ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I express my deep sense of gratitude and sincere thanks to my research guide, Dr. C. D. Lokhande, Reader, Department of Physics, for his valuable guidance, constant encouragement and kind cooperation throughout the work.

I am grateful to Prof. M. K. Soudagar, Former Head and Prof. B. K. Chougule, Head, Department of Physics, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for their kind support and words of appreciation. I am thankful to teaching and administrative staff of Dept. of Physics, USIC and CFC for their cooperation.

Thanks are reserved for Prof. S. H. Han, Hanyang University and Dr. O. S. Joo, KIST, South Korea for providing SEM and TEM facilities.

I honestly thanks to Dr. H. M. Pathan, Dr. R. S. Mane, Dr. S. S. Kale, Dr. T. P. Gujar, Dr. (Miss) V. R. Shinde, Dr. S. D Sartale, Dr. B. R. Sankapal, Dr. I. J. Patil, Dr. R. B. Kale, Dr. S. S. Kulkarni, Mrs. S. S. Joshi, Mr. A. M. More, Mr. J. L. Gunjakar, Mr. V. D. Patake for the fruitful discussion and kind support throughout the work that has made every step of this work enjoyable.

I sincerely thank Hon. Annsaheb P. K. Patil, President and Dr. D. K. Sonar, Coordinator, PSGVP Mandal Shahada, Major Dr. A. S. Patil, Principal, PSGVP Mandal’s Arts Science and Commerce College, Shahada for being constant source of inspiration, encouragement and support to carry out this research work. I am also thankful to teaching and non-teaching staff of PSGVP Mandal’s Arts Science and Commerce College Shahada Dist. Nandurbar.

My acknowledgement will be incomplete if I don’t express my appreciation towards my mother, brothers, sisters, brother-in-law, sister-in-law and all family members for their constant encouragement.

I express deep sense of love to my wife Sau. Pratibha, who is chief source of my inspiration. At the same time, the sense of tolerance and great patience showed by my kids Ketan and Paresh is enormously admirable.

Date : 26 APR 2006
Place : Kolhapur. R. S. Patil