ACKNOWLEDGMENT

First and the foremost, I wish to express my profound gratitude to my guide and supervisor Br.G.Karthikeyan, Professor, Department of Chemistry, Gandhigram Rural Institute for accepting me as a research scholar under his guidance, and providing me an opportunity to pursue the doctoral study. Without his guidance this work would not have completed. I am deeply indebted to my co-guide Dr. M.A.Sudhir, Prof. & Plead, Department of Applied Research, Gandhigram Rural Institute for his excellent guidance and constructive suggestions at every stage of this study.

I am thankful to Dr. N.S. Nagarajan, Prof & Head, Department of Chemistry, Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram for providing the necessary facilities. My thanks are also to all faculty members of the Departments of Chemistry and Applied Research for their encouragement.

I am also deeply indebted to the guidance on the thesis concept and framework provided by Dr.Robert Arthur Boydell, Ex Chief of UNDP-WSA, India office, without which this thesis would not have been attempted and completed. I am grateful to Mr. Gourishanker Ghosh, Chief Executive, Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council, Geneva for giving me an opportunity to understand the water supply and sanitation sector at the national and international level. Particular thanks are given to Dr. A. K. Dubey, Joint Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, GOI and Dr. Anita Akoijam for their input in this research work and constant source of encouragement, and being a ‘friend, philosopher and guide’ at all time. I gratefuly acknowledge the Chief, WES, UNICEF, India Office for his suggestions and invaluable comments on the draft thesis.

A study of this kind that has been undertaken required cooperation and assistance of the Sector Specialist and Officials of the Multilateral and Bi-lateral Agencies in India. I am grateful to them for providing useful documents and information for this study. My wife and my two daughters have always silently supported my endeavour to carry out this study.

Gandhigram

16.04.04

(KAMAL MAZUMDAR)