

## *Acknowledgement*

*Thank you God! It was only because of your blessings that I was able to complete my work. You have been the source of guidance and motivation throughout.*

*It is a great privilege to express my deep sense of gratefulness to my esteemed supervisor Dr. Dilbir Kaur Bajwa, Professor, Department of Political Science, Punjabi University, Patiala, who has continuously encouraged me to combine my mental images with the emotions of desires to accelerate their realization. She has clarity of mind, intelligence and attitude for quest of perfection. She believes in motto "work is before self". She has always been a constant source of encouragement and patience bearer to my mistakes throughout this study.*

*I wish to express my heartiest thanks to Dr. Jagroop Kaur, Professor and Head, Department of Political Science, Punjabi University, Patiala, for providing the necessary facilities for carrying out my research work without which I would have strayed in the blind alleys of darkness.*

*I owe a grateful acknowledgment of gratitude to respected teachers especially Dr. Manju Verma, Dr. Satish Sharma, Dr. N.K. Dogra, Dr. Goraya and Jatinder Sir for their genuine support whenever asked for. I am also thankful to non-teaching staff especially to Mr. Bhupinder Singh and Mr. Ajit Singh for their cooperative attitude.*

*I would also like to express my gratitude to all the members of Estimates Committee and other staff members of Punjab Vidhan Sabha who helped me to complete my work. My thanks are also due to Mr. Jagjit Singh Minhas, Gurdial Sir, Mr. P.S. Gill and Mavi Sir. I am thankful to Mrs. and Mr. Kahlon, Mr. S.P. Sood, Mr. Nirmal Singh, Mr. Suresh, Professors, Government College, Ropar, Prof. Surinder Kaur (Patiala) who are my source of inspiration.*

*I also convey my sincere thanks to Bhai Kahan Singh Nabha Library, Punjabi University, Patiala, Central Library, Patiala, Panjab University, Chandigarh, Guru Nanak Dev University Library, Amritsar, and Jawaharlal Nehru University Library, Delhi, Punjab Vidhan Sabha Library, Chandigarh, for substantial help and cooperation.*

*My deep sense of appreciation is due to my parents Mr. R.L. Manchanda and Ms. Parveen Kaur Manchanda, nana-nani, and parents-in-law Mr. Sujinder Singh and Ms. Tejinder Kaur for their love, affection, faith and silent sacrifices. They built up my confidence and kept me in high spirits by encouraging me.*

*I am also thankful to Dr. G.S. Bajwa, Director, IAS and Allied Services Training Centre, Punjabi University, Patiala for commendable assistance and cooperation.*

*I shall be failing in my duty, if I do not express my gratitude to my dear husband Mr. Haricharan Singh, who has always been a pillar of*

*strength in my life and without whose constant love and support I would not have been able to complete my work,*

*I also owe my thanks to my brothers, sisters, bhabhis, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, who always helped me in their own special way at various stages.*

*My little nieces Arsh, Jas, Jaismine, Jannat, Noor, Gudu, Ekam and nephews Yuvi, Sirat, Kabir who brought whiffs of fresh air whenever monotony threatened to set in.*

*I extend my thanks to my dear friends Kanwal, Manjeet, Salinder, Iqbal, Swapan and Antima for their suggestions and discussions.*

*I am also thankful to Mr. Manjot Sohal (NetHill, First Floor, Opp. Punjabi University, Patiala), for typing and printing of this thesis work,*

*Above all, my special thanks and respect to my grandpa whose love and blessings made everything possible.*

*(Harpreet Kaur)*