ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This thesis is the result of several years of long dissertation work whereby I have been accompanied and supported by many people. It is a pleasant aspect that I have now the opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for all of them.

I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude through my heart to my esteemed supervisor Prof. M. K. Mondal who has helped enormously and always inspired me by his indispensable guidance and encouragement during the whole long dissertation work. He has always supported and strengthened me in many direct and indirect ways. His thoughtful and valuable reviews, constructive criticism and tireless review of the manuscript has immensely helped me to improve the work. I gratify him a lot of gratitude for showing confidence in my work and he gave me the freedom.

I am highly grateful to Prof. P. K. Mishra, Head, Department of Chemical Engineering and Technology, Indian Institute of Technology (Banaras Hindu University), for providing necessary facilities and encouragement during the research work.

I express my sincere thanks to all DPGC and RPEC members for their direct or indirect motivation and assistance from different corners during my research work at institute.

I welcome this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude and regards to the Dr. Pradeep Kumar, Prof. Subir Kundu, Dr. H. L. Pramanik, Prof. A. K. Verma, Prof. A. S. K. Sinha, Mr. Durga Prasad, Dr. V. L. Yadav, Dr. Bhawan Verma, Dr. S. V. Singh and Mr. A.C. Mohan for their co-operations. Also, I express my sincere thanks to all faculty members of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Technology, Indian Institute of technology (Banaras Hindu University) for their continued help and co-operation for completion of this dissertation work. Further, I would like to thank to Mr. Daya Ram Singh Yadav, Mr. Dinesh, Mr. Chandlal, Mr. Ankit Kumar, Mr. Arvind Kumar, Mr. Arjun Prasad, Mr. Umesh, Mr. Vinaj Kumar, Mr. Lal Bahadur, Mr. Varun and Mr. Ramadar Singh of Chemical Engineering Department, for providing me valuable support and encouragement during the research work. I am very thankful to all technical and non-technical staff of Department of Chemical Engineering & Technology, Indian Institute of technology (Banaras Hindu University).

I feel lacunae of words to express my most heartfelt and cordial thanks to my friends Ms. Poornima Pandey, Mr. Chandradhwaj Nayak, Ms. Roli Saini, Dr. Laxmi Deepak Bhatlu, Dr. Meghna Kapur, Mr. Sidda Rajendra, Mr. Arvind Singh, Mr. Dan Bahadur Pal, Mr. Sukesh Bawiaskar, Ms. Vineeta Gautam, Mr. Amit Rathour, Mr. Shailesh Kumar, Mr. Mahendra Ram, Mr. Anuj Kumar Prajapati, Mr. Gautam Kishore Gupta, Ms. Renubala, Mr. Mukul Sharma and Mr. Sudhakar Saroj and who have always been a source of inspiration for me and who stood by my side at the toughest times.

The whole credit of my achievements goes to my father Mr. Ch. Gangisetti, mother Mrs. Ch. Padmavathi and brother Mr. Ch. N. Murthy, who were always there for me in my difficulties. It was their unshakable faith in me that has always helped me to proceed further. This thesis could not have been reality without the blessing of my parents and family members.

I am grateful to the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD), Government of India and Chemical Engineering and Technology, Indian Institute of Technology (Banaras Hindu University) Varanasi for financial supports to undertake the work. I wish to extend a warm thank all those who could not find a separate name but have helped directly and indirectly.

Finally, I thank almighty Vaishno Devi and Kashi Vishwanath for giving me strength to face all the fate of life.

Date:

Varanasi

(V Raghunath Chelluboyana)