ACKNOWLEDGMENT

It is a pleasant duty to enumerate here the debts I have accumulated, both intellectual and personal. First and foremost, I am very very grateful to Dr. SM. RAMASAMY, Professor and Head, School of Earth Sciences and Director, Centre for Remote Sensing, Bharathidasan University who served as a reservoir of ideas, never failing source of help and guidance. At every stage in my research work, the assistance, unscrupulous accuracy, discrimination, critical intelligence have been infinitely essential. His able guidance and his legendary devotion to the enterprise he exhibited even when affected by jaundice is my rare good fortune and have contributed immeasurably in this research work.

I am very grateful for personal encouragement, technical guidance, advice, education and stimulation received from Dr.(Mrs.) P. VENKATA CHALAM, Senior Research Scientist, Centre of Studies in Resources Engineering (CSRE), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay, in GIS and the kind permission granted by her eminent self to use GRAM-GIS package in Spatial Data Analysis Laboratory, CSRE, IIT, Bombay.

I am deeply indebted to Dr. (Mrs.) J. K. SURI, Senior Research Assistant, CSRE, IIT, Bombay who always took care of my GRAM-GIS computer analysis work and guiding me in the right direction through out. I am very much thankful for her keen interest and invaluable helps in pushing forward my thesis work. I further thank for her constant encouragement through out the Computer Analysis work at CSRE, IIT, Bombay.

I am very much thankful to Mr. N. V. N. NAMPOOTHRI, Research Associate, CSRE, IIT, Bombay whose remarkable talent in GIS programming was of immense help to my thesis.
I acknowledge the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, New Delhi for the financial assistance given to me as Technical Assistant through the project "MOCASY". My thanks are due to Dr. SM. Ramasamy, Principal Investigator, Project MOCASY for kindly permitting me to avail this assistance. I am conscious of having freely appropriated the data from his project MOCASY without which I could not have completed my thesis.

I acutely conscious of the tremendous debt I owe Dr. R. Jaganathan, for providing invaluable assistance in all types of data collection in the field and pumping test data analysis in computer. Dr. R. Jayakumar also earns my gratitude for his assistance in the hydrogeological field survey. The valuable help provided by Mr. V. Kandasamy, Mr. K. Anbarasu, Mr. R. Stalin, Mr. M. Kulothungan, Mr. T. Udhayasuriyan, Mr. G. Senthilnathan, Mr. T. Sadasivam, Mr. V. Sivakumar and Mr. M. Manohar in Pumping Tests, conducted in the field, have been gratefully acknowledged. Without their immense help and patience, Pumping Tests could not have been carried out successfully.

My profound thanks are due to Dr. S. Anbazhagan, Research Associate, School of Earth Sciences, Bharathidasan University who offered technical guidance in Remote Sensing data interpretation.

I express my deep gratitude to Dr. V. Parthasarathy, Head in-charge, University Computer Centre who was kind enough to make the computer facility at available University Computer Centre. I owe Mr. R. Padmanabhan and Mr. A. Arokiyaran under whose tutelage I learnt computer basics and special thanks are due to Mr. R. Padmanabhan for his timely assistance in programming for handling voluminous numerical data.
I express my sincere thanks to **Dr. A. Balasubramanian**, Professor, Department of Geology, Mysore University, Mysore for his kind permission to use his programme, developed for Aquifer Parameter Evaluation (APE). I thank **Dr. S. Subramanian** and **Mr. M. Sakthimurugan**, Tuticorin for their valuable assistance and encouragement in using the same programme for Pumping Tests data analysis.

During the entire course of the work, **Dr. C. Mohandoos**, Head, Department of Geology, Anna University, Madras, **Dr. M. S. Jegadeesan**, Department of Geology, University of Madras, **Dr. A. Annamalai**, Madras, **Mr. Radhakrishnamurthy**, Public Works Department (Groundwater Division), Madras, **Dr. P. N. Ballukraya** and **Dr. K. K. Sharma**, Department of Applied Geology, University of Madras, **Dr. M. Palanichamy**, Department of Chemistry, Anna University, Madras, **Mr. A. Sundaram**, Application Scientist, Institute of Remote Sensing, Anna University, Madras and **Dr. A. Sundaram**, Reader, Department of Futurology, M.K. University, Madurai offered me a lot of motivation, friendly encouragement and keen interest on my research progress and helps which I can not fail to acknowledge.

I am grateful to **Dr. D. S. Ratha** and **Dr. Behra**, CSRE, IIT, Bombay and **Dr. G. Arivarignan**, Department of Statistics, M.K. University, Madurai, for their valuable guidance in numerical analysis.

I sincerely thank **Mrs. Sudha Ravindranath**, Scientist, Space Application Centre, Ahamadabad and **Mr. J. Edwin Moses**, Institute of Remote Sensing, Anna University, Madras for their helps in literature collection work.

I am thankful to Registrar Office, Bharathidasan University for taking care of the administrative responsibilities and to the Finance Officer of Bharathidasan University for the timely financial assistance.
Thanks are due to the Chief Engineer, Groundwater Division, Public Works Department, Government of Tamil Nadu for his kind permission to utilise the available data.

My acknowledgment would be incomplete without mention of Mrs.CHANDRA SUBRAMANIAM, Department of Geography, Gujarat University, Ahamadabad, Dr.G.VENKATARAMAN, Senior Research Scientist, Mr.RAMAKRISHNA, Mr.SANJEEB KUMAR SWAIN, Mrs.LELE and Mr.CHOWDHARY, CSRE. IIT, Bombay, Mr.JONES, Department of Mathematics, IIT, Bombay, Dr.A.K.RAMESH, IIT, Madras, Mr.M.SAKTHIVEL, Department of Geography, M.K.University, Madurai, Mr.V.DINAKARAN, IRS, Anna University, Madras, Mr.A.M.SEMBULINGAM, Madras, Mr.PALANIYAPPAN, Panjappatty, Mr.M.KAMARAJ, Mr.S.BALAJI and Mr.M.A.PAUL, School of Earth Sciences, Bharathidasan University, Mr.P.SEETHARAMAN, Chief Librarian, Bharathidasan University and Mr.N.NAGENDRAN and Ms.A.KIRIJA, Bharathidasan University for their valuable helps in several fronts.

I owe a lot to Dr.DINESH KUMAR, and Mrs. and Mr.B.BABUMADHAVAN who lent me their most kind hospitality through out the course of my GIS analysis work at IIT, Bombay.

I thank Mr.B.BARATHAN, Photographer, CSRE, IIT, Bombay for his excellent photography of GIS outputs. Thanks are also due to Mr.JOSEPH for his helps in taking satellite photographs.

The timely assistance provided to me by Mr.M.PRAKASH, Trichy and Mr.V.SEKAR and Mr.V.R.HARIDOSS, School of Earth Sciences, Bharathidasan University in cartographic finishing work is gratefully acknowledged at this juncture.
The neat typing of this thesis done by Mrs. B. LATHA and Mr. C. MARI MUTHU, Karpagam Computers, Trichy requires special mention.

Mr. B. PAVENDHAN did me the great kindness of reading the manuscript in its entirety; submitting both my facts and my interpretations to conscious scrutiny.

Countless people who have rendered valuable assistance in several ways at one time or the other, during the data collection / field work / data analysis / thesis documentation and all types of other activities, deserve my sincere thanks at this juncture.

Though not directly involved in this research work, the unwavering trust, my family members had in me, is of very very special significance to me. Especially, my sister Mrs. M. CHANDRA, who stayed with me and took care of my personal needs kindly, deserves my profound thanks.

Finally, I wish to thank all the faculty members, Co-Research Scholars and all staff members of School of Earth Sciences and University Computer Centre, Bharathidasan University and CSRE, IIT, Bombay for their amiability and good times I shared with them through out my research work.

(S. VASUDEVAN)