ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author wishes to express her deep sense of gratitude and indebtedness to her Guide Prof.(Dr.) Paul A. Vatakencherry, Head, Department of Applied Chemistry, Cochin University of Science and Technology, for his keen interest and valuable guidance and constant encouragement during the course of the present work.

The author takes pleasure in acknowledging the generous assistance received from her colleagues in the Department during the entire tenure of the work.

Financial Assistance from Department of Science and Technology (JRF & SRF) and University Grants Commission (JRF) is also gratefully acknowledged.

Before concluding author expresses her sincere thanks to Mrs. V. K. Sumathi for neatly typing this thesis.

K. N. Pushpakumari