## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Though words are seldom sufficient to express gratitude and feeling, it somehow gives me an opportunity to acknowledge those who helped me during the course of my study.

I wish to express my deep sense of appreciation and everlasting indebtedness to my supervisor, **Prof. Ram Sharan Singh**, Department of Chemical Engineering & Technology, IIT (BHU), for his meticulous guidance and whole hearted cooperation in carrying out this work. His inspiring comments and suggestions motivated me to continue my research work. From his remarkable support and advice during my PhD studies, I gained a lot of experience and knowledge which will help me in future.

I would like to thank Prof. P.K. Mishra (Head), Department of Chemical Engineering & Technology, IIT (BHU) and Prof. A.S.K. Sinha, Ex-head of the Department for encouraging me and providing me all the facilities to carry out my research work.

I would also like to express my sincere thanks to RPEC members, Prof. B.N. Rai, and Dr. Ankur Verma, Department of Chemical Engineering, and Prof. Pradyumna Ghosh, Department of Mechanical Engineering & Technology, IIT (BHU), for their stimulating help and criticism which incented me to widen my research from various perspectives. I wish to express deep regards to all the teachers of the Chemical Engineering Department for their kind support at all moment during the progress of my research.

I express my sincere thanks to Dr. Balendu Shekher Giri, Dr. Suverna Trivedi and Mr. Tarun Kumar Dixit for their constant support and motivation throughout the work. I am extremely thankful to my friends Ms. Amrita Shahi, Dr. Nirupama Patra, Mr. Mithilesh Rai, Mr. Mahendra Ram, Mr. Pawan Mulani, Mr. Dilip Kumar, Mr. Zahoor Alam and many more, for their co-operation and sincere help. I am grateful to Mr. Sudhir Kumar, Mr. Ajeet Yadav, Mr. Ajay Yadav and Mr. Rakesh Kumar Chaudhary for the assistance extended by them time to time during the research work. I am also grateful to all office staff of the department and authorities of IIT (BHU), for their kind help to complete the thesis work.

Finally, I am especially grateful to my family, my elder brothers for their support and dedication. My brother and sister-in-law, **Sri Ramji Prasad** and **Smt. Pinki Devi** have been a guiding force throughout my life. Without their love and encouragement, this dissertation wouldn't have happened. I would like to thanks my elder brother **Rajkumar** and younger brother, **Mr. Sanjay Kumar**, their encouragement strengthened my faith and confidence. They were always keen to know what I was doing and how I was proceeding. In particular, I would like to thank my wife, **Ruby Kumari**, for her tremendous love, companionship, encouragement and support over these years.

Finally, I bow with reverence and gratitude to thank the Almighty who has enriched me with such an excellent opportunity and infused the power in my mind to fulfil the work assigned to me.

(MUNNA KUMAR)