ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At this moment of completing the thesis, I gratefully recollect the great support rendered by my guide, Prof. Dr. S. Srinivasan, Department of Chemistry, Kanchi Mamunivar Centre for Post-Graduate Studies (KMCPGS), Pondicherry, at every stage, right from the time of my registration. I record my deep sense of gratitude to him for suggesting the problem and providing all necessary facilities to carry out the work. I owe him a lot for his constant encouragement and able guidance which has enabled me to complete the work successfully.

I am also deeply indebted to Dr. R. Sivaramakrishnan, Lecturer in Chemistry, Tagore Arts College, Pondicherry, who has taken a keen interest in the topic of research and offered valuable suggestions.

I record my sincere thanks to Dr. K. Uma, Directoress, KMCPGS and Prof. V. Kumaraswamy, Head of the Department of Chemistry, KMCPGS, for providing the necessary facilities to carry out the project. I am thankful to all other faculty members of the Department of Chemistry, KMCPGS, who offered encouragement and support, especially to Mr. Bhaskara Raju, who spared me a copy of his Ph. D. thesis submitted recently to Pondicherry University.
My thanks are due to Dr. Mrs. Kumudha Sadagopan, Principal, Bharathidasan Government College for Women, Pondicherry, where I am employed as Lecturer in Chemistry, for according permission to carry out this project. Mr. V. Ravy Sandirane, Head of the Department of Chemistry, has helped me in many ways during my research work. My other colleagues in the department were of constant assistance and encouragement; Mr. Rajamathe has helped me in taking some of the spectra. I record my sincere thanks to all of them.

I extend my thanks to Prof. Mrs. Lakshmi Srinivasan, Department of Mathematics, Tagore Arts College, Pondicherry, for extending her helping hand in developing some of the computer programs and in the computation works of the thesis. I am grateful to Prof. Mahalingam of the Department of English, KMCPGS, for helping me in several ways during the preparation of the thesis. I also acknowledge the help rendered by Mr. S. Stephen, M.Phil. scholar in the Department of Chemistry, KMCPGS, during the process of compilation of the references and proof-reading. There are many other friends, not specifically named herein, who have been of assistance in many ways in this endeavour.

The help rendered by Dr. Money of the Regional Sophisticated Instrumentation Centre, Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai and the scientists in the Centre for Agrochemical Research, SPIC Science Foundation, Chennai, in recording the spectra other than UV-Vis. is
gratefully acknowledged. I express my thanks to Mr. D. Dharani, who has helped me in getting the print-outs ready.

I am grateful to the Directorate of Education, Government of Pondicherry, for granting me permission to undertake the research work and to Pondicherry University for registering me as a part-time research candidate.

I wish to thank and place on record the excellent support rendered by my parents, Mr. C. Radha and Mrs. Kokilambal Radha, my wife Mrs. Chitra Veeraraghavan, my son V. Adhava Ram, and daughter V. Nivedha, who have been a constant source of strength and support in this venture, and whose love and affection have directed me towards the culmination of this undertaking.

Pondicherry,
the 30th May, 2001
R. VEERARAGHAVAN