ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The documentation of this manuscript has long been my dream nurtured over the past few years and finally fulfilled. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all those who have contributed to the successful completion of this thesis.

First of all, I bow my head before the Almighty who bestowed me with His kind grace and made it possible for me to bring out this manuscript.

It is a matter of great honour for me to acknowledge the invaluable guidance rendered to me by my esteemed and revered supervisor, Dr. Kuldeep Singh, Professor, Department of Economics, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra. This research project owes its completion to this man of brilliant intellect, inspiring guidance and scholarly inputs. Clarity of thoughts and consistent encouragement from him ignited the creative and positive energy lying dormant so far inside me to execute this research work. His patience and critical appraisal of my work as been of immense help. To work with him was a lesson of commitment, sincerity and dedication. With all sincerity and heartfelt gratitude, I salute this man of great immense with his inherent genius.

I sincerely express my deep sense of gratitude and heartiest thanks to Dr. Vedpal Singh, Professor, Haryana School of Business, Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar for his consistent encouragement, help and support despite his busy schedule.

I’m highly indebted to Dr. Neera Verma, Chairperson, Department of Economics, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra for her encouraging attitude, wholehearted co-operation and support during the course of my study.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Sarita Rana, Associate professor, University College, Krukshestra University, Kurukshetra for her affection, moral encouragement and motivation.
I am also greatly beholden to Sh. Lal Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of English, K. M. Government College, Narwana for his constant help, inspiration and encouragement throughout the period of my research work.

I am extremely thankful to the library staff of Kurukshetra University, Kurushetra, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), and Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) for their cooperation in my search by providing me the relevant data and literature.

I owe profound gratitude to my elder brother Sh. Subhash Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Dayal Singh College, Karnal whose affection, moral encouragement, constant inspiration and motivation have been invaluable to me.

A word of thanks to my affectionate wife Nina whose support, patience, sacrifice and unconditional love showered on me during this period helped to make this work a success. A special thanks to my son Karnik whose smiles extended to me relief throughout this tiresome journey.

Finally, I owe my most sincere gratitude to my parents, Shri Dhoop Singh and late Smt. Sarbati Devi, whose encouragement, generosity and confidence in my abilities steered me through life and sustained me in this great endeavour.

NARESH KUMAR