ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At the very onset, its my proud privilege and a matter of immense satisfaction to place on record my sincerest respect and deep gratitude to my guides, Prof. Sujata Ghosh Dastidar, Emeritus Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical technology, Jadavpur University, Kolkata and Dr. Biswajit Mukherjee, Reader, Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, Jadavpur University, Kolkata for their constant guidance, valuable suggestions and continuous encouragement throughout the entire period of my work.

I remain deeply indebted to Mr. H. P. Chhetri, Director, Himalayan Pharmacy Institute, Majhitar, Sikkim for his continuous support, as well as constructive suggestions and active involvement with this thesis, without which this investigation would have remained incomplete.

I would like to begin by conveying my respectful homage and gratitude to Late Prof. A.N. Chakrabarty. He had been a source of unrelenting encouragement, generous help and ideas to carry out this research work. It is highly unfortunate that before the final shape of the thesis, Prof. A.N. Chakrabarty had left for his heavenly abode.

A special thank is due to Prof. Y. Shirataki, Josai University, Japan for providing the flavonoid compounds which I have used in my study.

I render my deep gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, the Registrar, the Dean, Faculty of Science, Jadavpur University and Head, Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, Jadavpur University for providing me with all necessary facilities to carry out this work.

My warm thanks are due to all my colleagues, well wishers and friends of Jadavpur University and else where for inspiration and help. Among them I would specially mention the names of Dr. Manju Ganguly, Dr. Sisir K. Das, Dr. Laxmi Rani
Basu, Dr. K. Asok Kumar, Dr. Noton Kumar Dutta, Dr. Kaushiki Majumdar, Dr. Sanchayita Debnath, Mr. Basudev Pal and Ms. Sushomasri Mal.

I render my special thanks to Ms. Jeyaseeli Thomas and Mr. Asish Das Gupta who helped me immensely to give a final shape to this thesis.

Sri. Bira Kishore Parida deserves a special mention for constant help during this work.

Finally, I wish to place on record my deep sense of gratitude to all the members of my family including my wife Juli and my son Linkan for patiently bearing with me throughout the entire period of this study.

[Santosh Kumar Mahapatra]