Table of Contents

Certificate		***iii***
Acknowledgement		***vi-vii***
Table of Content		***vii***
List of Tables		***xii***
List of Figures		***xiii***
List of Abbreviation		***xvi***
Preface		***xviii***

CHAPTER NO	**TOPIC**	**PAGE NO**
CHAPTER 1	**INTRODUCTION**	**1-21**
	1.1 Water Availability and Demand	1
	1.2 Wastewater Treatment	2
	1.2.1 Technologies available for contaminant removal	3
	1.3 Membrane Technology	6
	1.3.1 Membranes and Membrane Technology	8
	1.3.2 Mechanism of Membrane Separation	9
	1.3.3 Nanocomposite Membrane	11
	1.4 Degradation and separation of heavy metal using nano-composite membrane	12
	1.4.1 Chromium and its removal	12
	1.5 Broad Objectives of the present work	15
	1.6 Reference	16
CHAPTER 2	**LITERATURE REVIEW**	**22-79**
	2.1 Nano-particles: Preparation, Characterization and Applications	22
	2.2 Nano-particles as Photo-catalysts	24
	2.3 Photocatalytic removal of pollutant using green synthesized nanoparticles	28
	2.4 Nanocomposite film/membrane	35
	2.5 Removal of Hexavalent Chromium (Cr(VI)	41
	2.6 Photo-catalytic Membranes and their Application	47
	2.7 Effect of nanoparticle loading on the performance of	53

membrane and photo catalyst application
2.8 Challenges and Shortcomings in the existing wastewater treatment technology 56
2.9 Objective of present work 57
2.9 Reference 59

CHAPTER 3 SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF NANOPARTICLE AND NANOCOMPOSITE MEMBRANE 80-111

3.1 Introduction 80
3.1.2 Theory of Membrane Formation 83
3.1.2.a Phase Diagram and Thermodynamic parameter 83
3.1.2.b Kinetic parameter 85
3.2 Experimental Procedure 86
3.2.1 Material 86
3.2.2 Method 87
3.2.2.a Synthesis of TiO_2 Nanoparticles (NPs) 87
3.2.2.b PVDF/TiO_2 composite membranes preparation 87
3.2.3 Determination of Thermodynamic Parameter 89
3.2.4 Determination of Kinetic Parameter 90
3.2.5 Membrane characteristics 90
3.2.6 Characterization Technique 91
3.3 Results and Discussion 92
3.3.1 Particle and Membrane characterization 92
3.3.1.a High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscope **(**HRTEM) Results 92
3.3.1.b X-Ray Diffractometer (XRD) Finger Prints 93
3.3.1.c Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) Spectra 94
3.3.1.d Diffusive Reflectance Spectroscopy: Optical band gap analysis 96
3.3.2 Phase Diagram 97
3.3.3 High Resolution Scanning Electron microscopy (HRSEM) 103
3.3.4 Porosity, Pore size, and Hydrophilicity of Membranes 105
3.4 Conclusion 107
3.5 Reference 107

CHAPTER 4 ANTIFOULING BEHAVIOUR OF PVDF/TIO$_2$ COMPOSITE MEMBRANE: A QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT **112-143**

4.1 Introduction 113
4.1.2 XDLVO Theory 115
4.2 Experimental Procedure 117
4.2.1 Material 117
4.2.2 Synthesis of TiO_2 NPs and PVDF/TiO_2 composite membranes 118
4.2.3 Physiochemical Properties of Membranes 118
4.2.3.a Contact Angle Measurement 118
4.2.3.b Morphological Characterization 118
4.2.3.c Antibacterial Characteristics 119
4.2.3.c.a Halo Zone Test 119
4.2.3.c.b Bacterial Growth 119
4.2.4 Water Permeation Studies 120
4.3 Results and Discussion 121
4.3.1 Physiochemical properties of the membrane 121
4.3.1.1 AFM Analysis 121
4.3.2 XDLVO Theory based Analysis of Fouling Behaviour 124
4.3.3 Antibacterial Property 127
4.3.3.a Halo Zone Test 127
4.3.3.b Bacterial Growth 128
4.3.4 Permeate Flux 132
4.3.4.a Performance against BSA 132
4.3.4.b Performance against HA 133
4.4 Conclusion 136
4.5 Reference 137

CHAPTER 5 SYNTHESIS OF PVDF/TiO$_2$ MEMBRANES AND THEIR ANTIFOULING BEHAVIOUR DURING ULTRAFILTRATION **144-161**

5.1 Introduction 144
5.2 Experimental Procedure 146
5.2.1 Material 147
5.2.2 Synthesis of TiO_2 NPs and PVDF/TiO_2 composite membranes 147
5.2.3 BSA Adsorption Experiment 147
5.2.4 Quantification of fouling 147

5.2.5 Fouling Resistance 149
5.2.6 Hermia's Model of Fouling 149
5.3 Results and Discussion 152
5.3.1 BSA Adsorption Test 152
5.3.2 Water Permeation 153
5.3.3 Comparison of Experimental Results with Predictions using Hermia's Model 156
5.4 Conclusion 159
5.5 Reference 159

CHAPTER 6 HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM REMOVAL USING BI-FUNCTIONAL NANOCOMPOSITE MEMBRANES 162-200
6.1 Introduction 162
6.2 Experimental Procedure 165
6.2.1 Material 165
6.2.2 Synthesis of TiO_2 NPs and PVDF/TiO_2 composite membranes 165
6.2.3 Characterization 165
6.2.4 Membrane performance 165
6.2.4.a Rejection of Cr (VI) 165
6.2.4.b Photocatalytic reduction of Cr (VI) 166
6.2.3.c Analysis of Cr(VI) concentration 167
6.2.5 Response Surface Methodology and Optimization analysis. 168
6.2.5.a Experimental design using RSM 168
6.2.5.b Validation 170
6.2.6 Stability and Reusability of Nanocomposite Membrane 171
6.2.7 Performance of membrane in real wastewater 171
6.3 Results and Discussion 172
6.3.1 Mechanism for Cr(VI) removal from wastewater using bi-functional membrane 172
6.3.2 UV spectra of feed, permeate, retentate Cr (VI) solution and after photocatalytic reduction 173
6.3.3 Effect of Various Parameter 174
6.3.3.a Effect of Particle Loading 174
6.3.3.b Effect of Particle size 176
6.3.3.c Effect of pH 177
6.3.3.d Effect of Cr concentration 179

6.4.3.e Effect of Transmembrane Pressure 181
6.3.4 RSM and ANOVA analysis 182
6.3.4.a Data adequacy check of the model 182
6.3.4.b Effect of independent (process) variables on % Rejection 183
6.3.4.c Effect of independent (process) variables on % Reduction 185
6.3.4.d Optimization and validation of optimized results 188
6.3.5 Reusability and Stability 189
6.3.6 Performance of Membrane using real waste water 191
6.4 Conclusion 195
6.5 Reference 196

CHAPTER 7 SUMMARY AND SUGGESTION FOR FUTURE WORK 201-203

LIST OF PUBLICATION 204-206