ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I take this opportunity to express profound gratefulness to my supervisors Dr. S. Mukherjee, SES, JNU and Prof. K.V. Ravindran, RRSSC, Dehradun for their constant involvement and inspiration during all phases of the work. I am thankful to Dr. S. Mukherjee for initiating this problem. I owe the deep sense of gratitude to Prof. K.V. Ravindran for his paternal care, constant encouragement, valuable guidance and supervision for all of my Remote sensing and GIS work during my stay at Dehradun.

I am thankful to Dean, School of Environmental Sciences, J.N.U. for providing me all the facilities.

I extend my acknowledge to the Director, NNRMS-RRSSC, Dept. of Space and Dr. M.L. Manchanda, Head, RRSSC, Dehradun for extending the RRSSC facilities for Digital Image Processing and GIS.

I will be failing to my duties if I do not acknowledge Dr. K.P. Sharma, Mr. Pramod Kumar, Mr. B.Prabhakaran and Mr. C. Jeganathan for the valuable help and input during DIP and GIS analysis.

I would like to thank the Dean, IIRS and the Warden, IIRS Hostel, Dehradun for providing various facilities in that campus during the course of this work and all the staff members of the campus for their positive co-operation.

Thanks are also due to Prof. A.K. Roy and Dr. Jitendra Prasad, IIRS and Dr. A.K. Tewari, RRSSC, Dehradun and Dr. K.G.Saxena, School of Environmental Sciences, J.N.U., New Delhi for their fruitful discussions.

Words can not convey what I owe to my friends Abhay, Jayant, Sona, Shiv and Praveenjee, who provided me every possible help, encouragement and kept me in right form of mind.

My sincere thanks are due to my friends, seniors and colleagues Bhaveshjee, Rajeev, Pramod, Anish Pandey, Balaram, Chauhanjee, Subhakar, Madhavan, Chatterjee, Seema, Subhashjee, Manoj, Shashi, Sanjay and Devendra for providing me the graceful company during my difficult time of the work.

I would like to thank all my labmates and Dayaramjee for their co-operation and help during this period.

The SRF fellowship from University Grant Commission is also duly acknowledged.

I am to express my sincere gratitude to my wife Arti who stood besides me from laboratory work to life and gave me a constant encouragement and consistent devotion by playing a positive role in completing this work.

Finally, I owe profound gratitude to my parents and all the family members for bearing inconvenience with fortitude and for their constant support, encouragement and ready co-operation to see me fulfilling this dream.

New Delhi
July, 1997

Kamaleshwar Pratap