



Dr. Titash Mondal, Ph.D

Assistant Professor
IIT Kharagpur

**Rubber Technology Centre
Indian Institute of Technology
Kharagpur-721302, India**

Phone: Off. – 91-3222-283182

Cell – 91-963-206-1414

91-953-176-6303

Email: titash@rtc.iitkgp.ac.in
titash786@gmail.com

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It gives me immense pleasure in writing this letter of recommendation for Mr. Akash Ghosh, who is presently working under my supervision at the Research & Development Laboratory of Pidilite Industries Limited, Mumbai, India for his research training (since June 2021), which will form part of his M. Tech dissertation, that is likely to be defended by him in spring/summer, 2022.

Unlike too many Masters' students, Akash has willingly taken up a very challenging research project, related to the development of polymer nanocomposite for electronics. In a fairly short time, he has made excellent progress with the same; which is a testimony to his very good experimental skills, knowledge, as well as thinking ability. In this context, it is heartening to see him coming up with his ideas, despite being into research for just a few months. He has also been able to analyze the research results well, towards developing good correlations between the synthesis, formulating, structure and properties.

During the evaluation of Akash's mid-term research progress (which includes submission of report and oral presentation), the committee (which also includes the supervisor, *i.e.*, me) was unanimous towards awarding him with the highest grade (*i.e.*, EX) for the work done, understanding and presentation.

In addition to research, Akash has profound knowledge in his subject and scored well throughout his academic career (first-class degree in bachelor's and master's level). He has also done very well with his course work at IIT Kharagpur, securing a CGPA of ~9.03 out of 10. This is also partly proof of his depth of knowledge, sincerity-cum-motivation towards academics, and consistency, thereof. Additionally, I have myself also taught him in three courses, where, not only did he perform very well (securing either the highest or the second-highest grade in all), but it was particularly a pleasure discussing the topics with him during the class, as well as after the scheduled lectures. Accordingly, not only in research but also in academics, he has been very sincere and possesses a thinking mind, with good fundamental knowledge. In addition to research and academics, Akash is a team player and is evident from

the way he has taken and rendered help from/to his other colleagues and seniors for research-related activities.

Overall, I consider Akash Ghosh a very well-developing researcher and an extremely sincere person, capable of handling responsibilities. Hence, in view of his track record and with regard to my knowledge about him, **I do strongly recommend Akash for a Ph.D. position in any University/Institute of high repute in India or abroad.**

Should you need any further information, please feel free to reach out to me.



(Dr. Titash Mondal)