ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Upon having reached this triumphant moment, words fall short of expressing feelings of my heart; however I want to acknowledge the help and support received from others in the completion of my work. The thesis would not have been possible without guidance and support of numerous people. I am thankful to a number of people who provide their valuable insight and remarkable inputs thereby in enabling me to complete this work.

Firstly, I am greatly indebted to my learned supervisor, Associate Professor (Dr.) Satish Kumar for the knowledge, patience and understanding that he has contributed throughout the duration of my research. I feel highly obliged to Dr. Satish Kumar for bestowing upon me the honor of being my guide, despite his extremely busy administrative as well as academic schedule. His Indefatigable zeal is a source of inspiration for all researchers. I consider myself indeed fortunate for having been able to work under his scholarly guidance.

Secondly, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Ravindra (Research Officer, ICPS) who gave very elite suggestions and valuable guidance during the duration of my research. His advice has indeed enabled me to improve and update the content of the present research work. Actually words are fallen short to express gratitude for his valuable support and constructive insight.

There are, of course, some individuals, who bestow their blessing during the completion of work. In this series, I would like to express my gratitude to fatherly figure V. C. Sir, Dr. Ranjit Singh and Prof. Mool Chand Sharma (former V.C., C.U.H.) for their encouragement and conviction on scholars. I have no words to express my sincere thanks to Professor H.S. Chandalia for a belief on me regarding completion of the work. I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all faculty members of C.U.H, specially Dr. Renu Yadav (Assistant Professor, C.U.H) and Dr. Pradeep Sahu (Assistant Professor, C.U.H), Mr. Sudhir Kumar Verma (Assistant Professor, C.U.H) for providing me essential guidance as well as great moral support.

My sincere thanks are also to the learned and dignified personality, Dr. Ajay K.Singh (Head, Centre for Federal Studies, Jamia Hamdard University) for his

precious elaboration on the topic of the research and for providing me valuable literature related to the research area. I am also thankful to Dr. Rajvir Singh Dhaka (Assistant Professor, HIPA) for his great annotations and enormous literature provided by him. I am also thankful to Mr. R. C. Poonia (RTI Activist).

This research, of course, could not have been carried out without the generosity of all the respondents that form the bedrock of this thesis. I extend my deep gratitude to them, as well as to the many other respondents who wished to remain anonymous. Without your generous contributions, this thesis would not have seen the light of day. I am extremely grateful to the government officials of Bhiwani district especially to selected five departments, who were gracious enough to grant me for interview and express their views on the subject of right to information despite of their hectic busy schedule. I am also thankful to library staff of Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, HIPA Gurgaon and PRIA library.

In this long and demanding process, the support I have received from my family has been essential to this endeavor. My all nephew and niece, despite the physical distance, have been untiring sources of encouragement and positive energy. My sisters, brother, brother-in-laws and Sister-in-law have been pillars of support throughout the process. And finally my Maa and papa (Smt. Ompati Devi and Sh. Randhir Singh) who have given me unquestioned affection, understanding, belief and encouragement as only parents can. I offer my deep gratitude to each of you.

Finally, I can only attempt to put down in words what is essentially an impossible task – expressing my gratitude to my friends and fellow researchers, Dikshant Bhaker, Ruchika Beniwal, Mr. Madhukar Sharma, Sanju Yadav, Manisha Jha, Manita Yadav, Sarita Yadav, Sunil Basia, Chatter pal Singh, Mangal Dev and fellow Ph.D. candidates for their kind assistance and support from the early days of the research work. All of you help me with your innate generosity, grace and good cheer. Thank you for being the inexhaustible source of moral strength that I could continuously draw from all of you.