ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The investigator is extremely thankful to Prof. K. Venkata Reddy, Vice Chancellor Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur, for providing necessary research facilities in the Department of Geography and moral encouragement to complete this piece of work.

The investigator expresses his deep sense of gratitude to his supervisor Dr. M. Sambasiva Rao, Reader and Head, Department of Geography for his guidance and ready willingness to complete the thesis.

The investigator takes opportunity to thank the faculty members of the Department of Geography namely Dr. E. Swaminathan, Professor, Dr. Y. V. Ramanaiah, Reader, Dr. K. Ravindara Reddy and Miss A. Krishnakumari, Lecturers for their kind cooperation and encouragement to complete this work.

The investigator is thankful to the non-teaching staff of the Geography department for their assistance. I wish to express my thanks to my co-research scholars in the Department of Geography for their moral encouragement. I express my sincere thanks to my parents and brothers and sister-in-laws for their constant encouragement in the academic career and financial support, without whom this work would not have been completed.
I express my thanks to the officers of the National Remote Sensing Agency, A.P. Remote Sensing Centre and authorities of INCOR, Waltair for providing necessary Remote Sensing data to complete this work. I also thank the authorities of Ground Water Division, Cuddapah, Statistical department and IMD, Hyderabad for providing the necessary data.

My sincere thanks to the authorities of the university for providing partial financial support to complete this work. I also wish to thank the typist Mr. Ranganaikulu and R. Nagarjuna for neatly typing my thesis work.

P.R. KRISHNA REDDY
Research Scholar
Department of Geography
Sri Krishnadevaraya University
ANANTAPUR - 515 003.