ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

An old adage, "GOD helps those who help themselves."

Here, I would like to express my gratitude to those GOD heads who blessed me in one or the other ways to accomplish this exploration in time. To name a few

First of all my humble gratitude to my torch bearer Supervisors, Dr. V.K. Mahajan, Professor of Economics, Department of evening studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh and Dr. Suman Makkar, Associate Professor of Economics, Department of evening studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, whose relentless guidance, valuable suggestions, uncompromising attitude towards quality and critical evaluation has not only given me an opportunity for a deeper insight in this research, but also helped in bringing out the best of me. No words can express my indebtedness towards Dr. Suman Makkar who always elevated my spirit with her inspiring smile. Undoubtedly, both my guides gave me the full freedom to be fully creative and allowed me to explore all the possible means, to all possible extents, to make this research a reality.

My heart felt thanks to Professor M.R. Aggarwal and Professor Indu Verma, Department of Economics, Panjab University, Chandigarh who were just like a lighthouse for me in this oceanic subject of International Economics. I am very much grateful to Dr. Gurmail Singh, Chairperson of the Department of Economics, for his tacit encouragement and invaluable suggestions from time to time. I am lucky to get in touch with Professor G.K. Chadda Chief Executive, SAU, New Delhi who bestowed upon me a golden opportunity to attend the International Conference on SAARC. I am privileged to get in touch with the personalities like Mr. Ashok Kumar (Deputy Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit, MOF, India), Madame Balbir Kaur (Advisor, DEPR, RBI Mumbai), Mr. N. Srim (Senior Control Officer, ADB, InRM), Mr. Sudeep Mahapatra (Economist, IMF, InRM), Miss. Maria Punzalan and Mr. Jose Frederick Basa (Department of External Relations, ADB, Manila) who provided me with the required data, and information needed for the research, always welcomed my queries with open heart, and were available
for 24X7 in this ordeal journey. Also, I am thankful to Dr. Gurmit Singh (Member, Chief Khalsa Diwan) for his suggestions and sharing his experiences with inspiring approach.

This journey would not have been completed in time without the untiring support of Madam Sunita Mallhotra (World Bank information specialist, New Delhi) Mr. Raj Sharma (Librarian United Nations, New Delhi), Mr. Chidambaram (Librarian NIPFP, MOF); Mr. Ved Bhardwaj (Librarian, Department of Economics, Panjab University, Chandigarh) along with the authorities of Libraries of India Habitat Centre (New Delhi), Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RJS, New Delhi), Indian Statistical Institute (ISI, New Delhi) and Department of Law (Panjab University, Chandigarh).

I owe my deep regards to Dr. Nitin Arora, Assistant Professor of Economics, Panjab University, Chandigarh for his sincere commitment towards his undying passion for Econometrics. My greatest debts to my friends Harpreet Singh, Kritika Sharma, Reeta Sanger, Sandhya Krishnan, and Vivek Chauhan whose contribution has been too enormous to express in words. I also express my appreciation for all those who guided and helped me directly or indirectly, known or unknown, named or unnamed or in this profession or not.

I find it unjustifiable to express a short acknowledgement towards my parents, parents-in-law, brother & co, sister in law, for incessantly inspiration to accord top priority to this very venture. I also appreciate contributions of my husband along with my little kid Abhinav for his solitude, sufferings but smiles.

I am also grateful to Brahmakumaries Anita and Shweta didi (Brahmakumaries Centre, Chandigarh) for enhancing my mental and spiritual strength.

Rajnini Dogra
(18/11/11)