Acknowledgement

“Success is not a place where one arrives, but rather the spirit with which one undertakes and continues the journey.”

Research is a journey which never ends. PhD is the very first step towards this. A journey is easier when you travel together. My research work has been accompanied and supported by many people. It is a pleasant moment, when I express my gratitude to all of them.

First and the foremost, all my praises are for Almighty God, who flourished me with opportunities and instinct for pursuing my career as science and poured his love and blessing every minute, every moment.

I would like to express my deepest sense of gratitude and reverence to my PhD supervisor Dr. Rakesh K. Tyagi for graciously providing me an interesting area to work with and for his constant encouragement and guidance during the tenure of this work. His perspicacious mind, keen interest, untiring parental guidance and unceasing encouragement were the soul of all the scientific training. I appreciate the passion and devotion he generates among the students.

I am deeply grateful to our chairperson Prof. Gauranga Mukhopadhyay who has a great affection for SCMM. He made available his valuable and instant support. His ideals and concepts have a remarkable influence on me. I owe my most sincere gratitude to all other faculty members of SCMM, Prof. Chinmay Mukhopadhyay, Dr. Suman K. Dhar, Dr. Saima Aijaj and Dr. Dipankar Ghosh for their constant encouragement and enthusiastic support.

It is a privilege to express my sincere regards to Prof. Kasturi Datta, Prof. Asis datta, Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Prof. Shyamal Goswami, Dr. Natrajan and other faculty members for their unrelenting support.

I express my thanks to Dr. Dulal Panda and members of his research group Rathin and others, with whom I worked at Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay.

It is pleasure to acknowledge all my lab-mates for their help during my research tenure. I thank to my other lab-mates Subodh, Saradhi, Nagendra, Sangeeta, Swagata, Priyanka, Bharti, Nandini and Monica Mam who always extended their help as and when required. I am grateful to Seema for her continuous help and support throughout my research work. I give a word of appreciation to care and affection by Neetu bhabhi for giving a homely social ambience to us when during entire research programme, we remained away from home.

I am thankful to my all other colleagues Rajesh, Parul, Ashraf, Dhaneshwar Prusty, Ashish, Atul, Sandeep, Ram, Abijeet, Pallavi, Vijay, Srikant, Nidhi, Jagannath, Absar, Shipra, Gopal Ji, Shariq, Sanal, Sunil, Sudipta, Nupur, Dola,
Vandana, Amit, Nisha, Kavita, Ekta, Reshmi, Vishnu, Saswat, Rafay, Devdutt, Anand, Anil, Bodhi, Venugopal and Chaitali Mam for their help and support.

I owe my thanks to faculty members and friends Ellora Mam, Sonu Mam, Jaideep Da, Bhaswati, Rachna, Prasad, Mansi, Gagan, Shubhra from SES for providing their assistance. The hard working and inspiring nature of Aniruddha Da cherishes my memory highly and I thank to him.

I extend my thanks to Dr. Tulika Prasad, Charu, Neetu and Vishal for their assistance in carrying out some of my experiments at AIRF.

I owe my high regards and thanks to Manta Mam for her utmost homely parental care throughout my period of stay at JNU and I cherish many small memories of Vivacious Amna (a tiny book lover baby) and Vrinda, Jhanvi, Parth, Shruti, Hena.

I also thank to my friends Navin, Bhupendra, Sandeep, Rajeev, Kalpana, and sister Anuradha for their love and nurturing a congenial environment in and around.

I acknowledge our office bearers Nandji, Nareshji, Niti, Rajesh, Deepak, Omprakash, Amit, Rohit, Santosh and Ali for their timely administrative and hassle free help. I highly like to mention Asharamji who has a great contribution in beautifying the surrounding natural environment of the SCMM with diverse coloured adorable flowers.

I highly remember my residing at Brahmaputra hostel where I enjoyed congenial company of a number of residents and an exchange of wide flavour of interdisciplinary knowledge comprising diverse literature, colours of social fabric, intellectual politics and lot of other things which could be accomplishable at JNU kind of Mini-India place only, where we get amalgamating waves of uncountable things for which I don't retain adequate space and words to execute my expression over here. I thank to some of my friends Rahul (Amitabh), Rakesh Khatri, Mahendra, Udhav for above all which I shared with.

Difficult to express, just with words my sense of gratitude to my parents, for their unconditional support and encouragement to pursue my interests towards academics. I am grateful to My Father's pivotal role filled with his unconditional love and sacrifices; he made over the years to provide me the best possible path in all thick and thins. Without his support and encouragement, I would never have been able to accomplish this reputed and dignified stand in my life. I am highly filled with gratification of My Mother's perfect love and indebt to her for her everlasting love. I convey a word of thanks to my Elder Brother and Sister-in-Law for the best possible support they provided me throughout academic journey. My Sisters and their families also deserve the same. I pay my love to Alice, Kalash, Mohit, Twinkle and Kanu, the youngest community among my belongings.

Finally, the financial assistance in the form of research fellowship from the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) India for carrying out the concerned research work, is duly acknowledged.

Sanjay