ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude and appreciation to my teacher and research supervisor, Dr. H. Z. Kinnekar, Professor and Chairman, P. G. Department of Studies in Biochemistry, Karnataka University, Dharwad for his valuable guidance, fruitful discussions and constant inspiration throughout this research work.

My sincere regards to Professor B. G. Pujar and Prof. S. B. Hinchigeri, former Chairman of the P. G. Department of Studies in Biochemistry, Karnataka University, Dharwad for their thought provoking suggestions and providing necessary facilities during the course of my research.

I am highly grateful to Dr. M. U. Kulkarni and Prof. G. S. Gadaginmath for their constant encouragement and useful suggestions at the need of the hour during the investigations.

I am indeed indebted to the Heads of C.I.T.R.I. Mysore and I.I.Sc. Bangalore for permitting me to use the instrumental and library facilities. I specially thanks to my friend Mr. J. S. Kittur, Senior Research Fellow, C.I.T.R.I. for his help and valuable discussions throughout the research work.

I am thankful to the authorities of I.I.T. Mumbai, C.D.R.I. Lucknow and U.S.I.G. Karnataka University, Dharwad for providing spectral facilities.

Finally my grateful acknowledgments to the authorities of Karnataka University, Dharwad for awarding the research fellowship which enabled me to carry out this investigations.

DHARWAD. HANUMANTHANAIAK P. DODDAMANI

Sept, 2005