ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude and sincere thanks to all those who have helped me and encouraged me in the way of completion of my research work. It has been a great privilege to spend several years in the School of Studies in Physics, Jiwaji University, Gwalior and its members will always remain dear to me.

My first debt of gratitude must go to my supervisor Prof. P. Rajaram, School of Studies in Physics, Jiwaji University, Gwalior. I have no words to express my heartfelt gratitude to him. His guidance always encouraged the inquisitive spirit in me. His patience and perseverance and unbound humanity made it a pleasure to work under him. Without his keen interest and guidance it would not have been possible for me to put the present work in the due form. His guidance helped me in all the time of research and writing of this thesis.

I am highly grateful to Prof. R. K. Tiwari, Head, School of Studies in Physics, Jiwaji University, Gwalior, along with the former heads during my research tenure, for providing the necessary facilities during my research.

I express my sincere regards to my teachers Prof. Mahesh Prakash, Prof. A. K. Shrivastava, Prof. D. C. Tiwari, Prof. U. P. Verma, Prof. Neeraj Jain, and Dr. D. C. Gupta, School of Studies in Physics, Jiwaji University, Gwalior many suggestions and the encouragement during the tenure of my research work. They provided the vision and advice necessary for me to proceed through the doctoral program.

I am equally delighted to express my thanks to my colleagues; Dr. Anu Parmar, Prof. Pramod Dubey, Prof. Sarita Dode, Prof. Sanjay Sharma, Mr. Jitendra Sharma, Mr. Shailendra Tomar and Mr. DP Ojha for sharing their invaluable time with me and for their constant inspiration, encouragement and always providing moral support during entire research work.

My sincere thanks also due to my seniors Dr. Ashok Kumar Sharma, Dr. Dixit Prashar, Dr. Shail Sharma and Dr. Vikhas Thakur for their kind suggestions during my research.

I am also thankful to my fellow research scholars Dr. Idris Hamid Batt, Dr. Sarika Singh, Dr. Vijay Nadda, Dr. Rekha Garg, Dr. Vikash Nayak, Dr. Tarun Chandel, Mr. M Burhanuz Zaman, Mr. Vipin B. Shrotriya, Ms. Shobha Kulshrestha and Mr. Shailendra Dwivedi, Dr. Pukhrambam
Deepak, Ms Meena Kumari, Mr. Tahir Mohiudin Bhat, Mr. Saleem Yousuf for their friendly suggestions, cooperation and invaluable support which continuously helped me in performing my research work.

For the analysis of my samples I have sought the help of various scientists and the facilities available with them. To name a few Dr. Ramesh Chandra, Mr. S. D. Sharma, Mr. Shiv Kumar, Mr. B. Dutt and Mr. Anil Kumar Saini of IIC, IIT Roorkee, Mr. Jagtar Singh, Mr. Rikhi Chand of SAIF, Panjab University, Chandigarh and Mr. Mitesh Shrotriy, IIT, Kanpur, Dr. Pankaj Sharma, JUIT, Solan and CIF, Jiwaji University, Gwalior. I express my sincere thanks as without their co-operation, it was not possible to complete this work in time.

I am also thankful to non-teaching staff members of SOS in Physics for providing me their help in library and office related work.

I would like to express my regards and gratitude to, Father-in-law, Mother-in-law, without blessing of them I can't do my work. They always inspired me to do best in my life.

I do not have sufficient words to explain the role of my Brother-in-law, Sister-in-law, Bhabi, friends and my lovely niece Shivani, Shilpa and nephew Nikhil, Nitin and Shivam, shown their tactic support, deep abiding affection for me during the course of work.

I cannot express my special thanks in words that gave my loving Mother (Mrs.) Roshni Devi and my brother Mr. Pawan Chauhan and jiju Mr. Sunil Rangra and sister Mrs. Mamta Rangra who always encourage me, their wholehearted co-operation during the course of investigation.

At Last but not least, I cannot express my special thanks to my best friend and life partner Mrs Monika Chauhan for her support and championship. Her cooperation, encouragement and support are like a backbone of body which helped me during completion of the work. My little baby Swapnil Chauhan their smiling face and love always give strength to work hard.

I am very thankful to Mr. Deepak Mittal, Student Gallery, and Gwalior for typing and printing the manuscript.

No words of thanks can be enough for holy GOD (immortal and almighty) for having made everything possible by giving me strength and courage to do this work. This work could not reach to this stage without the wish of almighty GOD.

At last but not least in order to balance and imbalance of thankfulness, I am always thankful to all those hands that directly or indirectly helped me in the completion of this research work.

Joginder Singh