GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

The melting points were determined using the open capillaries and are uncorrected.

The Infrared (IR) spectra were scanned in KBr pellets on a Perkin Elmer RXIFT Infrared spectrophotometer (RSIC, Panjab University, Patiala).

The $^1$H-NMR and $^{13}$C-NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl$_3$/DMSO-$d_6$ solvent on a 400 MHz Bruker spectrophotometer (RSIC, Panjab University, Patiala); the chemical shifts are reported on a $\delta$ scale using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as the internal standard; s, d, t, dd & td represent singlet, doublet, triplet, doublet of doublet and triplet of doublet respectively.

The mass spectra have been scanned on the Waters Micromass Q-T of Micro (ESI) spectrometer (RSIC, Panjab University, Patiala).

TLC plates were coated with silica gel (suspended in chloroform-methanol, 1:1) and iodine vapours were used as visualizing agent.