ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I consider myself to be abled to complete this work satisfactorily with the grace and mercy of Almighty ALLAH.

I wish to express my sincere thanks and deep sense of gratitude to My Supervisor Dr. Nizamuddin Khan, Senior Lecturer, Department of Geography, A. M.U., Aligarh, for his generous inspirations, invaluable suggestions and scholarly guidance which helped me in completion of this thesis. I am deeply indebted to Prof. Salahuddin Qureshi, Chairman, Department of Geography, A.M.U., Aligarh, for providing me all necessary facilities in the department to carry out this work and for his valuable suggestions throughout my research work.

I am highly thankful to Prof. K.Z.Amani, Prof. A. L. Singh, Prof. Ali Mohammad, Prof. Azimuddin Qureshi, ex-chairmen Department of Geography, Dr. Ateeque Ahmad, Dr. S. Naushad Ahmad, Readers, Department of Geography, Dr. Najmul Islam Hashmi. Dr. Shahab Fazal and Mr. Jabir Hassan Khan, Lecturers, Department of Geography, A.M.U., Aligarh, for their kind cooperation and valuable suggestions during my research work. My thanks are also due to Ms. Talat Kaneez Fatima, seminar in charge, Department of Geography and Ms. Darakhshan Noor, seminar in charge, Department of Post Harvest, Institute of Agriculture, library staffs at Maulana Azad Library, and Department of Agricultural Economics, A.M.U., Aligarh for providing me all the relevant literature whenever needed.

I am thankful to all the teaching and the non-teaching staffs of the Department of Geography and to all my friends including Mr. Shahid Pervez, Mr. Mumtaz Ahmad, Dr. Manish Semwal, Dr. Ishwarjeet Singh and Dr. Sarfraz Asghar for their valuable cooperation and help rendered to me. I will be failing in my duties if I do not acknowledge Dr. Yasir Sayeed Hanfi, Mr. Ahmad Mujtaba Siddiqui, Dr. Nuruzaman, Mr. Mazhar Khan, Dr. Shafiqullah, Mr. Alim Akhtar, Dr. Masiullah Khan, Mr. Mujeebur Rehman, Dr. Kausar Shamim, Dr. Mukammil Hussain, Mr. Asif Iqbal, Ms. Sanober Naheed, Ms Fatima Mehar Sultan and Ms. Zeba Siddiqui, for their help in compilation of my research work.

Last, but not least I am very much grateful to all my family members who have always been a source of inspiration for me throughout my higher academic pursuits.

Aligarh
April, 2005

Md. Minhajul Hoda