CONTENTS

CHAPTER			PAGE
Title Page			i
Approval of the Viva-Voce Board			ii
Certificate			iii
Declaration			iv
Acknowledgements			v
Contents			vi-viii
List of Symbols			ix-x
Abbreviations			xi-xiii
List of Figures			xiv-xv
List of Tables			xvi-xvii
Abstract			xviii
1	**Introduction**		**1**
	1.1	Background	1
	1.2	Objectives	5
2	**Review of Literature**		**6**
	2.1	ANNs in Hydrology and Water Resources	6
	2.2	Estimation of Pan Evaporation (E_p) using ANNs	7
	2.3	Estimation of Reference Evapotranspiration (ET_o) using ANNs	11
		2.3.1 ANN Studies for Estimation of ET_o with Sufficient Climatic Data	11
		2.3.2 ANN Studies for Estimation of ET_c	16
		2.3.3 ANN Studies for Forecasting of ET_o	17
		2.3.4 ANN Studies for Estimation of ET_o with Limited Climatic Data	19
		2.3.5 Generalized ANN Studies for Estimation of ET_o	21
	2.4	Estimation of ET_o or E_p using WNN Models	22
		2.4.1 Estimation of ET_o using WNN Models	23
		2.4.2 Estimation of E_p using WNN Models	24
	2.5	Estimation of ET_o or E_p using HSN Models	25
	2.6	Critique	26
3	**Theoretical Considerations**		**27**
	3.1	Conventional ET_o Estimation Methods	27
	3.2	Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)	29
		3.2.1 ANN Architecture Types	29
		3.2.2 Network Training to Minimize Errors	31
		3.2.3 Network Training to Update the Weights	32
	3.3	Generalized Higher Order Synaptic Neural (GHSN) Models	33
		3.3.1 Neural Unit (NU)	33
		3.3.1.1 Synaptic Operation	34
		3.3.1.2 Somatic Operation	34
		3.3.2 Generalized Linear Synaptic Neural (GLSN) Model	37
		3.3.3 Generalized Quadratic Synaptic Neural (GQSN) Model	37
		3.3.4 Generalized Cubic Synaptic Neural (GCSN) Model	38
		3.3.5 Training of GHSN Networks	38

CHAPTER			PAGE
3.4	Wavelet Analysis (WA)		41
	3.4.1	Wavelet Transform (WT)	41
	3.4.2	Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT)	42
3.5	Multiple Linear Regression (MLR) Model		43
4	**Materials and Methods**		45
4.1	Description of the Study Area		45
4.2	Development of ANN ET_o Models		51
	4.2.1	Selection of Effective Inputs	54
	4.2.2	Selection of Optimum Hidden Layer Neurons	54
	4.2.3	Determination of Parameters	55
4.3	Development of HSN ET_o Models		56
4.4	Development of GHSN ET_o Models		56
4.5	Development of WHSN ET_o Models		57
4.6	Development of WGHSN ET_o Models		61
4.7	Development E_p Based GHSN Models		63
4.8	Development MLR Models		64
4.9	Evaluation of Models' Performance		64
4.10	Development of User-friendly Software for Estimating ET_o		66
5	**Results and Discussion**		**67**
5.1	Performance of Conventional ET_o Methods		67
	5.1.1	Performance of Conventional ET_o Methods for 15 Locations	68
	5.1.2	Performance of Conventional ET_o Methods for Four AERs	69
5.2	Development of HSN Models for Daily ET_o Estimation		70
	5.2.1	Training of HSN Models for Daily ET_o Estimation	71
	5.2.2	FAO-56 PM Based HSN Models (HSN1)	77
	5.2.3	Turc Based HSN Models (HSN2)	84
	5.2.4	FAO-24 Pan Based HSN Models (HSN3)	88
	5.2.5	HG Based HSN Models (HSN4)	92
	5.2.6	Spatial Distribution of Annual Average QSN Estimated ET_o	96
	5.2.7	Comparison of HSN Models with the Conventional ET_o Methods	98
	5.2.8	Summary of HSN Models for ET_o Estimation	99
5.3	Development of GHSN Models for Daily ET_o Estimation		99
	5.3.1	Training of GHSN Models for Daily ET_o Estimation	100
	5.3.2	Performance of GMLR Models for ET_o Estimation	103
	5.3.3	Relative Performance of GHSN Models over GLSN Models	104
	5.3.4	Ranking of GQSN Models for ET_o Estimation	109
	5.3.5	Comparison of GQSN Models with the Conventional ET_o Methods	109
	5.3.6	Summary of GHSN Models for ET_o Estimation	110
5.4	Application of GHSN Models to Test Generalizing Capability		110
5.5	Development of WHSN Models		117
	5.5.1	FAO-56 PM Based WLSN Models (WLSN1)	117

CHAPTER			PAGE
	5.5.2	Turc Based WLSN Models (WLSN2)	121
	5.5.3	FAO-24 Pan Based WLSN Models (WLSN3)	125
	5.5.4	HG Based WLSN Models (WLSN4)	129
	5.5.5	Comparison of WLSN Models with the Conventional ET_o Methods	133
5.6	Development of WGHSN Models for ET_o Estimation		134
	5.6.1	Development of WGHSN Models for Model Training Locations	134
	5.6.2	Comparison of WGLSN Models with the Conventional ET_o Methods	137
	5.6.3	Application of WGHSN Models for Testing Generalizing Capability	137
5.7	Development GHSN Models for Estimating E_p		140
	5.7.1	Performance of E_p Based GHSN Models	140
	5.7.2	Application of GHSN Models for E_p Estimation	143
	5.7.3	Development of WGR and WGLSN Based E_p Models	145
5.8	Description of User-friendly Software for Estimating ET_o		147
6	**Summary and Conclusions**		**149**
6.1	Summary		149
6.2	Conclusions		157
6.3	Research Contributions from the Study		159
6.4	Limitations and Future Scope		160
References			**161**
Brief Curriculum Vitae			**174**