Acknowledgements

First of all I would like to thank God for giving me this precious opportunity.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my supervisor, Prof. C. N. Murthy, for his invaluable guidance, expert suggestions, encouragement and support in the period of this study and preparation of the thesis. His constructive suggestions helped me to come through all the difficulties during my research work. It was my privilege to work under his guidance. I consider it a great opportunity to have been his student, and I will ever remain grateful to him.

I am deeply thankful to Prof. P. T. Deota, Head, Applied Chemistry Department, for his continual support and encouragement during my research work.

I deeply thank The M. S. University of Baroda, Vadodara for providing me the opportunity to carry out this research work and especially Applied Chemistry department to provide necessary facilities to carry out my research work in their research lab.

I would like to thank Prof. Jayrang Dave, Prof. D. P. Bharambe for their moral support. I gratefully express my deep appreciation to Dr. Sandhya Dixit, Dr. Rakesh Sharma, Dr. SanjeevKumar for their valuable advice.

I would like to thank my fellow research colleagues Dr. Murli, Dr. Vinod Bhoi, Dr. Prachi Shah, Dr. Renu Singh, Dr. Gangadhar

Tamanna, Dr. Parimal Patel, Dr. Mayur Patel, Dr. Gautam Patel, Dr. Deepak Singh, Umesh Chaudhari, Dr. Shweta Gupta, Brijesh Shah, Srinivas Ghodke, Tarun Parangi, Pavan Karkare, and Pranav Chitte, Sonal Mangukiya for their encouragement during my research work.

I also cordially like to thank to Mr. Vipul Bhavsar, Mr. Mohit Chaudhary for valuable help in various analysis.

I am thankful to all the teaching and non-teaching staff of the Applied Chemistry Department for supporting me throughout my research work.

I am heartily thankful to my Papa and Aai and my father in law and mother in law for their blessings and inspirations at every moment of my life.

My deepest heartfelt gratitude to my brothers and sisters for their moral support and making me pass through the difficult situations with great ease during my prolonged years of research work.

Last but not the least my deepest gratitude and indebtedness belong to my Husband Sandeep and my kids Yug and Rajvi for their patience, endless love, encouragement and understanding during the different phases of my work and made it possible to complete this thesis. Without their support, I could not be able to complete this study.

Vaishali Suthar