

## Acknowledgement

I would like to express my profound gratitude and personal appreciation towards the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Government of India – who generously granted me a scholarship to pursue the Ph.D. Research in an Indian University. At the same time, I am indebted to the authority of the 'Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST)', Sylhet, Bangladesh for providing me a with-pay study leave for the necessary period to pursue this Ph.D. programme. In this concern, I am specially grateful to my senior colleague and the then Vice-Chancellor of SUST, Professor M. Habibur Rahman for his inspiration, help and cooperation. I am also indebted to the 'University of North Bengal (NBU)', District: Darjeeling, West Bengal, India for allowing me to pursue this programme and providing necessary assistance towards completion of my work.

I am greatly indebted to Professor (Dr.) Jagadish Chandra Debnath, Ex-Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Commerce and Law and Ex-Head, Department of Economics, University of North Bengal, District: Darjeeling, West Bengal, India for his close supervision, most valuable advice, suggestions and guidance at all stages of this research work. It would have been almost impossible for me to complete this research work without his invaluable guidance, constant encouragement and help. I also take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to Mrs. Malabi Debnath and two of their daughters, Bipasha and Bidisha, for their valuable cooperation, inspiration and social support to me and my family during the last few years.

I would like to extend my profound gratitude to my teacher, Professor (Dr.) Ahmadullah Mia, the Ex-Director of the Institute of Social Welfare and Research (ISWR), University of Dhaka as well as the Ex-Executive Director, UCEP-Bangladesh, Dhaka, for his constant encouragement and strategic help from the very beginning of this research work, specially in the initial stages of topic selection and proposal development. I am also grateful to the faculty members of the Department of Economics, University of North Bengal, for their valuable cooperation and suggestions. I also thank the office staff and research scholars of this Department for their kind cooperation and help.

I gratefully acknowledge the help and cooperation extended to me by the executives and officials of different Government, Non-Government and UN Organizations in Bangladesh who are working with child labour intervention programmes. Of them, special mention may be made of: Dr. Wahidur Rahman, the Ex-Programme Coordinator, ILO-IPEC, Dhaka; Mr. Md. Nurul Islam, Education Officer, UNICEF, Dhaka; Mr. Mohammad Asgar Ali, Director, BSAF, Dhaka; Mr. E.H. Khan Majlish, Acting Manager (GE), UCEP, Dhaka; Ms. Bilkes Sultana, Child labour Resource Centre, DAM, Dhaka; and Mr. Md.

*Mizanur Rahman, Senior Deputy Project Coordinator, ARISE Project, DSS, MOSW, Dhaka. All of them (as well as many others) provided me with all possible assistance and cooperation in collecting data and information pertaining to my research work.*

*In this work, I have also received various literatures and materials from different libraries of both Bangladesh and India. Of these, some of the libraries may be mentioned specially: the Central Libraries of Dhaka University, Rajshahi University, and Shahjalal University of Bangladesh, and of Calcutta University, Burdwan University and Visva Bharati University of West Bengal, India; the Social Work and Rural Development Library, Santiniketan, Visva Bharati University, India; the ISWR Library of Dhaka University; IBS Library of Rajshahi University; and the Libraries of ILO, UNICEF, BSAF, DSS, BRAC, ASK and the UCEP in Dhaka, Bangladesh as well as the University of North Bengal Library. I am thankful for the courtesy and assistance shown by the staff of these libraries. I am also grateful to the various authors and publishers whose works and publications were used by me liberally in my research work.*

*I feel obliged to the fellow Research Scholars working in this University, specially to the Bangladeshi scholars and the members of their families whose companionship, cooperation and assistance have provided the necessary support and inspiration to me and my family throughout the period of my staying here in the University Campus. I am also grateful to my colleagues and respected teachers of the ISWR of Dhaka University, and the department of Social Work of Rajshahi University, as well as the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Sylhet, Bangladesh for their continuous support and inspiration to me in my research work.*

*Finally, I take this opportunity to acknowledge indebtedness to my parents and other relatives who constantly encouraged me to carry out this research work. Last but not the least, I would like to place on record my heartfelt gratitude towards my wife Mrs. Murshida Sultana (Shova) and my only son Master Md. Mahin bin Hasan who were continuously staying here with me and provided emotional support, untiring help and constant inspiration during the last few years. Without their presence and assistance here in India and their silent sacrifice, this work would not have been completed successfully within the scheduled time.*

*Mostafa Hasan*  
(Mostafa Hasan)

Date: 07/10/2002