ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I owe a special debt of gratitude to my supervisor Dr. Masood Hasan, Department of Economics, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for his able guidance and continued interest for the completion of this research work. He always spared his precious time for the correction of the draft from time to time and making valuable suggestions for improvement. Without his kind co-operation this work could have never taken the present shape.

I express my deep sense of gratitude to Prof. Naseem A. Zaidi, Chairman, Prof. Akhtar Zaheer Rizvi, former Chairman, and Prof. Ashok Mittal, Department of Economics, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh for their support and good deal of interest in my research pursuits.

I must register my sincere thanks to all the teachers in the Department for their useful comments and encouragement.

I am also grateful to my colleagues and friends Messrs Asif, Sayeeda, Jameel, Rashid, Musharraf Ali, Imran, Farid, Anwar Kamal, Shahid and Yousuf for their moral support and help at various stages of this work, without which the task was impossible.

My special thanks are due to the members of the staff of Seminar Library, Department of Economics, A.M.U., Aligarh, Maulana Azad Library, A.M.U., Aligarh, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy's Library, New Delhi, for their valuable co-operation and help whenever needed. Also, the award of Research Fellowship by University Grants Commission, New Delhi is greatly acknowledged.

Mere words fail to express my appreciation to my parents and brothers who were the real source of motivation, inspiraiton and patience for me to be at this stage.

Lastly, I would like to thank Messrs H.K. Sharma and Chetan Sharma for their excellent typographical skill, which helped me to get my thesis neatly typed in a desired period of time.

(MOHD. AZAM KHAN)