ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

During the research work and preparation of thesis, I have worked with a
great number of people whose contribution in assorted ways to the research and the
making of the thesis deserved special mention. It is a pleasure to convey my
gratitude to them all in my humble acknowledgment.

In the first place I would like to record my gratitude to Dr. V. B. Gaikwad
for his supervision, advice, and guidance from the very early stage of this research
as well as giving me extraordinary experiences through out the work. I was
extraordinarily fortunate in having Dr. V. B. Gaikwad as my guide. I could never
have embarked and started all of this without his prior support, thus opened
opportunity for me by taking me as his first student. Thank you Sir!

I am deeply grateful to my co-supervisor, Professor Dr. B. P. Kapadnis,
Head of the Department of Microbiology, University of Pune, for his detailed and
constructive comments, and for his important support throughout this work. His
truly scientist intuition has made him as a constant source of ideas and passions in
science, which exceptionally inspire and enrich my growth as a student, a
researcher since my post-graduate days.

I gratefully thank, the Management counsel of Maratha Vidya Prasarak
Samaj, Nashik, especially Dr. V. N. Pawar, for giving me permission to do
research work in the Environmental Sciences Research Centre, K. T. H. M.
College, Nashik.

I am grateful to BCUD, University of Pune for awarding research grant for
college teachers and lending hand to people like me.

I acknowledge technical help from Dr. Yogesh Sauche and Dr. Sonali
Sanghvi regarding 16S rRNA sequencing studies. I acknowledge availability of
research paper by Dr. Govindwar and suggestion regarding extraction of
metabolites by Dr. Kodam.

I gratefully acknowledge Dr. A.D. Bholay, Dr. Anirudha Pethkar, Dr.
Mahesh Shindikar and Dr. Balaji Aglawe for their valuable advice, stimulating
science discussions and critical comments benefited me for getting answers of
some of unintelligent questions as colleague.

I gratefully thank to PSP Sir, SNP Madam, SHP Madam, PPW Madam and
VAT Madam for being supportive and encouraging.
I am grateful to Dr. M.N. Jachak and Dr. R.B. Toche for giving me access to organic research laboratory facilities. My special thanks to Ms. Shilpa Derle for help and support all the way. I acknowledge technical help from Sharad Gaikwad related to UV/VIS Spectroscopy, GC-MS and FTIR.

It’s my pleasure to mention assistance from Aniruddha Bhagat, Vijay Jadhav, Vishal Bhagwat, Kailash Ahire, Ashwini Rane, Shailesh Kanade, Shyam Patil, Sidharth Mahajan, Priyanka Pandya, Akshay Sonawane, Sandeep Badgujar, Revan Nikam, Chetan Pawar, Deepak Shelar, Sandeep Patil, Shrikant Kanawade, Ramahari Rote, Santosh Shinde, Someshwar Deshmukh and Muddassar Kazi.

My special thanks to non teaching staffs of Department including Gaidhani, Thete, Sangamnere, Gavali and Deore mama.

I convey my special acknowledgement to Vilas Wagh, Pravin Mahajan, Sachin Mahajan Dhakane, Jitendra Ozarkar for acting as my constant source of inspiration.

My parents deserve special mention for their support. My Father and Mother, in their first place as the persons who put the fundament of my learning character, showing me the joy of intellectual pursuit ever since I was a child. My special gratitude is due to my brothers Dhananjay, Jayant and Virendra made me available personal finance as and when needed.

My appreciation to my wife Mayuri whose dedication, love and persistent confidence in me, has taken the load off my shoulder. Thanks to Ved my five year old son who gave me enough time and peace at home by assuming that Papa is doing study (homework).

Finally, I would like to thank everybody who was important to the successful realization of thesis, as well as expressing my apology that I could not mention personally one by one.

(Niranjan P. Patil)
Assistant Professor
Department of Microbiology
KTHM College, Nashik