ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The irredeemable debt which I owe to my mentor and guide Dr. S. PERUMALSAMY, Professor and Head, Department of Economics. I must acknowledge with all sincerity that Dr. S. PERUMALSAMY, has been instrumental in bringing me to the field of research. I have great pleasure in expressing my deep sense of gratitude to him for his constructive guidance and unstinted, spontaneous support for carrying out this work.

I feel boundless joy in expressing my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. R. S. Dhananjayan, Reader, Dr. P. Arumugam, Reader, Dr. B. Muniyandi, Reader and Dr. V. Anbumani, Lecturer in my department for their inspiration and assistance to complete this work successfully.

I would record my appreciation of the librarians and staff of the Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI), Madras, Council for Leather Exports (CLE), Madras, Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), New Delhi, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB), Madras, who had provided unlimited access to all their library resources.

This research work contains informations, opinions and suggestions made by following people in discussions ranging
from a few minutes to one hour duration. I was pleasantly surprised by the interest and enthusiasm shown by them in my work and the open, frank and introspective nature of responses to my questions. To them I owe an intellectual debt. They are:

1. Dr. T. Valuthi Varaguna Singh, Professor in Environmental Economics, School of Economics, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai-21.

2. Mr. J. Paul Baskar, Chairman, Peace Trust, Dindigul

My very special thanks I have reserved to my beloved friends Mrs and Mr. N.K. Senthamarai Kannan, D.S.P., Madras, whether or not it is true that every research work has behind it a great deal of support from well-wishers, it is certainly true of this one also.

In this momentous hour, I wish and place on record my heartfelt thanks to my fellow research scholars namely, Miss. N. Sasikaladevi, Mr. P. Ganesan, Mrs. R. Sarojini Mani, Mrs. P. Bhuvaneswari Elango, and Mr. M. Madhavan. Their implicit trust in my capacity and their timely help during the research work helped me as beacon light through the dark and stormy days when I thought that I was not going to complete this work. I do hope, I have proved myself worthy of their extreme kindness and understanding.
My thanks are also due to my friends from Department of Environmental Sciences, Bharathiar University for their help in clearing all my doubts on scientific aspects of the work.

Last but not the least, the love and affection of my beloved sister and uncle Mrs. and Mr. P. Umaiorupagam and brothers Mr. S. Gnanagaran, Mr. S. Chinnadurai have been the constant motivating force to complete my study. I wish to place on record my profound gratitude to them.

S. MANICKAVASAGAM