent features of an electoral behaviour but they are only variants and would go on changing with the everchanging pattern of the electoral behaviour which in itself is a dynamic concept.