

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to both of my supervisors Prof. S. K. Balasubramanian and Prof. Rajiv Prakash for their expert guidance, moral support and encouragement throughout this thesis work. In particular, I am very much thankful to Prof. Rajiv Prakash for providing me a great opportunity to visit KIT Japan for three months during my research period. It was really a golden period for me in during which time, I could learn a lot and do important part of my research which has played a major role in completion of this thesis.

My enormous gratitude and sincere thanks are extended to Prof. W. Takashima, Research Center for Advanced Eco-fitting Technology, Graduate School of Life Science and Systems Engineering, Kyushu Institute of Technology, Kitakyushu 808-0196, Japan, for his supporting guidance during the period of my KIT Japan visit, and also for his valuable comments and suggestions during my research work.

I would like to express my special thanks to my first supervisor Prof. P. Chakrabarti, Director, MNNIT Allahabad, for introducing me to the field of research in microelectronics and nanotechnology.

I would like to thanks my research committee members, Dr. R. U. Khan, Prof. S. Jit, Dr. C. Upadhyay and all the Departmental Research Committee members for their important suggestions and profitable discussions during my research period.

I am very much grateful to Prof. P. K. Jain, Head, Department of Electronics Engineering, IIT (BHU), Varanasi for providing me the infrastructural facilities needed during the entire period of my research.

I like to express my heartily thanks to the Head, all the faculty members, and research scholars of school of materials science and technology, IIT (BHU) for their kind help and cooperation. They provided me their departmental research facility to carry out my experimental research work during this dissertation. Without their help and support, it could be difficult for me to complete my study.

I would like to thanks my seniors Dr. Shweta Tripathi, Dr. C. Periasamy, Dr. P. K. Tiwari, Dr. Shaivalini Singh, Dr. Meenakshi Choudhary, Dr. S. Dubey, and Dr. Aniruddh Bahadur Yadav for their kind support, constant encouragement, guidance and assistance. With great pleasure, I would further like to thank my batchmates Ms. Divya Somvanshi, Ms. Purnima Hazra, my juniors Mr. Mirgender Kumar, Mr. Sunny, Mr. Kunal Singh, Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Mr. Gopal Rawat, Mr. Yogesh Kumar and entire members of the department for their cooperation in providing a friendly and peaceful research environment throughout the entire period of my research work.

In this very special moment, I like to express my heart-felt gratitude to my beloved parents and my loving brothers and sisters along with other family members for their unconditional love, faith, encouragement and support. They are the source of moral and emotional strength in my life. I also want to owe my sincere prayer to my grandparents for their eternal blessings.

With great pleasure, I would like to express my unconditional love and affection to my one year old son whose innocent smile always reduced my stress and provided me fresh energy to continue my research work.

Last but not least, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my loving husband Mr. Rakesh Tripathi for his support, constant encouragement, endless patience, caring and understanding. I am very lucky to have him in my life. He has always encouraged and supported me to fulfill my ambitions.

At last, I would like to thank all those peoples who have made directly or indirecdtly this dissertation possible.

(Shashi Tiwari)