ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The present work was carried out under the joint supervision of Prof. M.N. Dutta, Department of Applied Geology, Dibrugarh University and Dr. G.B. Gilfellon, Head (R&D-Geoscience), R&D Department, Oil India Limited and I sincerely acknowledge with gratitude for their scholarly guidance, constant encouragement, keen interest and suggestions during the course of my research work. In this context, I most fondly acknowledge and thank my initial Supervisor Late Prof. P.K. Baruah, for his constant guidance and encouragement to take-up the research work and all his suggestions pertaining to the activities completed under his able supervision prior to his untimely demise.

I express my gratitude to the Management of Oil India Limited and Dibrugarh University for providing the permission and all possible facilities for carrying out the research work. In this context, the encouragement from Mr. B. N. Talukdar, then Head of the Department, G&R, Oil India Limited and present DG, Directorate of Hydrocarbons are sincerely acknowledged.

I sincerely acknowledge my gratefulness to the Head of the Department, Dr. R.K Sarma and all the faculty members of the Department of Applied Geology, especially Dr. P. Borgohain, Associate Professor and Professor P. Bhattacharya, Department of Applied Geology, for their time to time valuable suggestions during course of the entire study. I most sincerely acknowledge the help and support extended by all the members of non-teaching staff of the Department of Applied Geology.
I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude to the Management of Oil India Limited for giving me permission to work in their Operational Areas and for providing me required wireline logs and drill-cutting samples and core samples, Rock Eval Analysis and XRD analysis in their Laboratory. I am thankful to Dr. M.K. Sarma, Mr. R.K. Bordoloi, Mrs. Archana Devi and Mr. L.L. Gogoi for their valuable help during analysis.

I am thankful to the authorities of USIC, Gauhati University, for providing the necessary support by carrying out the XRF analysis in their laboratory. The encouragement received from Dr. J.J. Laskar, Asstt. Professor, Gauhati University is acknowledged with sincerity.

I am especially indebted to Dr. D.K. Gogoi, Dr. J. Baruah, Oil India Limited, for their support and guidance in completing the work on time. My sincere thanks are to Mr. D.K. Barua and Mr. N. Chowloo, Oil India Limited, for their timely help in finalizing figures.

I am indebted to my family for their constant support and encouragement during the entire course of my study. The support from my wife, Mrs. Bintyma Sharma during printing of the work is sincerely acknowledged. I take this opportunity to thank, Mr. Indrajit Barua, Mrs. Reba Devi and Mr. S.K. Jena for their encouragement in some form or the other towards completing my research work.

(Manas Kumar Sharma)