ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I express my deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to my teacher and research guide Prof. K.P.R. CHOWDARY for his inspiring guidance and unmitigated encouragement, for inculcating confidence and for being a great source of inspiration. It would not have been possible to achieve this goal without his support, care and affection.

I express my heart-felt thanks to Prof. K.R.S. Sambasiva Rao, Head of the department, Centre for Biotechnology, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Nagarjunanagar for his valuable suggestions and indefatigable help. The author gratefully acknowledges the help of Prof. Dr. P. Rajeswara Rao (Andhra University), Dr. Y. Rajendra Prasad (Andhra University), Prof. T.E.G.K. Murthy (Principal Bapatla College of Pharmacy, Bapatla, Dr. A. Prameela Rani (K.V.S.R. Siddhartha College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Vijayawada).

I wish to thank the Head of the Department and faculty members of the A.U.College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Andhra University for encouragement and authorities of Andhra University for providing necessary facilities for successful completion of the research work.

B.L.R. Madhavi and P. Srinivas for their help and encouragement during the course of this work.

With me every thought, word and deed, always there in moments of happiness and low spirit, comforting and encouraging, my mother Smt. G. Vijaya Durga, father Sri. G. Satyanarayana, uncle V. Narasimha Rao, husband U. Kalidas (U.S.A), Father-in-law Sri. U. Papa Rao, mother-in-law Smt. U. Chandeeswari Devi and brother Mr. G. Vivekananda to whom I owe all that I achieved and am yet to pursue my love to them.

(G. BALATRIPURA SUNDARI)