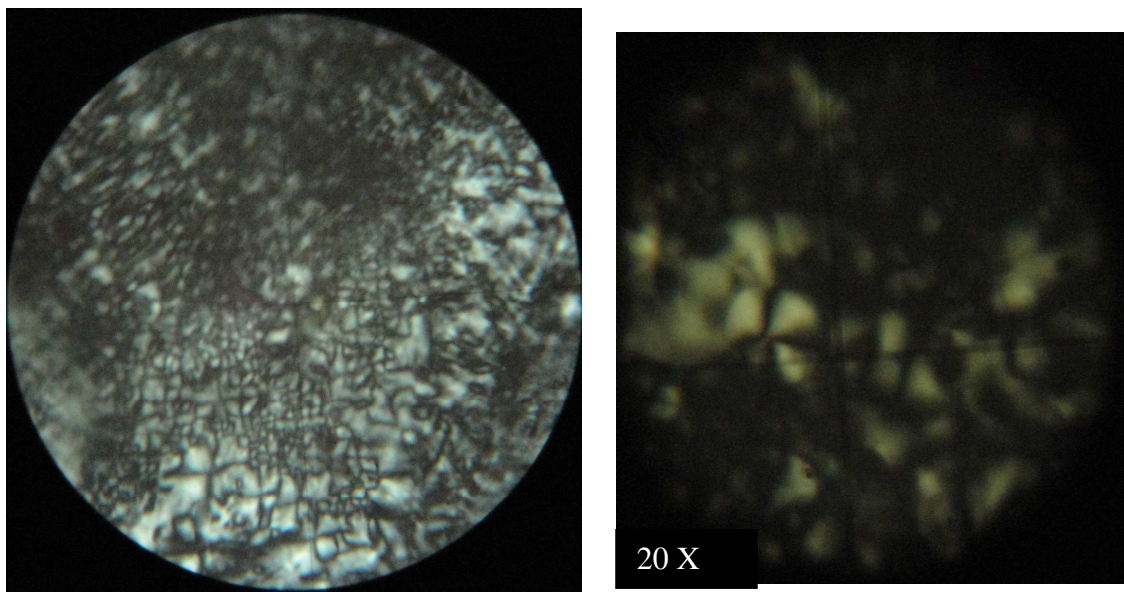
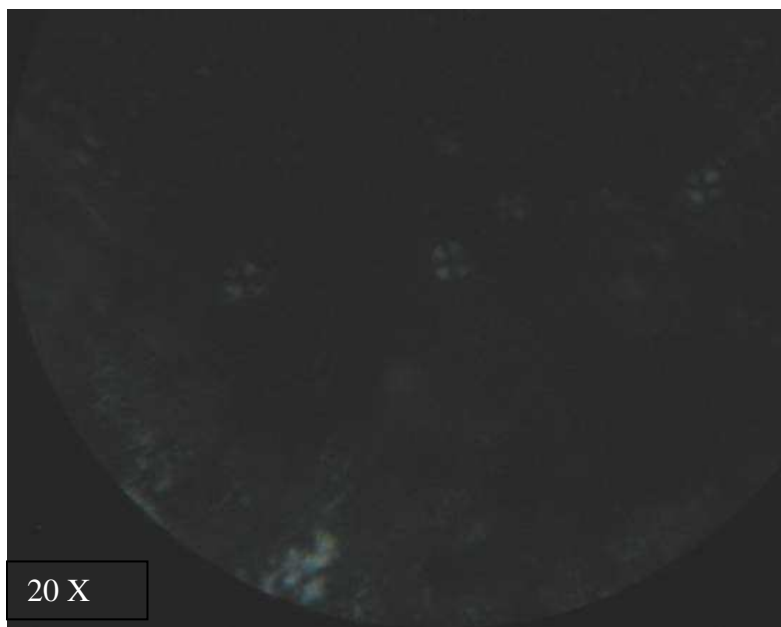


## Supporting Information

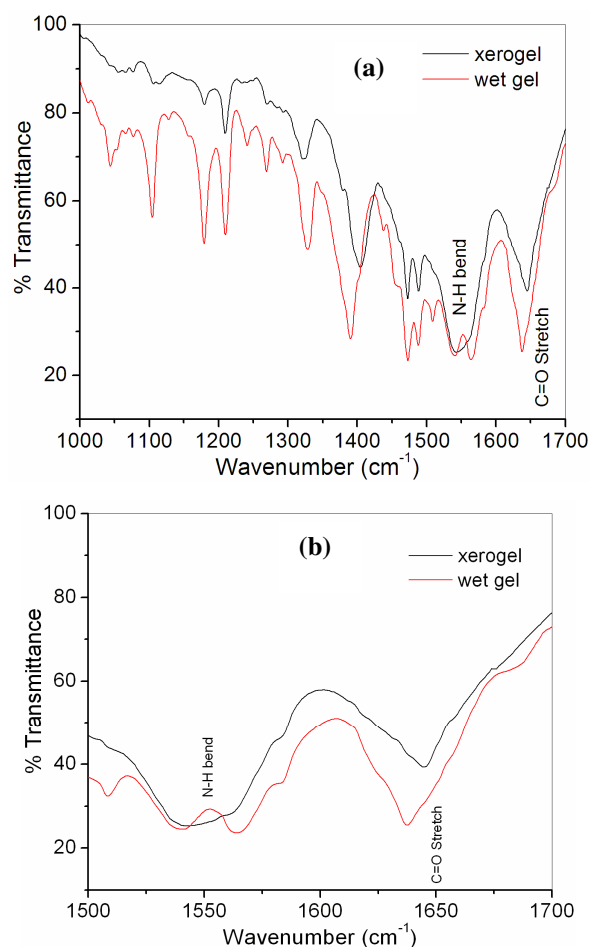
### Polarized microscopic images:



**Fig. S1** Polarized microscopic image of 6 wt % CPC: 6-ACA (1:1) gel exhibiting the classical spherulitic texture.



**Fig. S2** Polarized microscopic image of 6 wt % CPC: 6-ACA (1:1) solution showing maltese crosses indicating existence of the lamellar phase.



**Fig. S3** FT-IR spectra of the wet gel and the xerogel from (1:1) CPC: 6-ACA surfactant complex.

In order to confirm H-bonding in the gel, the C=O and N-H stretching and N-H bending vibrations were monitored through FTIR spectroscopy. The H-bonded C=O in the gel would be expected to associate with a lower force constant accounting for a reduced C=O bond order. Accordingly, the carbonyl feature should appear at a lower wave number with respect to the dried gel. Fig. S3 evidences substantial H-bonding in the gel involving a  $10\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (C=O) frequency shift to lower wave numbers. [A. Singh, Y. Lvov, S. B. Qadri, *Chem. Mater.*, **1999**, *11*, 3196]