ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I express my sincere gratitude to Professor P.A. Venkatachalam, then Head, Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Anna University, for his constant encouragement and guidance throughout the period of research undertaken and during the preparation of the thesis. But for the immense interest taken by him and the valuable suggestions offered by him, this work would not have been completed.

I also express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. R.K. Subramanian, Director, School of Computer Science and Engineering, Anna University, for guiding me after the exit of Prof. P.A. Venkatachalam from Anna University and his constant help in successful completion and submission of the thesis.

I would like to thank all the professors teaching and non-teaching staff in the Department of E.C.E. and School of Computer Science and Engineering who have rendered valuable help in completing this work. I would also like to thank my colleagues, teaching and laboratory staff of Indian Railways Institute of Signal Engineering and Telecommunications, Secunderabad, the staff of South Central Railway who have unfailingly assisted in this work including preparation of the thesis.