ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With great pleasure I express my eternal gratitude to Professor E D Jemmis who has been training me in comprehending the beauty and aesthetics of chemistry. His valuable guidance and counseling helped me in bringing out this thesis into shape.

The encouragement provided by my teachers, friends and colleagues during my M.Sc. days at Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan is responsible for my adopting the research aptitude. I wish to thank every one of them. My special thanks are due to Prof. R Ramamohan Rao.

It is essential for any research student to possess a senior colleague like Pavan Kumar. His constant watch on my research work during the initial days of my career paved a concrete path. The corridor talks with him were as much useful as the chalk and board discussions.

It is the presence of colleagues like Dr. P N V Pavan Kumar, A Chandrasekhar Reddy, G Narahari Sastry, C Sateesan Babu, P Vijay Kumar and G Subramanian in the laboratory which helped me in polishing my perception of chemistry. I thank all of them.

The sweet and sour I shared with Radhakishan, Virupakshi, Leela, Subhadra, Balagopalakrishna, Mahadev and others during my campus days will form a part of delightful reminiscences. I owe much to them.

Financial assistance from University Grants Commission and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research is gratefully acknowledged. I thank the authorities of the computer centers of
the University of Hyderabad, CMC Ltd., National Informatic Centre in addition to those of the School of Chemistry for making these available to me. The former Deans Professors G Mehta and R Jagannathan the current Dean, Professor K D Sen and all other faculty members of the School of Chemistry are thanked for their help.

The love and affection provided by my parents transcends my power of description. Their contribution to this work is intangible. I express my deepest gratitude to them. I extend my thanks to Aravind, Anupama, Aparna, Arunachal, Anjaneya Sarma and Sakuntala Devi who provided constant encouragement over the years. My personal thanks goes to Madhavilata.

Bharatam V Prasad