

Table of Contents	Page No.
LIST OF FIGURES	xiii
LIST OF TABLES	xxix
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS	xxxi
PREFACE	xxxv
Chapter 1.....	1
Introduction	1
1.1 Tissue engineering	2
1.1.1 Extracellular matrix	3
1.1.2 Advantages of three-dimensional (3D) cell culture.....	5
1.1.3 Scaffolds and their fabrication techniques.....	8
1.1.4 Scaffold-based tissue engineering approaches.....	15
1.2 Skin tissue.....	17
1.2.1 Skin tissue anatomy	17
1.2.2 Functions	18
1.2.3 Wound healing.....	18
1.2.4 Wound dressing.....	21
1.3 Review of the existing literature	24
1.4 Research objectives	29
1.5 Thesis outline	31
1.6 References	36
Chapter 2.....	45
Fabrication and Characterization of Silk Fibroin- Soy Protein based Nanofibrous Scaffolds for Skin Tissue Engineering.....	45
2.1 Introduction	46
2.2 Materials and methods.....	49
2.2.1 Materials	49
2.2.2 Preparation of dry silk fibroin film	50
2.2.3 Preparation of protein blend solution for electrospinning.....	51
2.2.4 Characterization of the scaffolds	53

2.2.5 Statistical analysis	59
2.3 Results	60
2.3.1 SEM analysis of the fabricated electrospun mats	60
2.3.2 ATR-FTIR spectroscopic analysis of electrospun mats	65
2.3.3 Raman spectroscopy analysis	68
2.3.4 Swelling capacity.....	69
2.3.5 Stability and degradation of electrospun nanofibers.....	70
2.3.6 Transparency percentage of the fabricated nanofibrous scaffolds	72
2.3.7 Thermal stability of the fabricated nanofibrous sheets.....	73
2.3.8 Cytocompatibility of the fabricated nanofibrous scaffolds.....	74
2.3.9 In vivo wound healing.....	79
2.4 Discussion	80
2.5 Summary.....	86
2.6 References.....	88
Chapter 3	99
Fabrication and Characterization of Polyvinyl Alcohol- Soy Protein Composite Hydrogels for Skin Tissue Engineering	99
3.1 Introduction.....	100
3.2 Materials and methods	103
3.2.1 Materials	103
3.2.2 Synthesis of hydrogels	103
3.2.3 Characterization of the hydrogels.....	105
3.3 Results	113
3.3.1 Gel fraction	113
3.3.2 Porosity	115
3.3.3 Surface wettability	116
3.3.4 SEM analysis of the fabricated FT hydrogels	117
3.3.5 Swelling capacity.....	119

3.3.6 Water vapor transmission rate	120
3.3.7 Stability and degradation of FT hydrogels	121
3.3.8 ATR-FTIR spectroscopic analysis of FT hydrogels	124
3.3.9 X-ray diffraction (XRD) analysis	125
3.3.10 Differential scanning calorimetry analysis	126
3.3.11 Thermal stability of FT hydrogels	127
3.3.12 Mechanical properties of FT hydrogels	129
3.3.13 Cellular biocompatibility of FT hydrogels.....	132
3.3.14 In vivo wound healing.....	136
3.4 Discussion	138
3.5. Summary	143
3.6 References	145
Chapter 4.....	153
Preparation and Characterization of Highly Porous Soy protein Cryogel for Skin Tissue Engineering	153
 4.1 Introduction	154
 4.2 Materials and methods.....	156
 4.2.1 Materials	156
 4.2.2 Synthesis of cryogels.....	157
 4.2.3 Characterization of the cryogels	158
 4.3 Results	167
 4.3.1 Morphological analysis of the prepared SPI cryogels.....	167
 4.3.2 Porosity of SPI cryogels	170
 4.3.3 Swelling ability and water retention capacity of the prepared SPI cryogels	171
 4.3.4 Stability and degradation of SPI cryogels.....	175
 4.3.5 FTIR analysis.....	176
 4.3.6 Thermal properties of prepared SPI cryogels	177

4.3.7 Mechanical properties	179
4.3.8 Hemocompatibility of SPI cryogels	184
4.3.9 In vitro blood clotting performance of SPI cryogels	185
4.3.10 Cellular biocompatibility of prepared SPI cryogels	187
4.3.11 In vivo wound healing.....	190
4.4 Discussion	192
4.5 Summary.....	199
4.6 References.....	201
Chapter 5	209
Fabrication and Characterization of Macroporous PDMS based Scaffold for Tissue Engineering.....	209
 5.1 Introduction.....	210
 5.2 Materials and methods	212
 5.2.1 Materials	212
 5.2.2 Fabrication of macroporous PDMS scaffold.....	213
 5.2.3 Characterization of macroporous PDMS Scaffolds	214
 5.3 Results	221
 5.3.1 Morphological characterization of the porous networks of PDMS scaffolds.....	221
 5.3.2 Interconnectivity of the macroporous scaffold	222
 5.3.3 Porosity of scaffold.....	224
 5.3.4 Surface modification and wettability of scaffolds.....	225
 5.3.5 Liquid retainability of the scaffold.....	226
 5.3.6 Mechanical property of PDMS based scaffolds	227
 5.3.7 Co-culture and cellular proliferation within PDMS scaffolds.....	228
 5.4 Discussion	232
 5.5. Summary.....	238
 5.6 References.....	240

Chapter 6.....	247
Conclusions and Future Scope of Work.....	247
Permission from Central Animal Ethical Committee.....	253
Permission from Institutional Ethics Committee	254
List of Publications.....	255