ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is very difficult to name all the sources of inspiration; moreover, words are often a too feeble 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. Praveen Chandra Pandey for his insightful guidance, and constant encouragements during my entire research work. I would never forget his affectionate behaviour towards me. His passionate devotion to Physics and relentless curiosity in materials research has been and will always remain a great inspiration for me and my future career.

I express my gratitude to Head of the Department for providing me required facilities of the department. I am extremely thankful to my RPEC members Prof. Sandip Chatterjee (Internal expert), Prof. S. Jit (External expert), Department of Electronics Engineering, IIT (BHU) for the invaluable inspiration, kind support and numerous insightful suggestions during the entire course of this research. I use this opportunity to express my gratefulness to the faculty members of department, Prof. B. N. Dwivedi, Prof. O. N. Singh, Prof. D. Giri, Prof. P. Singh Prof. R. Prasad, Dr. S. K. Singh, Dr. A. Mohan, Dr. S. Upadhyay, Dr. A. K. Srivastav, Dr. S. K. Mishra and all faculty members of Department of Physics, for their kind encouragements and motivation during my research period. I am also thankful to the entire non-teaching staffs of the Department of Physics, and CIFC IIT (BHU) Varanasi for their assistance and providing measurement facilities. I wish to thank my lab companions Dr. B. K. Singh, Dr. S. Tiwari, Mr. V. Chauhan, Mr. H. Kumar, Mr. R. Kumar, Mr. U. Ramani, Mr. P.K. Pandey, Mr. P. Dixit for providing me a conducive environment to carrying out my research work. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to my colleagues Mr. V. N. Mishra, Mr. P. K. Gupta, Mr. R. Singh, Mr. S. Singh, Mr. U. Kumar, senior scholars Dr. S. Kumar, Dr. B. P. Singh, Dr. R. Pandey and

all research scholars of the department for their lively friendship and continuous support at all stages of my research work.

I feel short of words to express my appreciation, gratitude and indebtedness to my family members, my father Sri Tripurari Sharan Srivastav, mother Smt. Neelam Srivastav, Brother Ashutosh Kumar, Sister Anamika Srivastav, sister in law Shweta Srivastav and brother in law Atul Srivastav for their unbounded love, blessings, encouragement and support during my entire academics. 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 nephew Adway and Shourya.

Many others that have also been involved 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 great visionary, Pt. Madan Mohan Malviya ji, 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 am grateful to Almighty for giving me the patience to make this endeavour a success.

Sincerely

(Pawan Kumar)