It is a pleasure to thank all those who helped me in various ways and made this thesis possible.

First and foremost I would like to thank and gratefully acknowledge Prof. A. Jayaraman for his enthusiastic supervision and excellent guidance throughout the duration of my thesis work. His understanding of the subject, encouraging attitude and personal guidance has been the source of inspiration for me. I have immensely benefited from the discussions with him and his critical evaluations for which I shall always be obliged to him.

I express my sincere thanks to Vinchi bhai and Rajesh for their help and support in maintaining various instruments in the laboratory and during field campaigns. I am also indebted to Late Prof. Kulkarni and Dr. Angom for teaching various skills in Fortran during my graduate course work which turned out to be very useful in my study.

I would like to thank Prof. Shyam Lal for coordinating the ISRO-GBP's Land Campaign I & II which became an important part of my present research. I express my sincere gratitude to Prof. M. M. Sarin for his involvement in the Land Campaign experiments and also being the chief scientist in one of my ship cruise studies over Bay of Bengal.

I thank Prof. S. K. Bhattacharya, Prof. S. D. Rindani and all other members of academic committee for critically reviewing the progress of my work and giving valuable suggestions at various stages of my research in this laboratory.

I acknowledge the Air Resources Laboratory, NOAA, USA for providing the HYSPLIT model and the wind data used in the air back-trajectory analysis and NOAACIRES Climate Diagnostic Center, USA for providing NCEP reanalysis data over various study regions. The Land Processes Distributed Active Archive Center (LPDAAC) of EOS, NASA is ac-
I take this opportunity to thank my friend Harish who has been my partner in most of the studies undertaken during the present research work. All kinds of discussions with him were always very interesting and entertaining. I shall always remember the excellent hospitality shown by his family during our memorable trip to Bhuj.

My special thanks to all members of our aerosol group Rama, Amit, Neeraj, Sudheer and Sanat as scientific discussions with all of them have always been rewarding for me.

I accord my thanks to all other members of Space and Atmospheric Sciences Division Bhavesh, Vandana, Uma, Shilpy, Nabi, Kushwaha, Venkat, Sunil, Modh bhai, Suchita ben, Dipu da, Som Sharma, Dr. Varun Sheel, Dr. Bapat, Dr. Subramanian, Dr. Sekar, Dr. Haider, Prof. Harish Chandra and Prof. H.S.S. Sinha for providing a pleasant working atmosphere in the division during the entire course of my research.

Journey of research would not have been so wonderful without the company friends like Nagar, Jayesh, Morthekai, Sanjoy, Murli, Bhavesh and Muran who have always been a source of strength and refreshment. I still cherish the memory of fun made on our frequent visits to Lal Darwaza with my close friends Manish, Preeti and Nagar during our early days in PRL. I wish to thank my seniors Alok Taori, Jitti, Anirban, Tarak, Lokesh, Sarika, Jayendra, Sudeshna, Soumen da, Alam bhai, Shubhrangshu, Asoka, Santosh, Sanjeev, Manoj and Prasanta who helped me on numerous occasions during my stay in PRL and gave me valuable suggestions and support at difficult times. I express my heartiest gratitude to all other friends in PRL Satya, Shreyas, Utpal, Suranjana, Antra, Subimal, Gowda, Charan, Kaushik da and Sashadhar for making my stay worthwhile and enjoyable. My special thanks to Satya for preparing such delicious chicken curry during our party in Anirban’s quarter.

I thank all members of PRL football club, specially Ravi, Harish ji and Jyoti, for providing regular weekend refreshment in all these years.

Perhaps words are inadequate to express any kind of acknowledgement for parents and family members because without their support and encouragement I stand nowhere.

Dilip.