Acknowledgements

Any new research work is in itself a tribute to all academicians those who have contributed on that subject. This work is no exception, and I owe my gratitude to all past and present writers who have enriched this field and whose names appear in the bibliography.

However, I must put on record my special debts, both academic and individual. In the first place are the libraries and archival repositories whose resources I have liberally used. These include: National Archives of India, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, Ratan Tata Library (Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi), Central Secretariat Library, Central Library (Jawaharlal Nehru University), all in Delhi; Maharashtra State Archives, Mumbai; Tamil Nadu State Archives, Chennai; West Bengal State Archives, Kolkata; British Library, London, and; International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam. Besides, there are several virtual libraries on the internet where I could locate some of the very rare and out of print works. The online collections that I have utilized in this work mainly came from: Internet Library of Early Journals (University of Oxford); the Online Library of Liberty (USA), Digital Library of India, and the South Asia Resources on the Internet (SARAI, Columbia University).

Next, I would like to pay homage to my late parents – Shri R.S. Garg and Smt. Omwati Garg – who always prided themselves in the smallest of my achievements and encouraged my academic pursuits. My friend, Late Dr. P.C. Pradhan too always prodded me to complete this work.

No amount of thanks can possibly express my indebtedness towards my Ph.D. supervisor, Prof. Aditya Mukherjee. If some of his ideas are found reflected in this work, it is nothing but a tribute to his deep understanding and through knowledge of the economic history. I also gratefully thank my co-supervisor Dr. S. Najaf Haider, who not only helped me with his invaluable comments, critique and suggestions, but also shared his excellent library.
Dr. P.J.E. Stevens (UK) shared his excellent researches and immense expertise on the coinage and currencies of the East India Company and also provided illustrations of a number of coins from his personal collection. Mr. Jan Lingen (the Netherlands) likewise provided illustration of an extremely rare coin included in this work. I earnestly acknowledge their help. Other illustrations have been liberally drawn from an online repository – www.coinarchive.com.

Finally, in such works it has become customary to thank one’s spouse, but I do not intend to do it for the sake of formality. With all sincerity in my command, I record my gratitude to my wife, Nurussaba, who always was and remains my best friend, critic, supporter and help, in whatever I do.

NEW DELHI
7 July 2008

(SANJAY GARG)