ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

While pursuing my doctoral studies I went through many good and bad times but a ray of hope was always there which forced me constantly to achieve my goals. I want to thank all those people who supported me in accomplishing my work.

Firstly, I express my sincere gratitude towards my supervisor Prof. Datta Madamwar for giving me an opportunity to work in his group and believing in my potentials. He has always kept faith in me and allowed me to plan my experiments independently. He has been a constant source of support and encouragement which I shall never forget.

I am also grateful to Dr. Amita Shah for her valuable suggestions and discussions. I wish to thank Prof. and Head K.S. Rao for giving me the opportunity to carry out my work in this department.

“No one lives long enough to learn everything they need to learn from a scratch. To be successful, we absolutely, positively have to find people who have already paid the price to learn the things that we need to learn to achieve our goals”. One such person who is Dr. Haresh Keharia who is my ideal. In the initial stages of my PhD, he had confidence that I had the ability to embark upon such an intimidating task, and as the work progressed I began to believe it myself. He was the constant source of inspiration for me. His invaluable values like dedication, optimistic approach, selflessness, commitment towards work etc makes him a wonderful person. I have learnt a lot from him and also in future wish to learn more and more things from his ocean of knowledge.

“Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence” which is a quote given by Helen Keller. In these years I too have learnt to develop a positive attitude which has changed my approach while carrying out even a small piece of work.

I enjoyed working with the dissertation students Nima and Jayesh.
I wish to thank all my seniors Dr. Badrish Soni, Dr. Chirayu Desai, Dr. Sarayu Mohana, Dr. Safia Moosvi, Dr. Rachana Joshi and also my colleagues Eltaiyb, Hilor, Bhavik, Sneha, Kunal, Digant, Sananda, Vilas and Nirav for their support and always ready to help attitude and lot of fun which we had during these years.

I cannot forget to mention Asha, Varun and Niraj for their healthy discussions and support. I always enjoyed working with them.

I convey my special thanks to Dr. Amit Thakar who helped me by providing me all the references I needed while writing the papers.

I enjoyed the company of my junior Tripti Raghavendra who always remained cheerful and also had good time with her both professionally and personally.

I thank Shradhamaam and Shreya for all the care, concern and support.

I am glad to receive fellowship from the GSBTM (Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission) and thank the mission for the financial support without which I would not have been able to join for doctoral programme.

A special mention to my parents who gave me the freedom to make my own decisions and my sister to always cheer me with her lively personality. I am lucky to have a very supportive mother-in-law and a loving husband whose patient love enabled me to complete this work.

At last, I am indebted to Almighty God who is always there with me........

“Work joyfully and peacefully knowing that right thoughts and right efforts will inevitably bring about right results”

(Vrushali Dandavate)