I wish to express deep sense of gratitude and sincere thanks to my thesis supervisor Prof. H.V. Manjunath, Associate Professor, Electrical & Electronics Engineering Group for his able guidance, encouragement and suggestions throughout the period of this research work. It has been a privilege for me to work under his guidance.

Gratitude is also accorded to B.I.T.S., Pilani for providing all the necessary facilities to complete the research work. My special thanks go to Prof. L. K. Maheshwari, Vice-Chancellor, B.I.T.S., Pilani for giving me an opportunity to do research at the Institute. I also thank Prof. K. E. Raman Deputy Director (Administration), Prof. G. Raghurama, Deputy Director (Academic), Prof. S. Gurunarayanan, Dean Admissions and FD-II and Prof. A. K. Sarkar, Dean Instruction Division and FD-I of the institute for providing the necessary infrastructure and other facilities.

I also express my heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Ravi Prakash, Dean, Research and Consultancy Division for his kind and affectionate enquiries about the work and continuous encouragement for making this work a success.

I am deeply indebted to Prof. Surekha Bhanot and Prof. Vimal Bhanot who are the members of Doctoral Advisory Committee, for their valuable suggestions and moral support. Much appreciation is expressed to Dr. S. Ghosh, Professor, Sikkim Manipal University, Sikkim for introducing me to this challenging problem of power system control.

I also express my gratitude for the kind and affectionate enquiries about the work and the encouragement given by Research and Consultancy Division staff and my

colleagues. Special thanks are also extended to all faculty members of EEE Group for their kind inspiration.

A very special expression of appreciation is extended to my parents without their encouragement, patience, and understanding this endeavor would not have been possible. I would like to record my special affection and thanks to my wife Sonia and daughter Sohi for their constant persuasion and moral support. A sincere thank to my brother Viresh who has been a source of inspiration to me.

Lastly, I express my thanks to all those who directly or indirectly contributed to the completion of this work.

(HITESH DATT MATHUR)