ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Showing gratitude is one of the simplest yet most powerful thing humans can do for each other and we must thank the people who make a difference in our lives. This thesis has seen through to completion with the support and encouragement of numerous people including my well wishers, my friends, colleagues and various institutions.

I would like to express my gratitude to my research guide, Dr. C.S Chandrashekhara Murthy, Professor, CMRTU, Bangalore, who has made every effort possible to help me complete this work despite his other commitments. His encouragement and guidance, has gone a long way in the completion of my research work.

I am truly indebted and thankful to Dr. S. C. Sharma, Ex Vice Chancellor, Tumkur University who has played a key role in establishing a state-of-art research centre CMRTU, Bangalore, which has immensely helped many fellow researchers like me to carryout research work with ease.

I would like to express my profound gratitude to Dr. M Krishna, Professor and Director, CMRTU, Bangalore, who was the guiding force behind my entire research project. I wholeheartedly acknowledge the key role played by him at every stage of the work. I deeply appreciate his patience during the scrutiny of the manuscript and for his valuable suggestions throughout.

I gratefully acknowledge the help provided by Prof. K.N.Bhat, CENSE, IISc, Bangalore, for his technical guidance. Without his encouragement and helpful suggestions, my research would not have been possible.

I express my gratefulness to Dr Joseph Daniel Professor, Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering Department, Annamalai University, Chidambaram, who was kind enough to allow me to use the MEMS design laboratory. His valuable suggestions have been very helpful in my work.

It gives me a great honor in thanking Dr B.L. Bhagyalakshmi Director DCE Karnataka for her support and encouragement in carrying out this research work.
I am greatly indebted to Prof. B. Lalithamma, Principal, Maharani’s Science College for Women, Bangalore for promoting my confidence and supporting me during the course of this work.

I owe sincere my thanks to Dr. B. S. Satyanarayana, Principal, Dr. K.N Subramanya, Vice Principal R.V College of Engineering for their support and encouragement.

I am extremely thankful to Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Shrivastava, Cordinator INUP at IISC Bangalore for the help provided in the National Nano fabrication centre and for obliging my request to carry out the research work in their centre which was really helpful in my research work.

I wish to express my warm and sincere thanks to Dr. K.A. Sumithra Devi, Dr. Andhe Dharani. and Dr. M.N. Vijayalakshmi, , Department of MCA, R.V. College of Engineering, Bangalore for their kind support during the entire course of this research work.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. H. Narasimha Murthy Department of Mechanical Engineering, R.V. College of Engineering, Bangalore for his support during the course of the research work.

I am greatly indebted to many of my friends, and colleagues who assisted and supported me in this pursuit, namely, Prof. K.S. Sumana, Dr Mahendra Kumar. K, Smt Padmashree and Dr Rajkumar for their cooperation and useful discussions during the course of my work.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the staff of CMRTU, Bangalore, Mr. Prabhakar, Mr. Satyanarayana, Mr. Rajesh, Mr. Kumar and Mr. Siddaramaiah for their help in offering me the resources required for carrying out my research work.

I gratefully acknowledge the University Grants Commission and Department of Collegiate Education, Karnataka for having provided the benefit of Faculty Improvement Program which was very helpful for carrying out my research work.