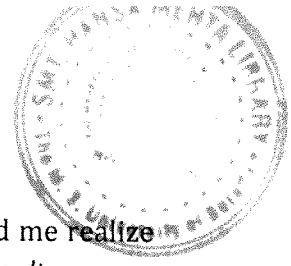


## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



The time has come to remember and be thankful to all those who helped me realize that it is possible to do the best I can do, in past few years. Mere words can't express the feelings deep in my heart but, this journey would not have come to such a beautiful turn without the help of some people who, in their own special ways, directed me to this destination.

It is rightly said that 'Learning needs freedom to think and freedom to imagine, and both have to be facilitated by the teacher'. I am indebted to my guide and supervisor, Prof. K. C. Tiwari, for giving me the freedom to think, freedom to imagine, he allowed me to carry out research with freedom. He was always there with his motivating suggestions, his constructive criticism, scientific advices, valuable guidance, encouragement, approachable nature and never ending patience. He was always there with his loving, caring nature and stood like a father whenever I needed his support and advice. I am very grateful to him for giving me this opportunity to learn, think and express my ideas. It was a blessing to have you as my supervisor. Thankyou sir!!

There is still lot more to learn from you.

I express my deep sense of gratitude for Mrs. Gayatri Tiwari for being so much affectionate and motivating throughout the time. I will always need your blessings!!

I am thankful to Prof. Nikhil Desai, Head, Department of Geology, for permitting me to use all the facilities to fulfill this thesis work.

I sincerely thank Prof. S. Ganapathi for sharing his invaluable knowledge both in field and laboratory investigations. His indepth know-how of the subject has tremendously helped me in understanding the intricacies of Himalayan Geology.

I express my heartfelt thanks to Dr. D. Ramakrishnan, Department of Earth Science, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for being associated to my research work and providing technical training on varied aspects of Remote Sensing, GIS and Engineering Geology.

I sincerely acknowledge the Department of Science and Technology for sanctioning the project DST/ESS/11/92(33)/2001 to Prof. K. C. Tiwari, under whom I got an opportunity to carry out an in-depth study of one of the most dynamic aspects of Natural Hazards. I extend my heartfelt thanks to Dr. Bhoop Singh, Scientist – F and Director ESS Division for giving encouragement and all round support.

I remain indebted to the authority of the NHPC's Dhauliganga Hydel Project, Dharchula for providing logistic facilities and support during the field expeditions and providing necessary information like meteorological data etc. The author owes a

special gratitude to Mr B. D. Patni, Senior Manager (Geology), Dhauliganga Hydel Project.

I am thankful to Major Nagaraja and Major Madhusudan, Officers Commanding, 65 RCC-GREF, Border Road Development Organization (BRDO), for sharing the historical records of the past landslide incidences along the Kali River Corridor; meteorological data of Askot station and graciously granting permission to utilize GREF infra-structure at their Mangti Base Camp for a prolonged duration.

I am specially privileged to express our gratitude to; Mr. B.K.Shukla, Mr. K.S.Rao, Mr Lalchand and Mr. Oza, Mr.Thakur, Mr. Baranwal and all staff of this organization for giving very affectionate and brotherly treatment to me and extending logistic supports for carrying out the landslide studies at Mangti.

Having Suresh as a coworker made me experience every possible moments that two subordinates might share when they work together. Working with him made me learn the dos and don'ts that one should follow if two people were to eat the same piece of cake but from different edges. It was a nice experience working with you Suresh. Thanks!!

I wish to express my warm and sincere thanks to Mr. Paranjothi, Mr. Diptesh Kadam and Mrs. Monal Vaidya, the Post Graduate students of this department for extending their help during the course of geological field mapping.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge for the encouragement, timely help and suggestions extended by Dr. Manoj A. Limaye, Department of Geology, for helping in interpretation of metamorphic rock slides and Dr. M. Krishnan, Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, M. S. University of Baroda for taking photomicrographs of the thin sections.

I express my deep sense of gratitude for Dr. A. V. Joshi for his constant motivation towards the completion of this thesis.

I am sincerely thankful to Prof. T. N. Singh, Department of Earth Science, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for his technical guidance and permitting me to use his laboratory facilities for carrying out Tri-axial analysis of rock samples.

I thank M/s Kazima Daewoo Company for permitting us to use their camp site laboratory for analyzing soil samples; Mr. Mudholkar, Scientist, Rock Mechanics Division, G.E.R.I. for necessary help to carry out rock sample analysis. These laboratory facilities provided have gone a long way in accessing and supporting my ideas.

I also thank Mr. Virendra Singh Bora, Jeep Driver for taking care about our travel and safe journeys in one of the most treacherous terrains in Himalaya; and Mr. Harpal Singh (Sardarji) Trader at Dharchula for all round help in material procurement etc.

I am grateful to the non-teaching staff for their co-operation during the various stages of the work.

The elation and help extended by colleagues Dr. Yogi N. Trivedi, Dr. Sunit Biswas, Dr. Uday Bhonde, Dr. Naresh Mulchandani, Dr. Bhawani Singh Desai, Dr. Parag Sohoni, Mr. Mahendra Gadhvi, Mr. Atul Patidar, Mr. Niraj Patel, Mr. Niranjan Mishra, Mr. T. Manivel, Mrs. Shweta Bhatt, Mrs. Shubhra Upadhyay and by other fellow colleagues is highly appreciated.

I owe my research work to my loving life partner and my dearest companion Mausam. Her presence in my life from three and half years has made my life beautiful. Without her understanding, encouragement, endless patience, emotional support and sacrifice it would have been impossible for me to furnish this work. Her love and support is my strength in every moment of STRUGGLE. I wish that everyone is blessed with such a companion.

There are two people Mummy-Daddy, without whose blessings, prayer and support nothing could have moved in the right direction. Their unconditional love, constant encouragement, endless sacrifice and the effort made by them to inculcate in me, the moral values, ethics, faith and strong principles towards life, which instilled in me fortitude to face any ups and downs in life with ease as well as research, is beyond thanks. I dedicate my thesis to my Mummy and Daddy as a gesture of love and respect.

I am forever grateful to all the teachers who have taught me and to mercy of the Almighty.



**Anand H. Mehta**