

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Although this thesis describes the work carried out during the last five years only, the background knowledge which was involved had been gained right from my childhood. Therefore, first of all I thank all my 'gurus', from the bottom of my heart, for the knowledge and confidence they provided in me to take up this research work.

It is my pleasure to acknowledge here the efforts of many people who have made possible the work described in this thesis.

I am highly obliged and thankful to Prof. P. K. Gupta who encouraged and supported me to pursue this research work. I wish to record my deepest gratitude to Dr. K. Das, my technical guide, for his erudite guidance and active support all through this work. I am extremely grateful to Dr S. Kumar, for accepting himself as my guide and for his constant encouragement and moral support. I am grateful to Prof. D. K. Palit, BARC, and all the members of my Ph.D. committee, for their constructive criticism, guidance and motivation.

I owe thanks to Dr. A. Uppal for her help in nanoparticle preparation and in the cell work and to Dr. R. Shrivastava, Sh. H. S. Patel, Sh. M. Swami and B. Bose for their participation in different experiments. I would like to give especial thanks to Dr. A. Dube for providing the photosensitizers for the experiments and Dr. A. Shrivastava and Shri P. Mondal for TEM imaging of the nanoparticles.

I would like to thank all my lab members including Dr. K. D. Rao, Dr. S. K. Majumder, Dr. M. Sharma, Dr. R. Dasgupta, Dr. Y. Verma, Mr. K. Sahu, Mr. R. Verma, Mrs. S. Ahlawat and Mrs. H. Bansal for creating a healthy scientific atmosphere in the labs which helped me to bring this thesis to its present status. I wish to thank all other members of Laser Biomedical Applications and Instrumentation Division for their help.

I am thankful to my friends Dr. B. N. Rajasheker, Dr. R. Chari, Dr. A. Ingale, Mrs. S. Joshi, Mrs. A. Mokhariwale and many others who were always there to give me moral support during the course of this thesis.

I would like to convey my deepest regards to my parents for their never-ending love and their enormous encouragement and support which motivated me in my academic growth. I am thankful to sisters, my aunts and uncles, my in-laws, for their love and affection and especially to my bhuaji, for her selfless support and encouragement. I want to thank, my lovely son Ashish and inquisitive daughter Garima, who are a constant source of joy, for allowing me free to use their part of precious time for this research work. Finally, I want to express my greatest appreciation for my husband Shri Girish Kumar Jain, for his support and sacrifice.

**Beena Jain**