

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*First of all I would like to express my deepest and most sincere gratitude to my supervisors **Dr. J. R. Mohanty**, Reader, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering and **Dr. H. C. Das**, Professor and Associate Dean, S 'O' A University, Bhubaneswar, for their continuous guidance, encouragement and sharing valuable time throughout the process of this research work and in the preparation of this thesis.*

I express my deepest gratitude to Prof. Manoj ranjan Nayak, President, Siksha 'O' Anusandhan University, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, who gave me the opportunity of pursuing this research work.

I am thankful to Prof. R.K. Mishra, Dean, ITER, for giving me an opportunity to work under the supervision of Dr. J.R. Mohanty and Dr. H.C. Das. I am thankful to Prof. D.N. Thatoi, Head of the Department, Department of Mechanical Engineering, for his moral support and valuable suggestions regarding the research work.

I am thankful to P.T.R. Swain, S. Ghadai & Tapas Sahoo who have patiently extended all sorts of help and loving supports during completion of this work.

Finally I would like to thank my wife, Mrs. Sasmita Das, for all her support and

encouragement. I would like to mention a special thanks to my Parents, brother, sisters and all family members for their constant support. I thank my son, Mr. Ishwar Chandra Das, for his patient and moral support during my research.

(Sankar Narayan Das)