

Acknowledgement

I am grateful to present Director **Dr. P.K. Ghosh** and former directors **Prof. M.M. Taqui Khan, Prof. P. Natrajan** and **Dr. S.D. Gomkale**, CSIR-Central Salt and Marine Chemical Research Institute, Bhavnagar for providing me the opportunity and facilities to work and administrative benediction.

With a sense of gratitude, I earnestly wish to record my profound and heartfelt thanks to former Discipline coordinators of the discipline *viz.* Dr. E.R.R. Iyenger, Dr. J.B. Pandya, Discipline of Wasteland Research, Central Salt and Marine Chemical Research Institute, Bhavnagar for their constant guidance, encouragement and providing me with adequate facilities to carry out the work in various projects.

Any research work cannot be done alone, it is being a team work, I thanks my colleagues **Dr. J.S. Patolia, Mr. V. Balakrishna, Mr. S.N. Rao, Dr. M.P. Reddy, Dr. Arup Ghosh, Dr. Mangal Singh Rathore, Dr. Aneesha Singh, Dr. Ch. Ravi Prakash, Dr. Aruna Ravi Prakash, Mr. K.G. Vijaianand, Dr. Parinita Agrawal** and **Mr. M.T. Shah** for their constant support and co-operation as a team throughout my carrier and stay at CSIR-CSMCRI. Without their support, the work mentioned in the present report would have not been possible to do. I cannot forget the support and assistance provided by **Mr. D.R. Parmar, Mr. P. Nageshwer Rao, Mr. P.J. Dodiya, Mr. Harshad B. Nathani, Mr. Gore Shaik Mastan** and **Miss Vacha Bhatt** during the work carried out by me.

I also thank all other friends in the institute for their companionship, administrative and logistic support during the period. In the last but not the least, I thank my wife and my daughters Miss Anupam and Miss Nikita for their constant support and cooperation throughout my carrier.

(Jitendra Chikara)