The Mahābhāṣyaprātipōdīddyota is a monumental work written by Nāgasaṅghadatta, a prolific writer and genius in grammar. The work aims at a careful study of the ideas in Patañjali's Mahābhāṣya as well as its commentary Mahābhāṣyaprātipōdīpa of Kayata from the explanatory and critical point of view. The method of its approach to the text of Mahābhāṣya and Prātipōdīpa and the clarity of its presentation have given it a wider popularity than the other commentaries on the same, the Prātipōdīddyotana of Anambaṅghatā probably claiming the second position. Being more closely connected with the work of Patañjali who is generally accepted as the supreme authority in grammar, the Uddyotā occupies a prominent position among his grammatical works.

The present work was undertaken at the instance of Dr. S. Venkitasubrahmania Iyer, Professor and Head of the Department of Sanskrit in this University. I have given in this dissertation the results of my close study of the Navāṅhika of Uddyotā. The study has also led me
to go into the depths of the masterly work and arrive at the conclusion that the study of Uddyota is of inestimable help for the correct understanding of the full significance of the observations in the Mahābhāṣya.

For the convenience of typing, the Sanskrit passages are also given in Roman Script with the usual diacritical marks, with the exception that the letter न is represented by n. The practice of underlining has been sometimes dispensed with, especially in the case of long passages and those given in the footnotes in particular. Works referred to are indicated by their abbreviations, but the sūtras of Astādhyāyī are indicated with their numbers also. Detailed references are given only where they are necessary and not where the contexts are clear enough.

In the preparation of this thesis, I have received valuable guidance and help from my supervising teacher Prof. S. Venkitasubrahmania Iyer, who has always been a source of inspiration to me and I express my deep sense of gratitude for the interest he has evinced in the progress of this work.
I am thankful to the authorities of the University of Kerala for providing me the necessary facilities for the conduct of my research work. Besides the Library of the Department of Sanskrit, Kariyavattom; I have made use of the University Library at Trivandrum, the Oriental Manuscripts Library at Kariavattom and the Sanskrit College Library and Manuscripts Library at Tripunithura and I am beholden to the staff of these Institutions also.

K. Surendranath