## UNNSA MEHAN

## \*ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS \*

I would like to express my profound gratitude to Dr. (Mrs.) Uma V. Chudasama, Professor, Applied Chemistry Department, Faculty of Technology and Engineering, The M.S. University of Baroda, who constantly encouraged, inspired and guided me through out the research work.

I wish to express my gratitude to The Dean, Faculty of Technology and Engineering and to The Head, Department of Applied Chemistry for providing me all the required facilities to carry out my research work.

I wish to express my gratitude to the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), for providing financial assistance to carry out the research work.

I extend my sincere thanks to all the teaching staff members who have helped me in many ways during my research work.

I wish to express my gratitude to Dr. R. V. Jasra, formerly deputy director, CSMCRI, Bhavnagar for granting me the permission to carry out part of my experimental work at CSMCRI. I also express my gratitude to Dr. Beena Tyagi, scientist, CSMCRI who provided me technical guidance and help for carrying out my work at CSMCRI.

I wish to express my gratitude to the management of Sud-Chemie India Pvt. Limited, for permitting me to use the instrumentation facilities. My special thanks to Mr. R. M. Cursetji, Mr. V. Sreedharan, Mr. T. A. Siddiquie, Dr. Rajan Bosco and Mr.Rajesh Patel for helping me in many ways.

I am thankful to Metallurgy Department, Faculty of Technology and Engineering, The M. S. University of Baroda, for providing help with SEM analysis.

I am deeply thankful to my labmates Dr. Kalpana Maheria, Dr.Heemanshu Patel, Dr. Amit Jayswal, Rakesh Thakkar and Parimal Patel for all the help rendered to me in each and every step of my work. I gratefully acknowledge the keen interest they took in my work in the form of fruitful discussions and useful suggestions.

Thanks are also due to Dr. Sushil Chaudhari, Dr.G.Yogendranath, Dr. Hemant Parmar, Dr. Indrajit Shown, Dr.Nilesh Bonde, Santosh Thakur, Sachin Joshi, Harish Talete and to all my fellow research mates who maintained a cordial and supportive environment during the research period.

I cannot forget the cooperation extended to me by the non-teaching staff members of the department.

The support extended to me by my "father and mother" has been the most instrumental in the accomplishment of this task. There were so many people who did so many things to help me out at critical times. In this short space, it is just impossible to acknowledge all of them individually. I thank all of you, my friends and colleagues, who have been always with me, in times of need.

Rikeshchandra S Joshi)