ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

"Allah doesn’t call the qualified
He qualifies the called."

Keeping in mind this motivational thought, I started my journey towards Ph.D. I would like to express endless thanks to my Almighty Allah for his showered blessings upon me and enabled me to write this last note in my research work. Working on the Ph.D. has been an amazing experience in my life. Almighty has blessed me with some astonishing people who have made a web of support around me. I wish to express my heartiest thanks to all those who contributed in many ways during the course of the study and made it a memorable experience for me.

At this moment of accomplishment, first of all I am deeply indebted to my research supervisor, Dr. (Mrs.) Asiya Chaudhary, Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, AMU, Aligarh for giving me such an interesting thesis topic. She has supported and guided me with promptness and care and encouraged me a lot in difficult times with her valuable ideas and suggestions. As my guide, she has always pushed me to be focused on achieving my goals. She has listened to my ideas and discussed patiently and made me to select and approach compelling research problems and to present their solutions. Her high scientific standards, hard work, ability to balance research interests and personal pursuits set an example which helped me to set up the direction of the research taken as a whole and to move ahead with in depth investigation. Above all, she made me feel a daughter, which I appreciate from the core of my heart.

Furthermore, I am very grateful to Professor Javed Alam Khan, Dean, Faculty of Commerce, AMU, Aligarh, Professor Ziauddin Khairoowala, Chairman, Department of Commerce, AMU, Aligarh and Professor Sibghatullah Farooqui, Ex-Chairman, Department of Commerce, AMU, Aligarh for their support, motivating discussions and facilitating convenient environment in the department for research work. I am equally thankful to all the Faculty Members, Department of Commerce for their valuable support and encouragement.

I am highly obliged to Professor Ashok Mittal, Department of Economics, AMU, Aligarh and Dr. Imran Saleem, Department of Commerce, AMU, Aligarh for enlightening up the way in my darkest times with their invaluable suggestions for the research work.
I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to Dr Md Najmuddin (IES), Additional Development Commissioner (Handloom), Ministry of Textiles, Govt of India and Dr Md Izhar Alam, Intern/ Consultant, Foreign Trade (LAC & NAFTA) Division, Deptt of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt of India for their tender cooperation during data collection process of the research work. I warmly thank Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad for his significant contribution towards implementation of statistical tools into my study with his outstanding computer skills and commendable guidance.

I give special thanks to my family specially my parents for their love, support and prayers. This thesis is the result of my Father Mr. Mohammad Shahid and Mother Mrs. Shahina Shahid who were always there when I really needed. They strengthened me to stand strongly when I got hopeless and weak during the course of the study. I wish to thank my loving sister Mrs. Shoeba Adil and brother Mr. Areeb Shahid who despite being badly ignored during the study period helped me a lot to work for hours tirelessly. I am much indebted to my cousin sister Ms. Nahid Chishti for her precious advices in writing thesis.

It is my fortune to gratefully admit the support of some special friends. I am particularly thankful to Dhanraj Sharma, Pushpender Kumar Yadav and Bhawana Rawat for the healthy discussions done on my research work that helped me a lot in clearing confusions over the topic. I wish to thank my lovely friend Sabiha Khatoon for her love, care and moral support. I am also thankful to Sana Rehman, Sana Ikram, Sana Deeba, Azeem Ahmed, Azam Malik, Adil Ameen and Mohammad Parvez for providing an inspiring and congenial environment.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mr. Parvez Khwaja, Mr. Ali Hasan, Mohammad Anees, Seminar Library and Mr. Kazim, Mr. Aslam Computer Lab In charge and other staff of Department of Commerce for their support and cooperation.

Last but not least, I would like to dedicate my thesis to my parents for allowing me to spend most of the time on this thesis.

(Nazneen Shahid)