ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to record my sincere gratitude and indebtedness to Dr. T. Sundararajan, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Pondicherry Engineering college (PEC), Pondicherry, for his able and extended guidance and kind efforts in steering this research work to completion.

I would like to place on record my immense gratitude to Dr. S. Neelamani, former Associate Professor, Ocean Engineering Department, IIT Chennai, for suggesting the research problem at the first instance, scholarly guidance and constant encouragement throughout the period of this study.

I am very much grateful to Dr. D. Govindarajulu, Professor, Department of Civil Engg. PEC, Pondicherry, for his immense and tireless help, constant encouragement and for the conceptual ideas throughout the course of this research work, without which, it would not have been possible to successfully complete the various stages of this study.

I am thankful to my Doctoral Committee members, Dr. M. A. Sivasankaran, Professor and presently Head of Civil Engineering Department, PEC, Pondicherry; Dr. K. Panneerselvam, Dean, School of Management, Pondicherry University, Pondicherry, for their support and cooperation throughout the period of this study.

I sincerely thank Dr. R. Ananda Natarajan, Professor, EIE Dept, PEC, Pondicherry, for his technical guidance and valuable support in developing the instrumentation for acquiring the wave data required for the present research work.

I express my sincere thanks and gratitude to Dr. V. Sundar, Professor, Dept of Ocean Engg., IIT, Chennai, for the kind cooperation and valuable suggestions offered by him during various stages of the work.
My sincere thanks to Dr. T.G.Palanivelu, Principal(i/c) PEC, Pondicherry, for his kind support throughout this study. It is my privilege to express my sincere thanks to my colleagues: Mr. K.Vijayakrishna Rapaka, Mr. K.Pandurangan, Dr. V.Murugaiyan, Dr. T.V.SatyaSekar, and to my dear student friends (former M.Tech students) Mr. C.Rajesekaran, and Mr. D.Vijayanand, for their moral support and their timely help at various stages of my research work.

I also wish to record my sincere thanks to all the Faculty and Non–Teaching Staff of the Dept. of Civil Engg. PEC, Pondy, for their kind cooperation and help extended during the period of research work.

The kind support and help extended by the Librarian and their team of senior Library staff of PEC, Pondicherry, for obtaining the relevant literature for this study, is recorded with sincere thanks.

I wish to record my heartfelt Homage to my father (Late) Sri. R.Govindarajane, former Chief Judge, Pondicherry, who encouraged me in all my endeavours at all stages of my life and career.

I would like to place on record my gratitude to my mother, wife, sister, brothers and my childrens for their affection, care and moral support and understanding shown during the period of research.

G.Vijayakumar