Bowing my head to the almighty who is omnipresent, omnipotent and omniscient for His unlimited blessings, which provides me opportunity and strength in the successful completion of my study.

I am highly indebted to my supervisor Prof. Qamaruddin Khan, the Chairman, Department of Commerce and the Dean, Faculty of Commerce, A.M.U., Aligarh for his guidance and inspirations throughout my work. I am unable to express my obligations and gratitude towards him in words. He gave me valuable suggestions and enriched me with lots of informations. He enlightened me with a vast and varied experience in the subject and gave me the liberty to encroach upon his precious time.

With equal sincere gratitude, I also feel very grateful to Prof. Ashok Mittal, the Chairman, Department of Economics, A.M.U. Aligarh, who has been a continuous source of inspiration and encouragement to me.

I wish to put my immense gratitude to Dr. A.Q. Khan, Department of Commerce, A.M.U., Aligarh whose whole hearted involvement, constant inspiration, invaluable advice and encouragement made this work possible.
in its present form. No amount of thanks or gratitude can be sufficient for his contribution to my work.

I am deeply indebted to Dr. Imran Saleem, Department of Commerce, A.M.U., Aligarh, who evinced personal interest in my work and sought to resolve my difficulties from time to time and helped me in completing this work. I am equally thankful to all my teachers in the Department for their constructive and timely suggestions.

Similarly, my sincere thanks are due to all my batchmates and well wisher for their help and especially to Tabassum whose friendship, moral support helped me in completing this study.

I am much grateful to the executive and non-executive staff, workers, and AIRF Trade Union Treasurer Mr. S.P. Singh who helped me unreservedly in the collection of necessary data.

I am also indebted to the officers and Librarian of the Railway Bhawan, Baroda House, Maulana Azad for extending to me the necessary help and cooperation in collecting the desired information. I must also thanks Mr. Ali Hasan Khan, Mr. Khwaja Pervez, Mr. Mohd. Akram and Mr. Anees Ahmad for all kinds of cooperation shown by them during the
progress of this work and Mr. Jameel Ahmad Khan for typing this thesis neatly at a very short notice.

I am extremely grateful to my Husband, Vishal who has been a great source of strength to me in my research pursuits, without his love and cooperation this work would not have been completed.

I also feel indebted to my sisters, Gunjan, Vinni and brother, Shiny for boosting up my moral and helping me in each and every path of my life. At last, but not the least whatever I have achieved, it is only because of the encouragement and patronage of my Dadu, my Pappa and my Mummy, to whom I dedicate my thesis.

(Ameet Kaur)