

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude and respect to my guide Prof. S Ganapathi, without whose support and active involvement, this work would not have been possible. I am grateful to all my teachers Prof. A. N. Thakre, Prof. S. K. Mandal, Prof. P. B. Raju for sharing their experience and knowledge in designing my Ph. D. course work and also for their continuous guidance at various stages of Ph. D. work.

I thank Dr. L. S. Chamyal, Head, Geology Department and the teaching staffs of Geology Department, the M. S. University of Baroda for their support and assistance for completing the research.

I extend my thanks to Coal India Limited and Coal Mining and Planning Designing Institute (CMPDI). RI- 1 Asansol, for providing core samples. I would like to thank Mr Tarun Roy (HOD-CMPDI-RI-1) and his team of young geologists Pankaj Sahu, Anirban Batra, Sandeep Mahata, Soni Vishnoi and Sayani Adhikari for their support during my field visit.

I am grateful to the Institute of Reservoir Studies (IRS), ONGC limited, Ahmedabad, for providing laboratory facilities at all stages of my work. I am grateful to Mr. K. Tewari (Head- petrophysical lab) and Mr. M. Natarajan (Chief Geologist) for their guidance and support. I extend my sincere appreciation for the guidance and support of Pallavi Chatterjee, Sujay Mandal, Anup Anand, Arprit Buddhiwant of IRS, Ahmedabad.

Dr. T. Harinarayana Director, Gujarat Energy Research and Management Institute (GERMI), Gandhinagar, who offered me “GERMI research fellowship 2012-13”, I acknowledge his support. I also thank Dr. Zaheer Hasan (Scientist-G) and Dr. Abdul Rasheed (Scientist-C) and all the officials of GERMI, for their encouragement.

National Geophysical Research laboratory (NGRI), Hyderabad is also acknowledged for providing Rock Eval Pyrolysis facilities for core sample characterization. I also extend thanks to SICART, Anand and CSIR laboratory Bhavnagar for providing their laboratory facilities.

I am also thankful to Dr. Baleshwar Kumar (Emeritus scientist, NGRI) Dr. James Peters (Ex- GM, ONGC Videsh limited), Mr. Chanchal Dass (Director, Dass Oilfield technologies Pvt. Ltd) and Mr. Suyash Kumar (Senior Geologist, ONGC limited) for fruitful discussion during the course of the work.

I also extend special thanks to my friends Archana Das, Siddharth Prizomwala, Jaquillin Josheph, Sasmita Nayak for their encouragement.

I am grateful to my father, Mr. Krishna Kanta Boruah; mother, Mrs. Manjula Gogoi; and brother, Mr. Himangka Boruah, for their encouragement, blessings and financial support without which I would not have been able to complete my doctoral work. Last but not the least, a big hug to my dearest husband Subhadeep Borah for his love, affection and financial support throughout the Ph. D. work.

ANNAPURNA BORUAH