ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In this endeavour the researcher was greatly helped by many. It is his bounden duty to categorically express his thanks to all. He deems it a great pleasure to express his deep devotion and sincere thanks to his research supervisor Dr. A. ALAGUMALAI, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, P.T.M.T.M College, Kamudhi - 623 604, for his valuable guidance throughout the completion of this thesis work.

He extends his sincere thanks to Dr. C. GNANAPRAKASHAM, Professor and Head, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Directorate of Distance Education, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, for his encouragement and academic support in the completion of the research work.

In the completing this research works the Members of Parliament, members of Political Parties, respondents of Tirunelveli Parliamentary Constituency and the officials of Election Commission provided necessary data. The scholar extends his thanks to all of them.

He pays regards to his father late Thiru Sivaniah Thevar, his mother Thirumathi Paramayammal, his wife Thirumathi R.S. Rajeswari, B.A., D.T.,Ed., his sons S. Siva Karthick and S. Barath Padmanaban, his sister Thirumathi Subbuthai and her husband Thiru Thangaperumal, his another sister Thirumathi Alagamal and her husband Thiru Muthumalai, B.Com., his brother S. Subbiah Pandian, B.V.Sc., relatives and friends whose good wishes have always encouraged him throughout his educational career.

(V.S. SUBBIAH)