ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is highly fortunate for me to have come under the able guidance of Dr. P. Ramakrishna Rao, Professor and Head of the Department of Biochemistry, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur. His critical advice, valuable discussions and friendly nature have greatly helped to give the dissertation its present form. My deep thanks are due to him.

My thanks are due to the Head of the Department of Biochemistry and authorities of the Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur for providing necessary facilities.

My especial thanks are due to Dr. S. Dayananda, Dr. D. Sarala Kumari, Dr. K. Lakshmi Devi, Dr. Sridhar, Dr. Charyulu, Prof. K. Venkateswarulu, Dr. R. Ramanjaneyulu, Dr. V.R. Swamy, Dr. R.P. Surendra Kumar, Dr. G.H. Philip, Prof. C.G. Prakash Rao, Dr. R.V. Raju, Dr. C. Sudhakar for giving critical and valuable suggestions in completing the dissertation.

With many thanks, I greatly acknowledge the help rendered to me by my friends Suresh², Srinivas⁴, Dhanu, Ramu, Varma, Surendra, Sunita, Veeraswamy, Padmavathy, Bhaskar, Ramana, Saravanan, Kesava, Omkaram, Venkatadri, Nagaraj², Anand, Hari. I also take this
opportunity to acknowledge the help rendered to me by my affectionate friends Uma, Sailaja, Deepthi, Dhanunjaya and Ramakrishna.

I would like to record my deep personal appreciation and gratitude to my grand father, parents, and loving sister, brothers and beloved Deepthi, for their patience and affection even at times of neglected due to my preoccupation with this work.

My thanks are due to Sri V. Sahadevan for typing the dissertation patiently and M/s. Rajesh Photostat for photocopying the work neatly.

CHITTA SURESH KUMAR.