ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I express my sincere gratitude and deep indebtedness to my supervisor Dr. S. Sanjeevi, Professor, Department of Geology, Anna University, Chennai, for his valuable guidance, suggestions and constant encouragement which have helped me in the successful completion of my research.

I am indebted to Dr. R. Nagendra, Professor and Head, and all staff and research scholars especially Shilpa Suresh, K.J. Sarunjith, Aparna S Bhaskar, J. Satish Kumar, T. Magendran, R.S. Aarthy, V. Nandhini, Y. Divya and Vijayan Department of Geology, Anna University, Mr. Johnny, Assistant Professor, Anna University, Tirunelveli, Ms. Sowmya, Priyadarshini and Mahalakshmi, B.E Geoinformatics, Anna University, Chennai for their constructive advice and support during the research work.

I would like to thank the members of the doctoral committee Dr.N.K.Ambujam, Director, Centre for Water Resources, Anna University, and Dr.P.N. Ballukarraya, Professor (Retd.), Department of Applied Geology, University of Madras for their advice and valuable technical suggestions during the research work.

My sincere thanks are due to Dr.R.D.Singh, Director, NIH, Dr.Bhishm Kumar, Scientist-F & Co-ordinator, NIH, Dr.Y.R.Satyaji Rao, Scientist-E2 & Head, DRC, NIH for their help and cooperation.

I thank my parents, my beloved wife R.Sugunasundari, daughter J.Jothiga, son J.Sivaprasath and all the members of my family for their support and encouragement during my research. This work is dedicated to my beloved mother Late. K.JANAKY, who was a great support and a constant source of encouragement for me to carry out the research.

(V. S. JEYAKANTHAN)