
Acknowledgements

First and foremost I would like to thank “*Almighty God*” for giving me the strength and willpower to finalize the task I wished.

It is a matter of great pleasure to express deep gratitude for my research supervisor “*Prof. C.N. Murthy, Applied chemistry Department, Faculty of Technology and Engineering, The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Vadodara*”. I have blessed with the better understanding in the field of membrane and separation science with the help of his immense zeal, deep knowledge and wit. He has been always there to solve the problems that I have created by mistake. I would like to thank him for his constant support, guidance and to provide the necessary facility to accomplish the research work.

I deeply express my gratitude to ‘*Prof. R.C. Tandel, Head of Department, Applied Chemistry Department, Faculty of Technology and Engineering, The Maharaja Sayajirao University*

of Baroda, Vadodara' for his support and encouragement during my research work.

This work was not possible without financial support which is provided by 'UGC-DAE Consortium for Scientific Research, Mumbai Centre'. I would like to thank 'Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai' for providing Small angle neutron scattering facility for characterization of my samples.

Besides my supervisor my sincere gratitude also belongs to Dr. V. k. Aswal, Dr. Sugam Kumar and Dr. Debes Ray for providing me the understanding of the principles of SANS diffractometer and for their help in the interpretation of SANS data.

Further, I would like to thank Dr. D.P. Bharambe, Prof. P.T. Deota, Dr. Vaishali Suthar, Dr. Ran Bahadur and Dr. Rakesh Sharma for their moral support.

Words fails to express my admiration to my friends Mr. Pavan Karkare and Mr. Yogesh Chamkure who have been always there for any kind of help at any time. I would like to say countless thanks for their invaluable advice and feedback on my research

and for helping me in numerous ways during various stages of my PhD. Working in the lab would definitely not be as enjoyable without them!

I would like to thank **Mr. Dikin Patel** for always being so supportive friend and for helping me enormously. I would like to thank him for his constant support and concern through the tough times.

I would like to thank my fellow research colleagues Priyanka Mistry, Bhavita Mistry, Mitesh Ahire, Kruti Paradkar, Nidhi, Gaurang Bhatt, Sofia Shaikh, Sneha Singh, Ravi Vithalani for giving me such a pleasant environment for working in the Research lab.

I acknowledge the help of all the teaching and non-teaching staff of Applied Chemistry Department, Faculty of Technology and Engineering.

I am thankful to my friends **Deepika Mishra, Suman Singh, Mamta Yadav, Jaya Singh** for their support and careful company.

My genuine heartfelt gratefulness and indebtedness belongs to my father *Mr. Durg Vijay*, mother *Mrs. Deepa Rani*, my elder brothers *Mr. Prabhat Kumar*, *Mr. Prashant Kumar*, Bhabhi *Mrs. Babita Tiwari* for encouraging me during my research work and boosting me to go ahead to reach the goal.

Finally, I would like to express my deep thanks to everybody who was important to the successful apprehension of this thesis as well expressing my regret that I Could not mention individually.