## Acknowledgement

## ... It is impossible to start with a specific name ...

It is very difficult to name all the sources of inspiration; moreover, words are often too feeble a mode of revealing one's sentiments and feelings of indebtedness. At the outset, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to my research supervisor, Dr. Manas Ranjan Majhi, for introducing me to the field of Porcelain Insulator and to witness the enormous progress made in this fascinating field of study. His keen interest, excellent guidance, encouragement, critical discussions and valuable suggestions provided the continuous impetus for the successful completion of this work.

I am also grateful to my research co-supervisor Prof. Ram Pyare, Department of Ceramic Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (Banaras Hindu University) for his help which made it easy for me to work in such an inter-disciplinary subject.

I express my gratitude to Prof. S P Singh and current Head of the Department Prof. Devendra Kumar for providing me the required facilities of the department. I also wish to thank my RPEC members Prof. Ram Pyare, Dr. Anil Kumar, Department of Ceramic Engineering, and Dr. H. L Pramanik, Department of Chemical Engineering, Banaras Hindu University for the invaluable inspiration and numerous insightful suggestions during the entire course of this research. I also express my gratitude to Dr. J.C. Pandey from the Department of Electrical Engineering IIT (BHU) for providing me facilities of High Voltage Reseach Labrotary. I am also grateful to faculty members of Dr. Vinay Kumar Singh, Dr. (Mrs.) Kalyani Mohanta, Dr. Pradip Kumar Roy, Dr. Preetam Singh, Dr. (Mrs.) Akansha Dwivedi, Dr. Mohamaad Imteyaz Ahmad, Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Dubey and Dr. Santanu Das for their valuable suggestions and help time to time in my research period.

I feel short of words to express my appreciation, gratitude, and indebtedness to my father Sri Ram Singh Mehta and mother Smt. and Devki Devi Mehta for their unbounded love, blessings, encouragement, and supports in various ways. I thank them for instilling in me the importance of education and balance in life. I would also want to share my love and affection to my elder brothers Vinod Singh Mehta and Ranjana Mehta (brother wife) and would like to mention the name of my precious diamonds in the form of my nephew, Aniket Singh Mehta.

I am thankful to all the technical staff especially Mr. I. A Khan, Mr. Bhaagmal Singh, Mr. Ashish Tripathi, Mr. Munnalal, Mr. Kashi Nath Vishwakarma, Mr. Mansa Ram, Mr. Pankaj Kumar Singh, Mr. R.P Singh of (Department of Ceramic Engineering, IIT (BHU)) for technical and other assistance during my research work.

It is with sincere gratitude that I wish to thank my Senior Dr. Vikash Kumar Vyas, Dr. Vijay Yadav and Dr. Abhinav Srivastava for their kind cooperation during my research work. I would like to thank my friend Mr. Hemant Bhatt, Mr. Yogesh Kumar and Mr. Praveen Kumar Sahu from Department of Electronics Engineering for their help and awesome company.

I am also hugely thankful to all the research scholar Mr. Sunil Prasad, Mr. Vipul Saxena, Mr. Md. Ershad, Mr. Sandeep Kumar Yadav, Mr. Sandeep Kumar Gautam and to all my lab-mates Mr. Neeraj Pandey, Mr. Vaibhav Singh and Mr. Abhishek Kumar from Department of Ceramic Engineering.

Many others that have been involved also deserve recognition. It is however, not possible to list them all here. Their support in this effort is, however, greatly appreciated but this acknowledgement would be incomplete if the name of a great visionary, Bharat Ratna Pt. Madan Mohan Malviyaji, is not mentioned, who made this divine centre of knowledge –Banaras Hindu University. Deepest regards to him. Last but not least, I wish to thank all my friends and foes and the persons whose names have not been included on this piece of paper for extending their cooperation directly or indirectly.

Finally, I thank Lord Vishwanath for providing me strength and courage in completing the work.

## Sincerely

## (Niraj Singh Mehta)