Acknowledgement

With a sense of great regard, I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Vikram S. Ghole, Professor and head, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Pune and my Ph.D. guide, for his valuable and meticulous guidance, constructive criticism, effective supervision and freedom of work and thoughts during the course of my work and for showing me a dream and helping me to bring it in reality.

I express my profound sense of reverence and gratitude to Dr. A. M. Diwan, University of Pune and my Ph.D. co-guide, for his humanity, moral support, constructive criticism and comments, excellent counsel, unconditional support and for his priceless guidance in my life. His interests and concern for my personal and academic work are greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi for providing Scanning Electron Micrograph studies of the biosorbents. Prof. K.K. Pant of IIT-Delhi provided facilities for determining the physico-chemical properties of the biosorbent. I am indebted to him for his generosity. Thanks are also due to Shri Kendule of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board for facilitating procurement of effluent samples.

I would like to express my gratitude to Shri C.S. Karpe for his invaluable guidance and help on analytical methods. Shri Birajdar provided me great support in my research work.
Thanks are also due to Mrs. Kanhere, Dr. Ravindra Gawali, Dr. Bhushan Pachpande, Dileep Sathe, Veena Patil, Sanjay Kale, Akshaya Apte, Rajesh Manerikar, Ila Tiwari, for not only guiding in my research area but in others fields as well.

Mr. Sawant, Mrs. Sangam, Mrs. Pandore, Ajay Bhave, Nisha Prabhakran and other staff at the Dept. of Environmental Sciences, Pune University are thanked for providing me with a nice working environment where one can ask for help and get it.

Mrs. Takalkar of Ph.D administration was always prompt, meticulous and always assisted me.

Lastly, I would like to express my sincerest appreciation to my parents, wife and my small, ever smiling daughter for their everlasting support and encouragement. My parents always guided me scientifically & logically in my personal life and scientific endeavors. Manisha, my sister and Dr. Kiran Momaya my brother-in-law, always inspired me, updated me with latest information and assisted me in getting IIT facilities when required.

The excellent cooperation of all mentioned by names or otherwise, is greatly acknowledged.

Gautam Keshri Nagda
(Research Student)