ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A journey is always easier when you travel together. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped me to complete this thesis.

First I want to express my greatest gratitude to my advisor, Dr. Kaustuv Das, for his excellent and invaluable guidance and constant encouragement. His extensive knowledge of the field and sincere effort in science has been a great benefit and inspiration for me throughout my research study.

I am extremely thankful to Prof. P. K. Gupta, Head, Laser Bio-medical Application and Instrumentation Division (RRCAT, Indore) for his motivating words, advices and helpful suggestions in carrying out the research work.

I am extremely grateful to my doctoral committee member, Prof. S. K. Sarkar, Director Chemistry Group (BARC, Mumbai) for his guidance and motivation.

I am also very thankful to Dr. Alok Dube for his support, scientific discussion, encouragement and specially for providing a lot of Chlorin \( p_6 \) (Cp\(_6\)) used in my research work.

I am also thankful to other members of LBAID, Dr. Abha Uppal, Beena Jain, Dr. Mrinalini Sharma, H.S. Patel, Mahesh Swami, Ravi Shanker Verma, Khageswar Sahu, Dr. Rashmi Shrivastava, Sunita Ahlawat and Dr. Biplab Bose for providing their constant support, useful discussion, encouragement and help in carrying out the research work.

I take this opportunity to thank my colleagues Dr. S. S. Manhas, Arpana Parihar, S. P. Singh, G. K. Varshney, Paromita and S. R. Kintali for their support, help and co-operation.
I am grateful to my friends Vikas Sahu, Sohan, Ravindra, Vishal, Apurav, Deepak, Neelam, Manju, Ashish, Mahesh, Amit, Nagesh, and Dr. B. Ramakrishna for providing their crucial support and good wishes for me. I would also like to acknowledge all my friends for their help during my stay at RRCAT guest house.

I am very much indebted for the heartfelt gratitude of my parents for their warm support, caring and always a source of inspiration towards achieving the goals in my life. Immense love and affection of my brother Ashok have been invaluable in this journey. I am thankful to my dearest wife Priyanka for her patience, support, love and care. My sweetest son Vihan, a new arrival to the family towards the end of my Ph.D. brought a cheerful atmosphere.

Last but not least, I am thankful to Almighty for all time blessings.

December, 2013

(Rajesh Kumar Saini)