ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
The author wishes to express his deep sense of gratitude to Dr. P.P. Patel, Reader in Geology, M.S. University of Baroda under whose guidance and supervision the investigation have been carried out. Without his constant unfailing encouragement, it would not have been possible for the author to avail the opportunity of taking up this study and successfully writing this thesis.

He is indebted to Prof. N.M. Vashi, Head of the Department of Geology for providing all facilities available in the Department and encouragement.

The author wishes to express his deepest sense of gratitude to Prof. S.S. Merh, INSA, Sr. Scientist, M.S. University of Baroda for his kind help, constant encouragement and very useful discussions & suggestions all throughout the course of his studies.

The author wishes to express his sincere thanks to Dr. K.C. Tiwari, Lecturer in Geology, Department of Geology, M.S. University of Baroda, for his kind help at all stages of his Research work. Dr. Tiwari not only provided constant assistance in various ways, but also cheered him up in moments of despair and anxiety.

The author thankfully acknowledges the help and assistance received from the various organisations viz. Gujarat Water Resources Development Corporation (GWRDC), Gujarat Engineering Research Institute (GERI), Space Applications Centre (SAC), Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC), Sardar Sarovar Nigam (SSN), Operations Research Group (ORG), Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB), Central Pollution Board (CPB), west central regional office of Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Gujarat Alkalies and Chemicals Limited (GACL) etc. The personal
discussions with the scientists of these organisations were very useful.

The author is grateful to the staff of the Geology Department, M.S. University for their help and encouragement in many ways. Useful suggestions received from Dr. Rizawi, Reader in Geography, M.S. University of Baroda, in the analysis of land use data are duly acknowledged. The author is also thankful to the staff of the Geology Department, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, for their kind help and assistance all through out.

The help received from Mr. M.B. Patel and Mr. Harish Patel during field work is acknowledged. The author takes this opportunity to acknowledge the moral support and constant encouragement received from his friend Miss Shoma Mumtaz. The help rendered to him by his countrymen needs authors sincere acknowledgement.

The financial support received under the General Cultural Scholarship Scheme from the Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India, is thankfully acknowledged.

The author is thankful to Mr. Vinod Patel and Sayeed for nice drafting work. Thanks are also due to Shri. N. Nandakumar for his sincere typing of this manuscript.

Finally the author expresses his gratefulness to his parents for the support and affection. Their constant encouragement, inspiration and sacrifice during the period of his research work deserves authors sincere acknowledgement.

YOUSEF HABOUS