ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The work presented in this thesis would not have been possible without support and encouragement of numerous people. It is a pleasant opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude and appreciation to all those who made this Ph.D. thesis possible and made it an unforgettable experience for me.

From the depth of my heart I express my deep sincere gratitude to the Almighty for the Blessings He had bestowed upon me to do this work.

First and foremost, I would like to extend my profound gratitude and heartfelt thanks to my research supervisor Dr. Karunakar Ram Tripathi, Professor & Head, Department of Economics, D.D.U. Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur for introducing me into this exciting field of knowledge and for his dedicated help, advice, inspiration, encouragement and continuous support, throughout my Ph.D. His enthusiasm, integral view on research and his mission for providing high-quality work, has made a deep impression on me. I am thankful for his devoted contribution in reviewing my progress, writing, making correction to improve and finalize the research papers as well as the thesis. During our course of interaction I have learnt extensively from him on how to approach a problem by systematic thinking. He has taught
me another aspect of life, that, “goodness can never be defied and good human beings can never be denied”. I am really glad to be associated with you sir, in my life.

I convey my gratefulness to my teacher, Prof Sandeep Kumar, Department of Economics, D.D.U. Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur who gave me constant encouragement and valuable advices. Sir, you have always been a source of inspiration to me. My special thanks to Prof Ashok Kumar Srivastava, Department of Economics, D.D.U. Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur for being a role model for me. I would also like to acknowledge my teachers Prof S. Yadav Department of Economics, D.D.U. Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur and Prof P.C.Shukla, Department of Economics, D.D.U. Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur and Dr. Aloka Kumar Goyal Department of Economics, D.D.U. Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur, I would not have been here without their guidance, blessings and support. I am also expressing my sense of gratitude to Mr. Sudhir Kumar (Senior Office Assistant), Mr. Rakesh & Mr. Durgash for assistance and caring support in the department.

I would like to acknowledge my friends and colleagues for their moral support and motivation, which drives me to give my best. Dr. Garima Shukla Tripathi, Dr. Jigyasu, Mr. Pawan Kumar Bharti, Mr. Arvind Prasad yadav, Dr Akhilesh Dhar Dubey and Viplav Mishra…
list is endless...thanks to one and all. I find myself lucky to have friends like them in my life.

I owe my deepest gratitude towards the people who mean world to me; my parents (Sayeed Manzer Beg & Rashida Beg), my sister (Bushra Sayeed & Nabeela Sayeed) and brother (Nabeel Khan). I don’t imagine a life without their love and blessings. Thank you mom and dad for showing faith in me and giving me liberty to choose what I desired. Finally, my heartfelt regard to Mr. Ahmad for him eternal support and understanding of my goals and aspirations. I consider myself the luckiest in the world to have such a supportive family, standing behind me with their love and support. Their patience and sacrifices will remain my inspiration throughout my life.

Thank you,

(MUNEERA SAYEED)