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It is further certified that the student has fulfilled all the requirements of Comprehensive Examination, Candidacy and SOTA for the award of Ph.D. Degree.

Supervisor

(Prof. Krishna Kant Pathak)

Department of Civil Engineering

Indian Institute of Technology (BHU)

Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India, 221005

DECLARATION BY THE CANDIDATE

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Supervisor

Grima Canh

(Prof. Krishna Kant Pathak)
Department of Civil Engineering
Indian Institute of Technology (BHU)
Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India, 221005

Signature of Head of Department

विभागाध्यक्ष/HEAD

जानपद अभियात्रिकी विभाग Department of Civil Engineering भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (बी.एच यू.) Indian Institute of Technology (B.H.U.) वाराणसी—221005/Varanasi-221005

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Dedicated to

My Family and Almighty God

Acknowledgements

I am deeply indebted and grateful to my supervisor, 'Professor Krishna Kant Pathak', for

his enduring and constructive guidance, apt remarks, motivational advices and encouragement

throughout my Ph.D. research work. With his generous support and guardianship, I could carry-

out my research work in a smooth and sustained manner.

I would like to extend my appreciation and thanks to:

1. The RPEC committee members for their constructive and well-wishing remarks. Many of

their constructive remarks lead to addition of new chapters to my Ph.D. research work. I feel

greatly privileged to have them as my RPEC committee members.

2. The institute administration, Civil Engineering department and the office staff for their co-

operation and help.

3. My friend and colleague Ravinder Kumar Agrahari for his support and encouraging

appreciation.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Education (India) for

providing financial support in the form of Teaching Assistance Scholarship.

A special word of thanks to my family; my parents (Srimati Ajay Devi and Shri Rambabu

Singh), for their patience, care and understanding; my younger sisters and brother (Priyanka,

Uma and Devendra) for their praise; my elder brother Dr. Sanjay (MBBS/MD, Medicine), who

has always been a source of constant inspiration and encouragement.

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Symbols/ Abbreviations have been explained wherever they appear first in a Chapter

PREFACE

For many years, structural engineers have been constructing the steel braced frames in the form of buildings/towers, sub-structure frames to support water tanks, pedestrian bridges over roads/ railway lines or the steel truss bridges etc. Older conventional steel braced frames are present in many of the developed/ developing country. With time, some of them became obsolete for further use because of not being able to satisfy the current codal provisions. The favourable thing about the functional older steel braced frame structures would be their design procedures that were very conservative (factor of safety was high) while designing the critical components. So, only few members could not comply to the current seismic provisions. The most severe problem identified in almost all of these steel braced frames has been the buckling of their members. Buckling causes sudden loss of strength of the buckled members; overall effect of which on the structure can be severe. The steel braced frames that were constructed before the development of the current seismic provisions (pre-1988) have been referred as the non-ductile conventional steel braced frames, non-ductile concentric steel braced frames or the non-seismic steel braced frames (generally, called as 'NCBFs').

Rather than doing retrofitting after any natural calamity, doing renovation suits perfect with the famous saying "Prevention is Better than Cure". Most of the currently available methods for the retrofitting of NCBFs have been found to be disruptive to the occupants, required serious structural interventions and complete replacements of many members. The renovation strategies devised here would prove to be economical (low requirement of material, time and labour), least destructive (minimal structural/ architectural intervention and least disruptive to the occupants) and yet structurally sound (the detrimental effects of buckling of the members were significantly minimized).