ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude to my supervisors. Dr. I.C. Syal, Professor and Head of Civil Engineering Department, Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh and Dr. P.N. Godbole, Professor, Civil Engineering Department, University of Roorkee, Roorkee, for their guidance and valuable suggestions received during the course of this study.

My Thanks are due:

- To the staff of Regional Computer Centre, Chandigarh and Computer Sciences Department of Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh for their help and Co-operation.
- To the staff of Structural Engineering Laboratory, Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh for the help rendered by them at the time of experimental work.
- To Mr. Prit Pal Singh for his careful and accurate typing and to Shri Babu Singh for preparing tracings.

I am particularly grateful to Prof. Rajnish Prakash, Principal, Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh for his constant encouragement and for making the facilities available during the course of the study.

(Narendra Pal)