ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I record my deep sense of gratitude with extreme honour to Dr. K. B Prakash, Principal, Government Engineering College, Devagiri, Haveri District, for his excellent guidance, keen interest, constructive criticisms, critical appraisal of the manuscript and advice during the course of this research work.

I also express my deep sense of gratitude with extreme honour to Dr. M. V. Seshagiri Rao, Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad, for his excellent guidance, constant endurance and inspiration given to me throughout the period of my study.

I am thankful to Dr. D. N Reddy, Vice Chancellor, Dr. N. V Ramana Rao, Principal, Dr. L. Pratap Reddy, Director of R & D Cell, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad, for extending their cooperation in pursuing my research work.

I express my sincere thanks to Dr. P Srinivasa Rao, Professor and Head, Department of Civil Engineering and Dr. M. V. S. S Giridhar, Additional Controller of Examinations, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad, for their help and cooperation.

I wish to extend my deep sense of gratitude to Sri. G.S Basavaraj, Chairman, Sri. G. B Jyothi Ganesh, Secretary, Dr. D. S Sureshkumar, Director, Dr. V. Venkatesh, Principal, Mrs. Shantala Suresh, Vice Principal, Dr. Pradeep Mohan, Chief Advisor, Sri. V.C Kumar, Sri. G. S Suresh and the management of Channabasaveshwara Institute of Technology, Gubbi, for their wholehearted support during
my course of work. I also thank Ms. R Manjula, Sri. Y. M Pradeep and Sri. Bandaiah, for their support.

I am grateful to thank Dr. G. Ranganath Principal, Chairman and the management, HOD, Department of Civil Engineering, and Dr. N. B Gatti, of my parent institution, Adhiyamaan College of Engineering, Hosur, Tamilnadu, who have been encouraging me all through and my special thanks to them.

I would like to thank His Holiness Sri Sri Shivakumara Swamiji, Siddaganga Mutt, Tumkur, and also expresses deep sense of gratitude to Dr. Shivakumariah Principal, Dr. S. V Dinesh, HOD (Civil), Sri. P. H Shivaprapaksh of Civil Engineering department and the management of Siddaganga Institute of Technology, Tumkur, for their strong support in giving me permission to utilize the laboratory facilities in their esteemed institution. I also thank Sri. Umaprasad, Instructor, Sri. Renukappa and Sri. Somanna laboratory assistants, S I T Tumkur for their assistance.

I also thank Late Sri. Nilesh Trivedi and Sri. Ashwin Patel, Proprietor, R. P Textiles (P) Ltd, Hubli, Sri. Shankar, Sales Manager, 20 microns Ltd, Hosur and M/S Elkem Microsilica, Elkem India Pvt.Ltd, Navi Mumbai, Stewols & Co, Nagpur, Sri. Sunil Chouraria, Director, Bangalore, Sri. G. P Vamdev and Sri. G. M Lohitashwa of FOSROC Chemicals Ltd, Bangalore, who have supplied Flyash, Metakaolin, Silica Fume, Steel fibers, polypropylene fibers, Chemical admixtures respectively which was required for my work.
My special thanks for the loving support and sacrifices of my beloved father Late Sri. G. H Sadashivappa, my mother Smt. Kusuma, father-in-law Sri. H. Marulasiddappa and mother-in-law Smt. Savithramma, my brother G. S Chandrashekar and Anupama and my younger sister Dr. G. S Anitha and Dr Ravi, and all my elders and relatives.

I specially thank my beloved brother-in-law Sri. Ravindranath S. Chikkangoudar, and my sister Dr. G. S Sunitha, their daughter Ms. Sahana, Master Basavaraj, Santosh and Yatish for their unconditional support during my work.

I would like to specially acknowledge the affectionate, continual cooperation and understanding of my better half Mrs. H. M Veenakumari and my beloved daughter Ms. G. S Samskruthi, during my entire course of work.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who have helped me directly or indirectly during the course of this research work.

Above all, I bow my head before the almighty, for the blessings showered on me.

G. S. Sudhikumar