ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I gratefully acknowledge the guidance of my supervisor Prof. Sunil Kumar Munsi in preparing this thesis. I also like to express my gratitude to the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi, for providing me with doctoral fellowship during my research work. I am also grateful to Prof. Surajit C. Sinha, former Director, faculty members, library staff and fellow research scholars of the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSSC) for providing me with necessary assistance during my tenure as an ICSSR Fellow.

I am deeply indebted to Dr. R.N. Bhattacharya, Reader, Department of Geography, Calcutta University and Dr. (Sm.) Keya Dasgupta, Fellow of Geography, CSSSC, for their valuable suggestions during the period of my research work.

I express my sincere gratitude to Shri H.B. Ghosh, present Director of Asansol-Durgapur Development Authority (ADDA), former Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CEMPDIL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) for providing me with the initial guideline of the work in the field and arranging for permission to carry out the field work in the study area. I am also indebted to Shri L.K. Bose, Addl. Chief Mining Engineer, CEMPDIL, for selection of my study area, Shri H. Bhattacharya, Shri S. Bhattacharya of Environment Cell, CEMPDIL, Shri S. Sinha,
Shri K. Dasgupta of CEMPDIL, Asansol, for providing me with necessary literature and plan. Thanks are due to Shri S.K. Mondal, Manager, E.C.L., Satgram area and the staffs of the Survey Section of the same office for assisting me in carrying out the field survey.

I am indebted to Shri N.R. Mitra, ex-Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), Dhanbad; Prof. A.K. Ghosh, Prof. S.P. Banerjee and others of Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad; Dr. N.C. Saxena, Scientist, Central Mine Research Station (CMRS), Dhanbad, for providing me with necessary guidelines and literature relevant for my work. I will be failing in my duty if I do not express my gratitude to Shri Subrata Sinha, Deputy Director General, Coal, Shri S. Roy Chowdhury, Director, Environmental Geology, library staffs of the Geological Survey of India, Calcutta and Shri S. Sen, Shri A.K. Maity, Shri N. Tiwari of A.I.T.U.C., Asansol, for helping me in various ways in my field work. My thanks are also due to the library staffs of Coal India Limited, Calcutta; Eastern Coalfields Limited, Dishergarh, Shri H.K. Bahuguna, ex-Additional District Magistrate, Shri S. Ghosh of ADDA, Shri D. Gupta, Editor, Coalfield Tribune, Asansol, Shri S. Bhattacharya of Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad.

I also extend my sincerest thanks to the colliers and inhabitants of Satgram and part of Kunustoria area for providing me with minor detail of adverse environmental phenomena in their locality.
I sincerely thank Gouri Banerjee for typing my thesis and others for helping me in photocopying, binding and other numerous tasks connected with thesis. Lastly, I would like to thank Mr. S.K. Mukherjee and my family members who very willingly helped me both in the field work and in preparing my thesis.