I am grateful to Prof. J.M. Lohar, Head, Applied Chemistry Department, Faculty of Technology and Engg., M.S. University, Baroda, for suggesting this problem and guidance throughout this investigation and compilation of the dissertation. I am thankful to him for his sincere devotion to this work inspite of his busy day-to-day schedule.

I am thankful to Prof. S.B. Pandya, Dean, Faculty of Technology and Engineering for providing me the necessary facilities in the Applied Chemistry Department. Thanks are also due to Prof. R.A. Vora, Applied Chemistry Department for sparing some of his laboratory facilities during my experimental work and to the staff members of the Applied Chemistry Department for their occasional help.

My sincere thanks are also due to Prof. Y.J. Agrawal and Shri S.T. Bhatt for constant encouragement and kind co-operation.

My special thanks are due to Dr. K.P. Dhake and Mrs. Kalpana Dhake for giving me the continuous inspiration throughout my research work.
My sincere thanks are also due to all of my friends for their kind co-operation and untiring help during the research work especially to Mr. H.K. Mahajan, Mr. G.G. Talele, Dr. Sanjay Patil and Miss Jayshree Jawale.

My sincere thanks are also due to Dr. Jayrang Dave, Mr. P.K. Lad, Mr. V.J. Dhimar, Mrs. Sadhana Rajput and all colleagues for their untiring help during the research work.

I am thankful to Mr. C.J. Jawale, Mr. P.D. Narkhede, Mr. P.N. Dhande and Mr. Satish Mahajan for their untiring help in proof reading the typescript is highly appreciated.

Lastly my sincere thanks to my all the family members and my wife Dr. Surekha Bharambe who underwent all sorts of inconveniences for such a long period, with smiling faces, by their affectionate and invaluable advice.

- D.P. BHARAMBE