ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I offer a word full of sincere prayers to the ALMIGHTY for giving me every right thing in the right time.

I wish to record my deep sense of gratitude and profound thanks to my guide Dr. N. Palaniswamy, Scientist ‘G’ and Head, Corrosion Protection Division, CSIR-CECRI, Karaikudi for his guidance, constant encouragement and valuable suggestion throughout this work. I am very much thankful to his unflinching support at difficult times and affection, which made it possible for me to carry out the present work which otherwise, would be very difficult.

I am extremely indebted to Dr. S. Maruthamuthu, Scientist, Biocorrosion, CSIR-CECRI, Karaikudi for his inspiring guidance, unstinted support, constant encouragement and advice. His enthusiastic and encouraging words were a real source of strength to me. I am sure that the training received under his guidance will have an everlasting impression and will be reflected in all my future scientific endeavors.

I am immensely thankful to Dr. R. Srinivasan and Dr. S. Madhu Scientists, Instrumentation Division, CSIR-CECRI, Karaikudi for their support and timely help and without their guidance I could not have carried out the part of thesis work.
I owe a special note of thanks to Prof. V.S. Muralidharan, (former Scientist, CSIR-CECRI) Alagappa University, Karaikudi for his support, help and keen interest in bringing out the thesis in the present form.

I sincerely thank Mr.SP. Manoharan for his kind help in my research work and discussions.

I gratefully acknowledge Dr.V. Yegnaraman, former Director, CSIR-CECRI for his kind interest in my research work.

My thanks are due to Mr.R. Meenakshisundram and Mr.R. Rajasekar, Scientists of CSIR-CECRI for their valuable suggestions.

I sincerely thank Dr.P. Subramanian for his kind interest in my research work and for useful discussion. I gratefully acknowledge Dr. K.L.N. Phani, Head, EEC Division, Dr.J. Mathiarasu, Dr. James Joseph and Dr. V.V. Gridhar for their generosity in extending various high-end analytical / electrochemical instruments, which really made me to follow my work without facing any setbacks.

I sincerely thank Vice Chancellor of Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli for her kind permission to carry out my research work and for the interest shown by her on the research scholars and my thanks are due to Registrar and Controller of examinations.

I am thankful to all the staff members of Corrosion Protection Division and Corrosion Testing and Evaluation Division, CSIR-CECRI for their kind cooperation. I am also thankful to all the staff members in NMR, FTIR, AFM, SEM, XRD, glass blowing, workshop, library and other departments of CSIR-CECRI for their kind cooperation.
I extend my sincere thanks to DST, New Delhi for the financial support by way of awarding me the Junior Research Fellowship and the members of the various administrative divisions of Bharathidasan University for their suggestions and processing of this thesis.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to my beloved and inspiring friends Dr.C. Sivakumar, Dr.S. Senthilkumar, Dr.A. Rajasekar, Dr.N. Muthukumar, Dr.B. Anandkumar, Mr.B. Suresh, Mr. E.S. Challaraj Emmanuel and Mr.P. Dhandapani for their constant encouragement, kind help and co-operation.

I thank all my friends and equals for their hospitality and unconditional help throughout the tenure. I take this moment to think once again and thank all the kind-hearted staff of CSIR-CECRI for helping me in various possible means and capacities.

Finally, I owe a lot to my parents, my uncle and his family for their care, dedication and encouragement and for creating a peaceful milieu, which made me, to feel energetic and kept me in good stead and for their sincere and silent prayers for the successful completion of this work and I thank my brother and sisters for their support.

D. Sridharan