ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author express his profound sense of gratitude to his Supervisor Professor Dr. D. Jayakumar, M.A., M.Sc., Ph.D., Professor and Head, Department of Geology, Madras University Post-graduate Extension Centre, Govt. College of Engineering Campus, Salem-11 for his inspiring guidance, interesting discussion and timely suggestion during the research work. His supervision throughout the period of this research work has resulted in improving the content of this dissertation.

The author is indebted to all the investigators referred to in the text of this dissertation.

The author acknowledges with thanks for the permission accorded by the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board, Madras-5.

The author specially thanks the Executive Engineer, District Level Technical Cell, Collectorate, Salem-1 for according permission to collect the resistivity data.
The author wishes to thank Mr. Panneerselvam, Deputy Hydrogeologist and Mr. Muthukumarasamy, Mr. Sahadevan, Assistant Hydrogeologists of TWAD Board, Salem.

The author wishes to thank the Asst. Soil Chemist, Soil Testing Lab., Salem, for permitting him to do the chemical analysis of water samples. He also expresses his thanks to all the Assistant Chemists of Soil Testing Lab.

The author acknowledges Mr. Ganesh, Asst. Chemist, TWAD Board, Salem Circle for providing flourine data.

The author owes a special thanks to Mr. R. Chandrasekaran, University Research Fellow for the timely suggestions and discussions throughout the period of this research work. Thanks are also due to Mr. S. Thirumurthi, Research Scholar of this department.

The author wishes to thank to his fellow researcher Mr. C. Kathirvel of this department for his co-operation.
Special mention is due to Mr. C. Anandha Prakash, Mr. G. Nanthakumar and Mr. R. Mohan, Research Scholars for their valuable help during the preparation of this dissertation. The author wishes to thank Mr. M. Srinivasan and Mr. D. J. Velmurugan for their help during field work.

His sincere thanks to Mr. R. S. Ilangovan for typing the manuscript and Messrs. Bharat Power Press for their neat electronic typing.

Finally, the author would like to thank his family members, who have been an unfailing source of encouragement and support through the process of preparing the dissertation.